

Mahere ā-Tau Annual Plan 2025/26

Year two of the 2024-2034 LTP



He taiao mauriora
Healthy environment

He hapori hihiri
Vibrant communities

He ōhanga pakari
Strong economy

Kia tau iho ngā manaakitanga a te wāhi ngaro ki runga ki a tātou katoa, tae atu rā ki te Arikinui Kuini Nga wai hono i te po kua eke ki te tūranga i mahue mai i a Kiingi Tuheitia. Koia rā i whakataukīngia ai te kōrero,
*‘ko Tuheitia ki te rangi,
ko Nga wai hono i te po ki te whenua’.*
Paimārire.

Nō reira, kei te Kiingi, te ika nui o te tau, e tangihia tonuhia ana e tō iwi. E te hunga mate, koutou i haohia i te kūpenga o Taramainuku, haere ki tua o Paerau, haere ki te iti o kahurangi, okioki ai.

Ka huri ki a tātou, ki te hunga ora. Nō reira, e ngā maunga whakahī, e ngā wai whakaterere taniwha, e ngā karangatanga maha puta noa i te rohe, ko te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Waikato e mihi atu nei ki a koutou tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa.

May the providence of the unseen realm cascade upon all of us, especially upon the Māori Queen Nga wai hono i te po, who recently ascended the throne. As the saying goes,
*‘Tuheitia is in heaven,
Nga wai hono i te po is on earth’.*
Peace and good will.

Therefore, the King, the pre-eminent member of those who have been caught up in the net of Taramainuku, your people continue to grieve. Depart, with all our deceased to the next world, to the stars.

To those living in the Waikato region, we acknowledge you, your ancestral mountains, your water bodies, your people and your communities. Warmest regards from Waikato Regional Council.

Mō tēnei mahere

About the plan

The planning and reporting cycle

Every three years, all councils prepare a long term plan (LTP).

The LTP is our major planning document. With a focus on the first three years, the LTP sets out the range of activities proposed over the following 10 years and how they will be funded.

The community has an opportunity to provide input into the setting of priorities and direction for the decade ahead through a public consultation process. Our last LTP was adopted in June 2024 for the period 2024-2034.

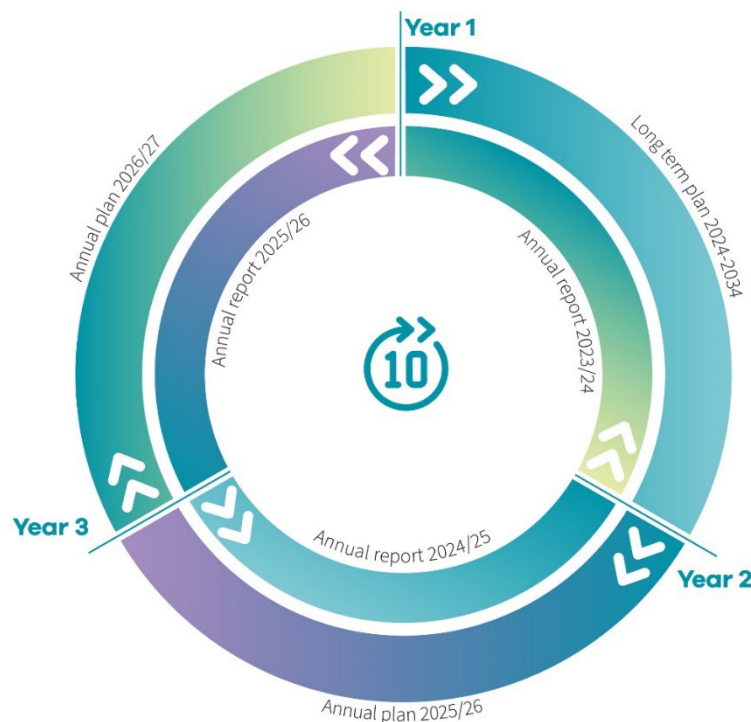
Annual plans (like this one) are companion documents that are prepared in the years between each LTP.

While some changes are proposed in this annual plan, it is consistent with the strategic setting of the *2024-2034 Long Term Plan*. For more on the *2024-2034 Long Term Plan*, go to waikatoregion.govt.nz/ltp.

The *Local Government Act 2002* requires annual plans to:

- set out the budget and the sources of funding for the year ahead
- highlight any major differences for the year, compared to the council's long term plan, and why these changes are necessary
- describe the activities the council will fund to achieve desired community outcomes
- be accountable to the community.

Annual reports complete the suite of statutory documents, and these are prepared at the end of each year and retrospectively describe the community outcomes that have been achieved.



Rārangi kaupapa

Contents

Mō tēnei mahere About the plan	1
Rārangi kaupapa Contents	2
Section 1 Whakaritea te wāhi Setting the scene	3
Kōrero matua Message from the chairperson and chief executive	4
Ngā hua tāke kaunihera Your rates at work	6
Ngā putanga ā-hapori Community outcomes	7
Whai wāhi ai a Ngāi Māori Iwi Māori participation	8
Te Kaupapa Kaitiaki Taupō Catchment Plan	9
Te Ture Whaimana o te Awa o Waikato Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River	10
Ngā tīpako pūtea Financial highlights 2025/26	12
Section 2 Ngā take matua Key decisions	14
Ngā take matua Key decisions	15
Section 3 Ko ngā momo mahi Groups of activities	17
Kiritaki, hapori, me ngā ratonga Customer, community and services	18
Te Rakau Whakamarumarū ā Rohe o Waikato Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management Group	19
Ngā mahi hei ārai, hei ārahi hoki i ngā waipuke Flood protection and control works	20
Te Whakahaere ā-tōpū i te rauwiringa wai Integrated catchment management	21
Mōreatanga ā rohe me te whakarata ohotata Regional hazards and emergency response	22
Ngā ara hono ā-rohe Regional transport connections	23
Te Whakamahinga o te taiao Resource use	24
Pūtaiao, kaupapahere me te mōhiotio Science, policy and information	25
Whakapaunga utu mō ia momo mahi Operational expenditure by group of activities	26
Utunga reiti mō ia momo mahi Rates revenue by group of activities	27
Section 4 Pūtea Finances	28
Ngā tauākī pūtea ki te pae Prospective financial statements	29
Ngā tauākī pānga pūtea mā te kāhui mahi Funding impact statements by group of activity	54
Te tauākī pānga pūtea ā-tau Annual funding impact statement for 2025/26	65
Te rārangi o ngā nama me ngā utu Schedule of fees and charges	100
Ngā pānga ā-reiti mō ngā whenua tauira Rating impacts for sample properties	109

Section 1
Whakaritea te wāhi
Setting the scene

Kōrero matua

Message from the chairperson and chief executive

For 2025/26, we've stuck closely to the programme we signalled in the long term plan adopted in June last year.

At the forefront of our minds has been the cost-of-living pressures that continue to be felt across the region, as well as the costs of delivering essential services.

In this context, we've worked hard to deliver a fiscally responsible budget, while continuing to align with the programme signalled in our *2024-2034 Long Term Plan*.

The budget we set for 2025/26 represents an increase in rates revenue from ratepayers of \$10.438 million. This results in an estimated increase in total rates paid by current ratepayers of 5.7 per cent – lower than the 5.9 per cent proposed for consultation, and significantly less than the 8.6 per cent signalled 12 months prior through our *2024-2034 Long Term Plan*.

The release of the National Land Transport Plan since the 2024 LTP was adopted, confirmed funding to continue existing public transport services but made no provision for the new trial bus routes and bus route service enhancements we had planned for 2025/26. As a result, these will no longer be delivered. However, a commitment was made to fund a one-off infrastructure project to deliver real time passenger displays by retaining \$300,587 of the local share of public transport funding. These plans are consistent with our long term plan proviso that the full programme of work set out in the *Regional Land Transport Plan* was dependent on NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi funding and are key contributors to the reduction in rates revenue compared to what we had signalled through the LTP.

To understand what impact this will have on rates for your property, visit the council's website: waikatoregion.govt.nz/rates.

As part of the budget-setting process, we undertook public consultation on a number of topics, including regional public transport rating and introducing a new river and catchment programme for the Wharekawa Coast to improve the community's resilience to extreme weather events.

We'd like to thank our 143 submitters for taking the time to share their views on our proposals, and the 10 individuals and groups who provided their feedback at our hearings in Paeroa and Hamilton. This is democracy at work, with the views being carefully balanced with the needs of our communities in our final decision making.

Regarding our public transport proposal, the feedback included a submission from Hamilton City Council, unanimously supported by its councillors, which played a key role in influencing the final decision. With this and the balance of many other well-reasoned public submissions in mind, we opted for simple per property rating outside Hamilton and the retention of existing capital value-based rating for Hamilton. Ratepayers in all local authority areas across the region will be rated based on their level of access to bus, Total Mobility and community transport services via five different rating categories.

For the Wharekawa Coast, we agreed to a new river and catchment programme to improve the community's resilience to extreme weather events. It will be 70 per cent funded by a targeted rate on the Wharekawa community, and 30 per cent funded by the general rate. For the targeted rate component that applies on the Wharekawa Coast, there will be two rating areas, both rated based on capital value. Direct beneficiaries will pay more (70 per cent of the targeted rate component) while indirect beneficiaries will pay less (30 per cent of the targeted rate component). During deliberations, council took particular note of a submission from Hauraki District Council, highlighting the relevance of an existing drainage scheme that already provides some flood protection benefits to a subset of the direct beneficiary area we identified. As a result, council decided residents within this area will only need to pay the indirect beneficiary rate.

Additional funding of \$240,000 was also committed for expert work on a business case and implementation plan for Te Huia – the passenger rail service between Waikato and Auckland. Councillors heard the work was critical to providing the NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi Board with the best information on which to decide the future of Te Huia beyond the end of its trial in 2026.

A full breakdown of the decisions we arrived at can be found in the ‘decisions’ section of this document.

The year ahead will likely bring significant change, driven in large part by the coalition government, particularly in the areas of resource management and water policy. Against this complex backdrop and shifting environment, there’s an enormous amount of mahi (work) that we are committed to delivering to help make the Waikato the best it can be for now and for generations to come.

We know we can’t do it on our own. People working together is key, and for us, that’s partnering with iwi and working with many others in our communities.

Kia ora.



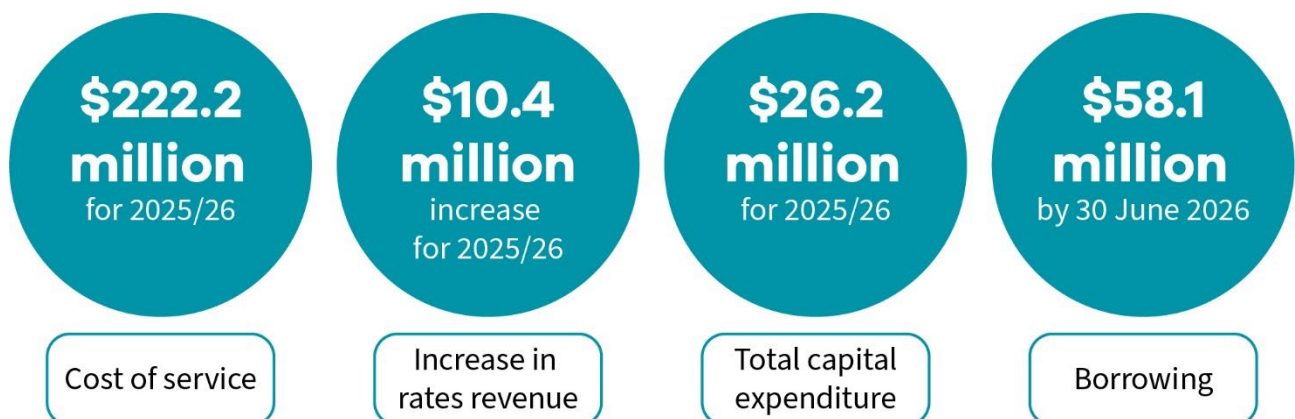
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pamela R. Storey".

Pamela Storey
Chair



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris McLay".

Chris McLay
Chief Executive



Ngā hua tāke kaunihera

Your rates at work



Ngā putanga ā-hapori

Community outcomes

Our *Strategic Direction 2023-2025, Takatū Waikato | Making a Stand for the Waikato* sets out our vision and purpose. It also covers the six strategic priorities that guide our work: water, biodiversity and biosecurity, coastal and marine, sustainable development and infrastructure, community connections, and transition to a low emissions economy. A focus on wellbeing and how we respond to climate change are woven through all our priorities.

Legislation guides councils to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our communities, both now and for generations to come. We've embedded this within our purpose – working together for a Waikato region that has a healthy environment, vibrant communities and strong economy.

We track our progress against these community outcomes through our annual planning and reporting cycles, which include annual plans like this one.

Matawhānui Our vision

Waikato mārohirohi: Manaaki whenua, whakamana tangata

The mighty Waikato: Caring for our place, empowering our people

Aronga Our purpose

Working together for a Waikato region that has a healthy environment, vibrant communities and strong economy.

He taiao mauriora Healthy environment

A resilient and sustainable region that works in harmony with the natural environment, one that's actively transitioning to net carbon zero and fosters the growing of our indigenous biodiversity.

He hapori hihiri Vibrant communities

A connected and inclusive community where our people are actively engaged with whānau and families, communities and governance. A region with a vibrant Māori culture and one that celebrates diversity, participation and understanding.

He ōhanga pakari Strong economy

An innovation leader with a diversified economy that attracts people to the region and builds their capabilities.

Ngā aronga nui Strategic priorities



Wai
Water



Rerenga rauropi, tiakitanga taiao
Biodiversity and biosecurity



Takutai moana
Coastal and marine



Hononga hapori
Community connections



Hanganga tauwhiro
Sustainable development and infrastructure



Whakaheke tukunga
Transition to a low emissions economy

Whai wāhi ai a Ngāi Māori

Iwi Māori participation

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2002*, we are committed to strengthening Māori capacity to actively participate in our decision-making processes. Our strategic priorities reflect a deliberate effort to integrate Māori principles, mātauranga (knowledge) and aspirations throughout all areas of focus, ensuring these values guide and enrich our mahi.

Whether it involves achieving clean water and healthy ecosystems, promoting sustainable development, protecting biodiversity and biosecurity, fostering vibrant communities, or transitioning to a low-emissions economy, collaboration with iwi is central to achieving positive outcomes for the Waikato rohe (region).

Our plan for improving the way we work as an organisation, *Te Ara Tupu*, further highlights our dedication to supporting our people in developing the capability and confidence needed to engage effectively with iwi Māori. These partnerships are essential for creating a balanced, sustainable and thriving Waikato. By embracing Māori principles and actively working with iwi, we aim to lay a strong foundation for a culturally inclusive and resilient region.

However, we acknowledge that iwi entities often face capacity constraints when engaging with local and central government institutions. This challenge is particularly acute for pre-settlement iwi, but even post-settlement iwi with greater resources encounter significant pressures. These limitations can affect our ability to meet shared engagement commitments and deliver on our work programme objectives.

We recognise that true partnership and meaningful engagement require all parties to have adequate capacity. To address these challenges, funding has been allocated to support iwi capacity, ensuring that both the council and iwi are equipped to collaborate effectively, with a growing emphasis on joint projects that deliver meaningful outcomes for all communities.

By investing in capacity-building and fostering strong, enduring relationships, we aim to achieve outcomes that benefit not only iwi Māori but the entire Waikato rohe. Together, we can create a future that reflects the shared aspirations and values of mana whenua and everyone who calls the Waikato region home.



Te Kaupapa Kaitiaki Taupō Catchment Plan

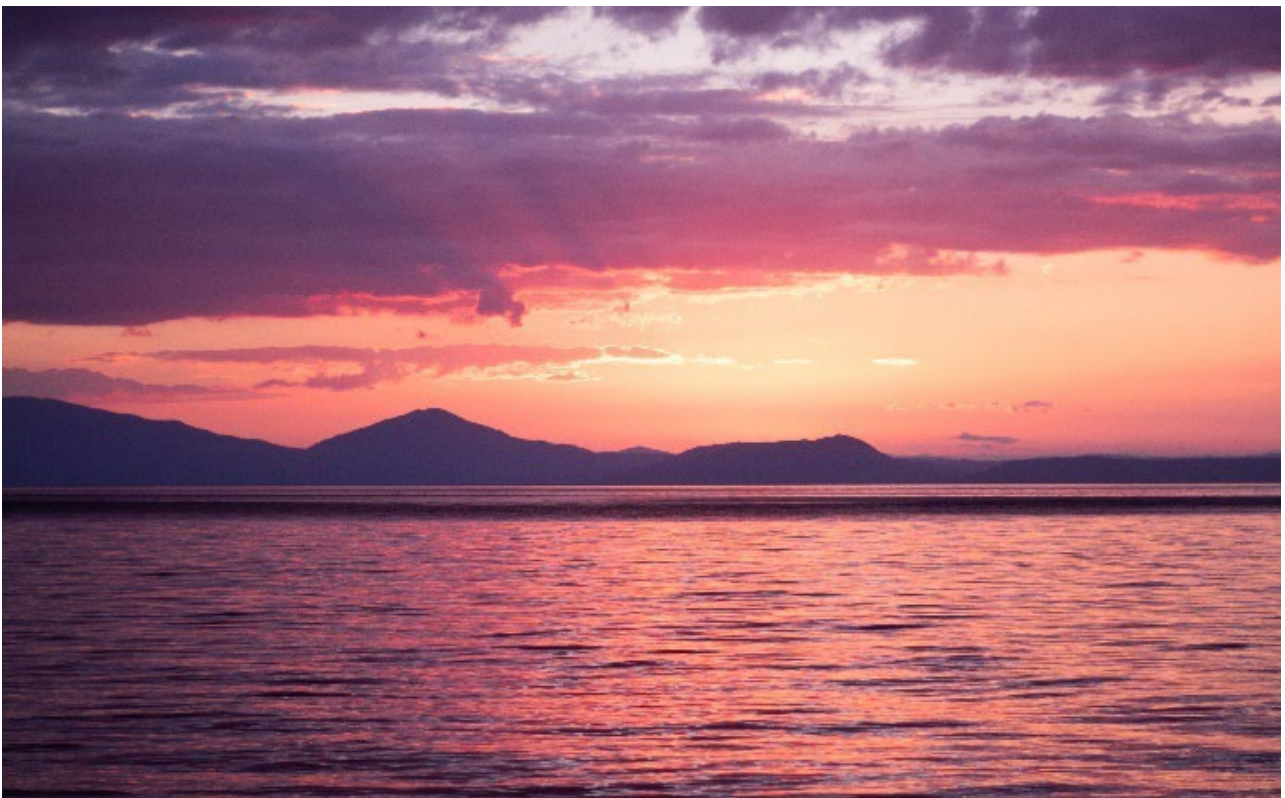
Te Kaupapa Kaitiaki is a comprehensive plan developed for the Taupō catchment, addressing key challenges, upholding core values and outlining a vision, objectives and desired outcomes.

The plan is firmly grounded in the perspectives of Ngāti Tūwharetoa, guided by the principles of Ngā Pou e Toru (strategic pillars) and Te Kapua Whakapipi. These principles embody the aspirations, vision and goals of Ngāti Tūwharetoa and the wider community, ensuring the health and wellbeing of the catchment for current and future generations.

Each pou (pillar) of the plan is focused on specific objectives that contribute to the overarching kaupapa:

- **Tongariro te Maunga** encapsulates mana whakahaere – the undivided and enduring authority and control of Tūwharetoa over themselves and their rohe – ki uta ki tai (from the mountains to the sea), through partnership and a holistic system of integrated catchment management.
- **Te Mātāpuna o te Wai, Te Ahi Tāmou** represents the health and wellbeing of lakes, waterways, geothermal resources and the surrounding environment, and how this is reflected and nourishes the health and wellbeing of the people.
- **Tūwharetoa te Iwi, Tūwharetoa te Hapū** represents a commitment to the social development, economic prosperity, and the environmental, cultural and spiritual health and wellbeing of Tūwharetoa te iwi and Tūwharetoa te hapū. This recognises that a primary treaty settlement objective of Ngāti Tūwharetoa is to strengthen the mana whakahaere, tino rangatiratanga and kaitiakitanga of whānau, hapū and Ngāti Tūwharetoa.

Te Kaupapa Kaitiaki is an inclusive plan, designed to benefit all. Its implementation is supported by local government plans and activities, with a dedicated implementation plan outlining the steps required to achieve its objectives and measure outcomes effectively. This integration reflects a collective commitment to the wellbeing of the Taupō catchment, its people and its taonga.



Te Ture Whaimana o te Awa o Waikato

Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River

Restoring the Waikato River

Treaty legislation requires us to give effect to Te Ture Whaimana o te Awa o Waikato, the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River.

Te Ture Whaimana was developed by the Guardians Establishment Committee, formed under the Agreement in Principle between Waikato-Tainui and the Crown, and legislated in the *Waikato-Tainui Raupatu Claims (Waikato River) Settlement Act 2010*.

It is the primary direction-setting document for the Waikato River and activities within its catchment, and the work we do helps to deliver on it.

The custodian of Te Ture Whaimana is the Waikato River Authority, which also invests funds into environmental rehabilitation initiatives. The board of the Waikato River Authority consists of a representative from each of the five river iwi authorities (Waikato-Tainui, Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board, Te Arawa River Iwi Trust, Raukawa Charitable Trust and Te Nehenehenui) and five Crown representatives.

The vision is for a healthy Waikato River that sustains abundant life and prosperous communities, which are in turn responsible for restoring and protecting it, and all it embraces, for generations to come.

Delivering on objectives

Te Ture Whaimana has 13 objectives and a number of them are related. The work we do often helps to deliver on more than one objective. In 2025/26, we will support the restoration and protection of the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River in the following ways.

Relationships

This includes supporting the economic, social, cultural and spiritual relationships of river iwi and communities with the Waikato River.

We will work with Waikato-Tainui and other river iwi authorities to co-develop a reporting framework designed to demonstrate how our mahi gives effect to Te Ture Whaimana in a way that provides a consolidated view and valuable insights to support decision making.

Strategy and policy development

We aim to protect the Waikato River, through our regulatory and statutory processes, from the adverse effects of activities on the water and land.

The proposed *Waikato Regional Coastal Plan* was notified in August 2023 and hearings commenced in early 2025.

The coastal marine area in the lower Waikato River is subject to the provisions of Te Ture Whaimana.

We continue to work on *Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1*. An Environment Court hearing occurred in late 2023 and an Interim decision from the Court was delivered in late May 2025. While the Interim decision provides some guidance the Court has directed Waikato Regional Council to undertake further work and report back to the Court prior to a final decision being released. Once we have a final decision from the Court then we can proceed to make the plan operative. The proposed plan seeks to reduce the level of contaminants entering the Waikato and Waipā catchments to help achieve the goals of Te Ture Whaimana.

Te Ture Whaimana guides the way we administer resource consents, with applicants having to consider the potential effects of their consent application on the Waikato River and explain how their activity will improve the quality of the river.

We are undertaking a freshwater policy review. This responds to legislative requirements to comply with the *Resource Management Act* and the *National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020*. In late 2024, the council established a joint working group and a combined co-governance committee with the five river settlement iwi for the Waikato and Waipā River catchments to provide for iwi to participate in decisions on the freshwater policy review. It is noted that central government is presently progressing with a substantial resource management reform package, this will have wide-ranging implications for freshwater management. Throughout council's responses to the packages of reform Te Ture Whaimana is repeatedly acknowledged as the primary direction setting document for freshwater management for the Waikato and Waipā catchment.

Monitoring consents and permitted activities, and investigating alleged breaches of rules and regulations, remain key parts of our business as usual.

We will continue to hold people accountable for non-compliance or undertaking activities that adversely affect the environment, including the Waikato and Waipā Rivers.

Ecological health

In 2025/26, we will continue our work to protect and enhance significant sites, fisheries, flora and fauna.

We will continue our river erosion protection works, installing fish habitat structures, planting riparian margins, increasing in-stream habitats and improving food sources for our native fish. And we'll continue to support numerous iwi and community groups undertaking restoration projects with co-funding and technical support.

We will work with a multi-stakeholder group (including Waikato-Tainui, Ngā Muka, Ngāti Hine, Ngāti Naho and the Waikato River Authority) to complete the *Whangamarino Catchment Action Plan*. This plan involves a collaborative and inclusive process to identify and test options for rehabilitation of the interconnected waters of Whangamarino Wetland and Lake Waikare. Te Ture Whaimana provides the guiding vision for this action plan. The action plan will guide medium to long term investment in more effective catchment management. Action plan implementation will be incorporated into business cases for the *2027/2037 Long Term Plan*.

Work continues with the University of Waikato to develop a detailed 3D model of Lake Waikare. This will be used to test scenarios for restoring the health and wellbeing of this lake and will feed into the *Whangamarino Catchment Action Plan*.

We are supporting central-government-funded research into climate change impacts on the Waikato River and have also initiated a response group to improve our understanding and management of algal blooms in the Waikato hydrolakes, in partnership with the Raukawa Charitable Trust, Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board and Te Arawa River Iwi Trust.



Ngā tīpako pūtea

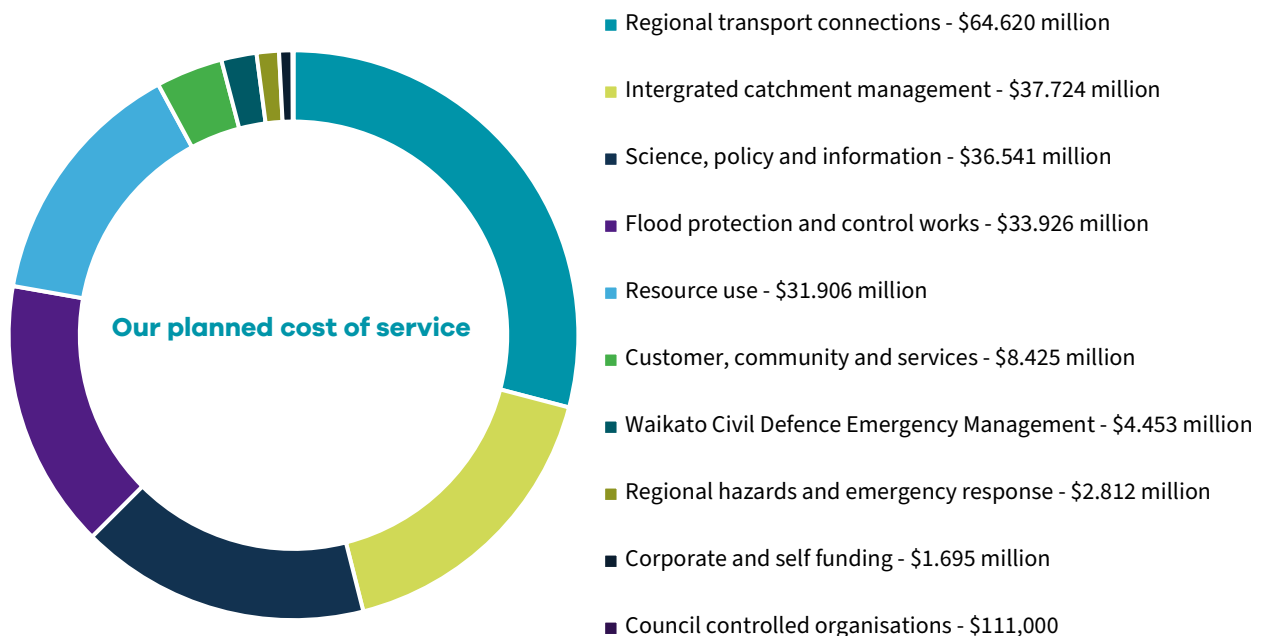
Financial highlights 2025/26

Year two of the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan

Changes through our 2025/26 Annual Plan have resulted in a number of adjustments to our cost of service and capital expenditure in 2025/26 compared to the year-two budget of the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan.

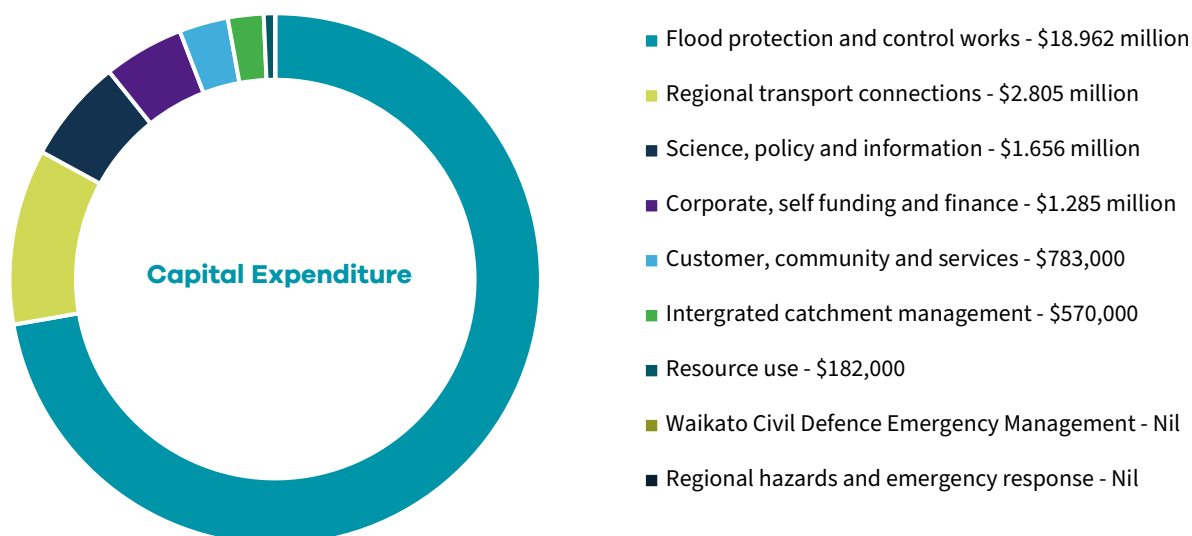
Cost of service

Our total cost of service budget for 2025/26 is now \$222.213 million, compared to the \$226.822 million proposed in year two of our LTP.



Capital expenditure

Our total capital expenditure budget for 2025/26 is \$26.243 million, compared to the \$28.787 million originally budgeted in year two of our 2024-2034 Long Term Plan.

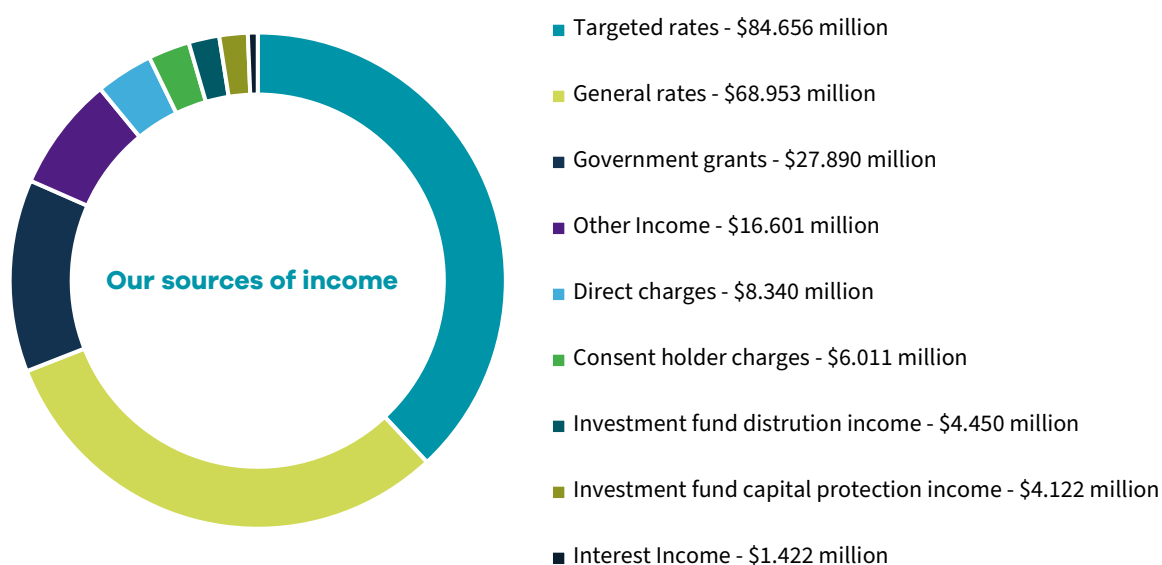


Funding our work

The money collected from Waikato ratepayers is expected to make up 68 per cent of the money that funds our cost of service in 2025/26.

This annual plan will see an estimated increase in rates revenue from current ratepayers for the 2025/26 financial year of 5.7 per cent. This is less than the 8.6 per cent signalled through the LTP.

There is an increase to rates collected through the General Rate and Uniform Annual General Charge of 2.9 per cent and an average increase in targeted rates of 11.1 per cent. The total rates you pay depends on the area you live in and the services you receive. The graph below shows all our sources of income for 2025/26.



Section 2

Ngā take matua

Key decisions

Ngā take matua

Key decisions

Public consultation

The 2025/26 Annual Plan was adopted for consultation on 27 March 2025, with the formal consultation period taking place from 1 to 30 April 2025.

The consultation document and supporting documents were publicly available on the Waikato Regional Council website from 1 April 2025. Copies of the consultation document were made available at public libraries throughout the region, as well as being posted to key stakeholders and those who requested a copy.

We raised awareness of the consultation through print and digital advertising, a community drop-in event and a Facebook Live question and answer session.

The public was invited to provide feedback in a variety of ways, including via online submission forms, email, post and in-person delivery to any regional council office. During consultation, 143 submissions were made and 10 individuals and groups were heard during hearings in Paeroa and Hamilton.

Simplifying public transport rating

Our public transport services provide access to education, employment, recreation, healthcare and more. For some, they are a matter of choice, for others they can be the only real option.

After agreeing to pick up the rating for public transport region-wide through our last long term plan, we wanted to ensure the way we collect rates for public transport services is as fair, simple and efficient as possible.

We proposed a model that acknowledged different levels of access to a range of community and public transport services throughout the region and would change the way we collect the public transport funding that comes from rates.

The council's preferred option (Option 1) was that within each area-based rating category, every property would pay the same. But we also tested support for applying a capital value-based model in Hamilton (Option 2) as this was consistent with the way that this rate is currently charged.

In total, 118 submissions were received on this topic, with 59 per cent in favour of Option 1, 33 per cent in favour of Option 2, and 8 per cent indicating no clear preference.

Although the council's preferred option going into the consultation received the most support, the weight of the arguments in favour of Option 2 ultimately swayed its decision during the deliberations process. A number of submissions flagged that Option 1 would result in 74 per cent of properties paying more. In particular, Hamilton City Council was strongly in support of option 2.

Wharekawa Coast (Kaiaua) rating

We proposed a new river and catchment programme for the Wharekawa Coast to improve the community's resilience to extreme weather events.

The programme was estimated to cost \$150,000 per annum over 10 years and we were proposing to fund most of this (70 per cent) through a new targeted rate with 30 per cent to be funded through the general rate.

For ratepayers outside the Wharekawa community, the cost would equate to around 2 cents per \$100,000 of capital value (CV).

We specifically sought feedback on how we should fund the 70 per cent targeted rate component that would be paid by the Wharekawa community.

The council's preferred option (Option 1) was for the targeted rate component to be split into two rating zones, with direct beneficiaries paying more (70 per cent of the targeted rate component) and indirect beneficiaries paying less (30 per cent of the targeted rate component).

Of the 22 submissions received, 18 supported establishment of the programme. Eight submissions were from residents and ratepayers on the Wharekawa Coast. Of these, 25 per cent supported Option 1 – the two-tier rating model – 50 per cent supported the direct and indirect beneficiary areas paying the same flat rate (Option 2), and 25 per cent did not indicate a clear preference.

Following careful consideration of the feedback received, alongside staff recommendations, councillors decided to proceed with Option 1, with one slight alteration.

A submission made by Hauraki District Council flagged an issue relating to the southern area fronting the Firth of Thames, where they have applied a rate for land drainage activities that overlap with activities proposed by Waikato Regional Council. Through the deliberations process, Waikato regional councillors resolved to rate these households at the indirect rather than the direct beneficiary rate. The change acknowledges that, while these residents or ratepayers still derive some benefit from the new scheme, it's important to reflect they are already being rated by Hauraki District Council for some existing flood protection. The change will result in a reduction of \$14,490 to the amount set to be collected for this initiative.

Fees and charges

Based on the proposed budget for 2025/26, we reviewed the fees and charges set for regulatory services and information gathering.

And, as part of our consultation, we sought public feedback on proposed price adjustments designed to reflect increases in our year-on-year costs and ensure consistency with changes to legislation.

A total of eight submissions were received on this topic, expressing a range of views. Taking these into account, councillors opted to proceed with the fees and charges consulted on with no changes.

Rates remission policy

We proposed a change to the remissions we offer, introducing a new remission policy for the primary industry compliance rate.

This was designed to recognise that properties subject to the targeted rate that were covered in large areas of bush would not benefit from our primary industry compliance activities.

Of the 17 submissions received, 82 per cent were in support of the new remission and 18 per cent opposed.

We heard from a number of rural landowners who noted there were other areas that might also be considered for future remission which could not be used for productive purposes. In light of this feedback, the council will continue to keep its remissions policies under review.

Prior year surplus

During deliberations, councillors also debated whether to use a prior year surplus of \$2.545 million to reduce rates for 2025/26, or to hold onto it for one-off costs that may arise due to rapid changes in our operating environment. Although evenly split on the issue, it was decided, by casting vote, that the surplus would not be relinquished.

Section 3
Ko ngā momo mahi
Groups of activities

Kiritaki, hāpori, me ngā ratonga

Customer, community and services

Our work in this area includes **governance** activities, **iwi Māori partnerships, planning and reporting**, and **community support**.

These activities help support a **healthy environment, vibrant communities** and a **strong economy**.

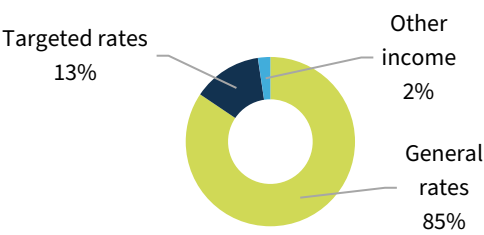
They provide opportunities for community engagement with the council, allowing residents to share their feedback, opinions and aspirations for the future. They identify how our work supports the achievement of outcomes that positively impact communities. And they ensure our region's strong cultural heritage is considered and reflected in the work we do.

Our spending in 2025/26

Operating expenditure: \$8.425 million

Capital expenditure: \$783,000

Our funding



Our plans for 2025/26

- Support our staff to understand and appreciate the Māori worldview so they can work more effectively with mana whenua in our region.
- Facilitate active iwi participation in the council's collaborative programmes and projects using the iwi capacity fund.
- Ensure everyone is well informed and empowered to participate in the 2025 local election.
- Ensure decision making through our democratic processes is conducted in an open and transparent manner.
- Ensure fit-for-purpose statutory planning and reporting processes are in place that enable our communities to have input into our planned activities and funding.
- Administer the council's partnership funding in line with priorities and strategic outcomes.

Key levels of service

Respond to Official Information Act requests within the statutory timeframes

Ensure council meetings are open to the public (unless legislative grounds exist to exclude the public)

Support a treaty-based partnerships programme in our engagement with iwi Māori



Te Rakau Whakamarumaruru ā Rohe o Waikato

Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management Group

We are the administrating authority for the **Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management Group**.

This activity primarily contributes to **vibrant communities**.

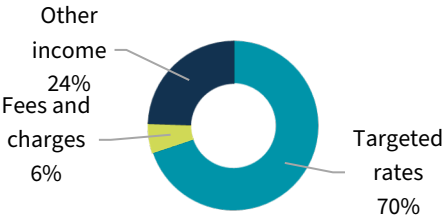
Civil Defence Emergency Management supports communities by enhancing community resilience. It ensures people, organisations and businesses are well prepared for emergency events, minimising the impact of disasters when they occur and supporting swift recovery efforts. This preparedness protects lives and property. It also safeguards future income and employment opportunities, contributing to the overall wellbeing and economic stability of the region.

Our spending in 2025/26

Operating expenditure: \$4.453 million

Capital expenditure: Nil

Our funding



Our plans for 2025/26:

- Adopt the *Waikato CDEM Strategic Group Plan 2025-2030*.
- Implement *Group Plan Actions 2025/26* to guide regional emergency management priorities and actions.
- Work in partnerships with iwi, local authorities, emergency services and community organisations to ensure a coordinated and inclusive approach to emergency management.
- Deliver training and awareness programmes that enable community-led emergency management preparedness and responses.
- Support communities during and after emergencies, enabling timely and effective recovery efforts.
- Strengthen risk reduction and increase our understanding of hazards risks.
- Support the *National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)* to review and develop emergency management legislation.

Key levels of service

Increase the percentage of staff trained and available for Civil Defence activation events



Ngā mahi hei ārai, hei ārahi hoki i ngā waipuke

Flood protection and control works

Our work in this area includes **flood protection**, **land drainage** and **river management**.

These activities contribute to a **healthy environment**, **vibrant communities** and a **strong economy**.

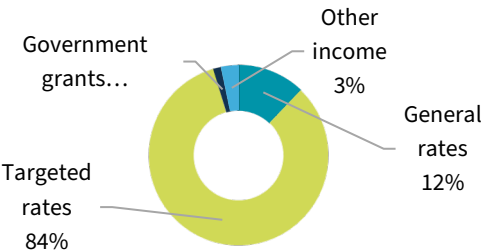
They help safeguard public and private assets and investments that provide economic stability for communities and the region. They also contribute to maintaining the natural environment through the rehabilitation and preservation of river channels and riparian areas.

Our spending in 2025/26

Operating expenditure: \$33.926 million

Capital expenditure: \$18.962 million

Our funding



Our plans for 2025/26

- Plan for the implementation of a *Sustainable Infrastructure Decision-making Framework* for our region, which includes the investigation of nature-based solutions to help mitigate flooding.
- Operate and maintain our flood protection and land drainage infrastructure.
- Continue work to construct a replacement pumpstation at Island Block.
- Continue our upgrade of stopbanks in the Lower Waikato.
- Continue the upgrades of floodgates in the Lower Waikato.
- Continue fencing and planting activities in the Thames Valley.
- Maintain river management programmes to reduce erosion and increase the resilience of priority rivers.
- Continue the Crown Infrastructure co-funded Waikato, Waipā, West Coast and Coromandel River projects.
- Complete and implement Thames Coast Flood Scheme reviews.

Key levels of service

Maintain, repair and renew flood protection and control works to key standards defined in relevant planning documents

Implement flood recovery plans after major events

Complete regional risk-factor review

Maintain the channel capacity and stability of priority rivers and streams in each catchment zone



Te Whakahaere ā-tōpū i te rauwiringa wai

Integrated catchment management

Our work in this area includes **biodiversity** protection and restoration, **biosecurity**, and **catchment planning and management**.

These activities help support a **healthy environment**, **vibrant communities** and a **strong economy**.

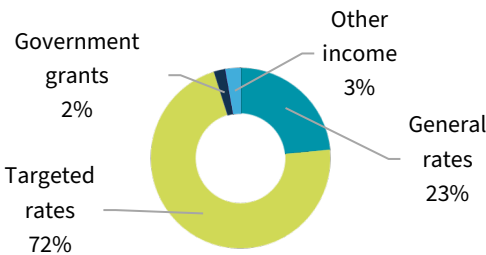
They help improve our natural environment, prevent the loss of natural amenity for the benefit of all our communities and protect employment and income opportunities through the removal of pests.

Our spending in 2025/26

Operating expenditure: \$37.724 million

Capital expenditure: \$570,000

Our funding



Our plans for 2025/26

- Support the region's communities, iwi and landowners to protect kauri.
- Develop and implement a comprehensive surveillance programme for alligator weed and yellow flag iris.
- Support the transition to long term management for both *Golden Clams (corbicula)* and *Caulerpa seaweed*.
- Grow the Natural Heritage Partnership Programme with increased funding for community groups.
- Develop a Regional Catchment Management Framework.
- Implement harbour catchment management plans for the West Coast harbours (Whaiangaroa, Aotea and Kāwhia).
- Continue delivery of co-funded partnership programmes to support river and catchment management initiatives.
- Implement a new river and catchment management work programme for the Wharekawa (Kaiaua) community.

Key levels of service

Deliver 20 on-the-ground projects on private land in high priority ecosystems

Fund 65 community groups through the Natural Heritage Partnership Programme

Reduce animal pest populations at identified sites with assessed biodiversity values

Implement catchment plans to reduce erosion, improve water quality and enhance biodiversity



Mōreatanga ā rohe me te whakarata ohotata

Regional hazards and emergency response

Our work in this area includes supporting **resilient communities** and the **Waikato Regional Council emergency response**.

These activities contribute to **vibrant communities** and a **strong economy**.

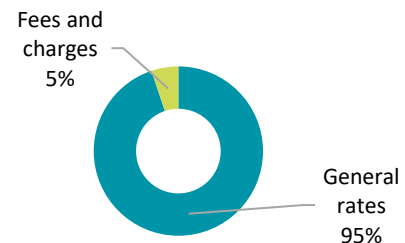
They help support communities to make informed decisions about their own wellbeing, as well as helping to protect people in the event of an emergency. The work we do strengthens community networks and supports businesses and individuals to be more resilient.

Our spending in 2025/26

Operating expenditure: \$2.812 million

Capital expenditure: Nil

Our funding



Our plans for 2025/26

- Collaborate with territorial authorities, iwi and communities to provide natural hazard risk and resilience information as they work through the adaptation planning process (priority areas include the floodplains of the Lower Waikato, Waihou and Piako rivers).
- Support territorial authorities to advance their climate change risk assessments.
- Engage with iwi and key stakeholders on a regional resilience strategy that will set out how we'll increase regional resilience to natural hazard risks.
- Undertake enhanced water resource modelling across the region to assist with internal decision making and to provide advice and information to our iwi partners, territorial authorities and communities.
- Continue training and exercises to ensure we are response-ready and capable at all times.

Key levels of service

Implement a regional resilience strategy and plan



Achieve a 95 per cent customer satisfaction rate, for our flood warning text alert system



Undertake readiness exercises to hone our response to marine oil spills



Ngā ara hono ā-rohe

Regional transport connections

Our work in this area includes **public transport**, **interregional passenger rail**, and **transport and policy programmes**.

These activities contribute to a **healthy environment**, **vibrant communities** and a **strong economy**.

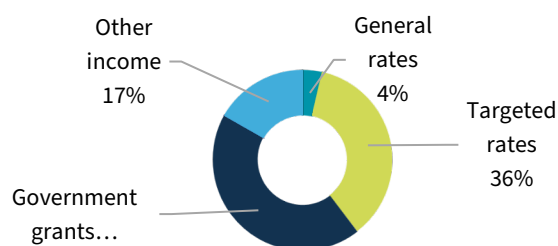
They provide communities in the Waikato region with affordable transport options to access jobs, education, essential services, recreational and social activities, and community events. They also help to limit congestion by encouraging greater use of public transport, reducing the use of single occupancy vehicles and cutting carbon emissions in the process.

Our spending in 2025/26

Operating expenditure: \$64.620 million

Capital expenditure: \$2.805 million

Our funding



Our plans for 2025/26

- Review and update the *Regional Public Transport Plan* and commence our three-yearly review of the *Regional Land Transport Plan*.
- Advance our transition to a zero-emission bus fleet.
- Develop a new *Road Safety Strategy* for the region in collaboration with territorial authorities and other road safety partners.
- Support the transition to the National Ticketing Solution for the Waikato region, in conjunction with NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi.
- Develop and prepare for the implementation of a new unified brand for all public transport services across the region.
- Collaborate with other councils on the delivery of the *Metro Spatial Plan* which will support growth and respond to current and future challenges in the metro area.
- Continue to operate Te Huia, our passenger rail service between Waikato and Auckland, and prepare a business case to support the continuation of Te Huia passenger rail service.

Key levels of service

Increase the number of bus trips per capita year on year

Ensure at least 73 per cent of bus departures are on time, in accordance with the timetable

Increase passenger rail patronage year on year



Te Whakamahinga o te taiao

Resource use

Our work in this area includes **regional consenting, regional compliance, maritime services, community education** and **primary industry engagement**.

These activities contribute to a **healthy environment, vibrant communities** and a **strong economy**.

They enable the use of natural resources to support the generation of income and employment, providing financial security to our communities and supporting industries to be compliant with regulations.

This is balanced with protecting the amenity value of those resources and ensuring they can be used and enjoyed by future generations.

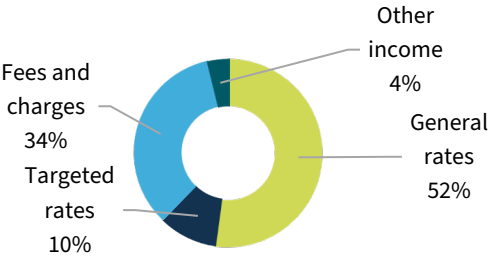
These activities also support community groups to make environmental improvements.

Our spending in 2025/26

Operating expenditure: \$31.906 million

Capital expenditure: \$182,000

Our funding



Our plans for 2025/26

- Continue to provide maritime services to maintain safe and navigable waterways in the region, including maritime safety functions at the Port of Taharoa upon transfer of the function from Maritime NZ.
- Continue to identify ways to support the rural sector, including meeting their regulatory obligations.
- Continue to deliver our community education programmes.
- Work to establish a streamlined processes for Plan Change 1 implementation.
- Continue to provide efficient and effective consenting, compliance monitoring and enforcement processes under the *Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA)* to enable the sustainable management of natural resources.

Key levels of service

Ensure at least 95 per cent of resource consents are processed within RMA timeframes

Maintain a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week response service for environmental incidents

Maintain safe and navigable waterways to protect the people who use them

Monitor all of our highest priority consented sites



Pūtaiao, kaupapahere me te mōhiohio

Science, policy and information

Our work in this area includes **environmental monitoring, environmental science and information, social and economic information, strategic policy implementation, resource management policy** and **spatial information** services.

These activities contribute to a **healthy environment, vibrant communities** and a **strong economy**.

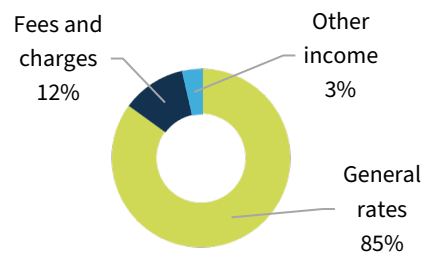
They help support an environment that can sustain healthy community life by ensuring land is used and managed well, fresh water is available, biodiversity is protected, and the air is kept clean.

Our spending in 2025/26

Operating expenditure: \$36.541 million

Capital expenditure: \$1.656 million

Our funding



Our plans for 2025/26

- Complete a regional inventory of spatial information, spatial data, planning information and strategies to support a *strategic spatial strategy* that will guide future land use and resource management in the region.
- Review our approach to infrastructure funding and assess other comparable models. We will then test and engage on recommended options that will deliver a sustainable model for communities.
- Develop a catchment action plan to identify, test and promote options for the rehabilitation of Lake Waikare and Whangamarino Wetland.
- Progress the regional coastal plan through deliberations phases.
- Advocate on behalf of the region regarding legislative changes from central government.
- Undertake the three-yearly residents' 'perceptions of the environment' survey.

Key levels of service

Undertake state of environment reporting

Ensure swimmability data is uploaded weekly during the recreational bathing season

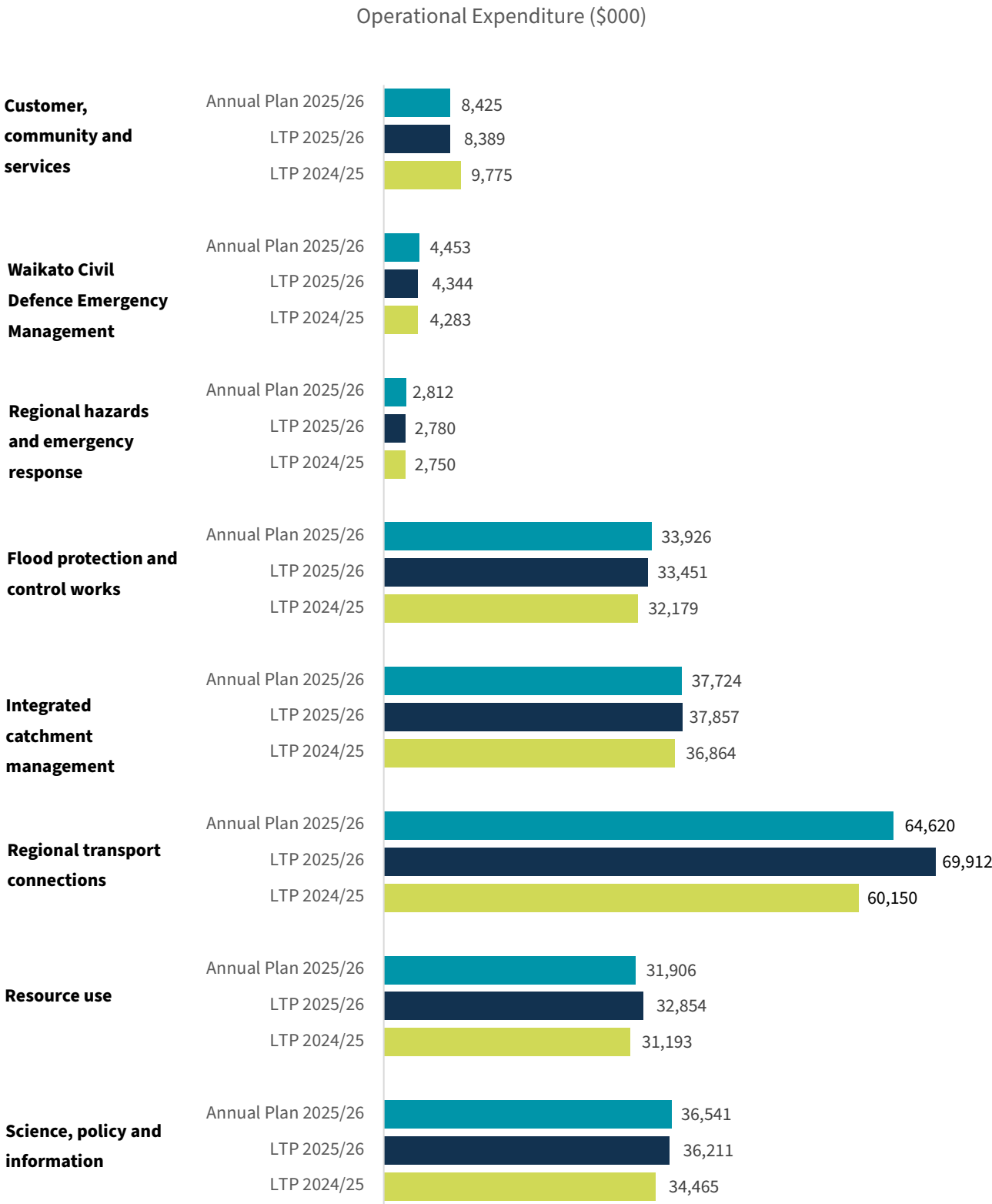
Ensure decisions are notified on the *proposed regional coastal plan*

Ensure data is available at least 98 per cent of the time (during flood events)



Whakapaunga utu mō ia momo mahi

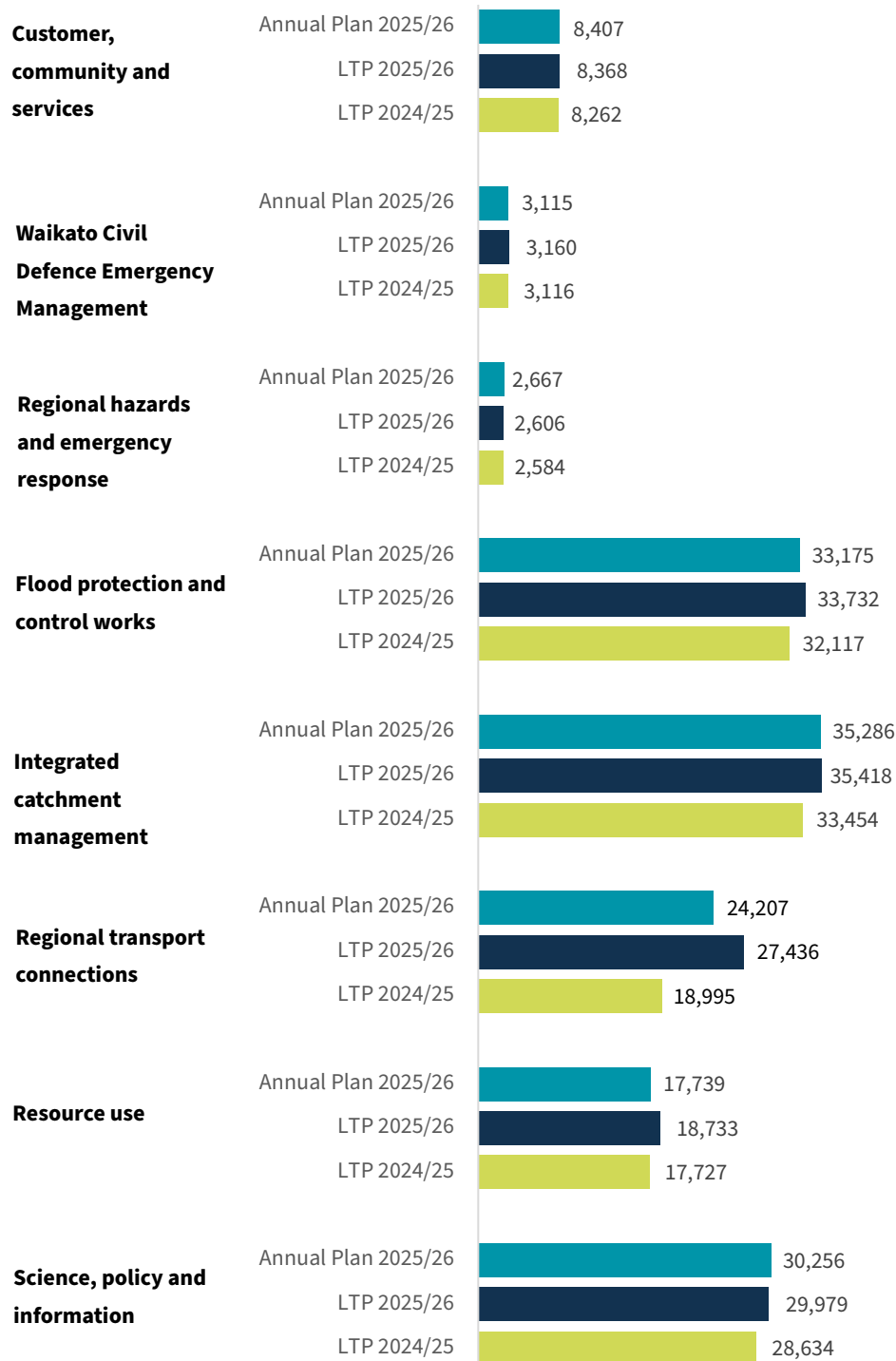
Operational expenditure by group of activities



Utunga reiti mō ia momo mahi

Rates revenue by group of activities

Rates Revenue (\$000)



Section 4

Pūtea

Finances

Ngā tauākī pūtea ki te pae

Prospective financial statements

The following pages present our financial projections for 2025/26. In particular, the following information is presented:

- the sources of income and where we plan to spend it
- the effect of planned income and expenditure on the overall net worth of the council
- what the council owes and owns
- the forecast cash payments and receipts for each year
- additional supporting information.

The prospective statement of financial position is based on the estimated financial position at 1 July 2025. This position differs from the estimated financial position as at 30 June 2025 which was included in the *2024-2034 Long Term Plan* (LTP) and results in the projected opening balances applied to the *2025/26 Annual Plan* differing from those assumed in the LTP.

The prospective financial information presented is based on best estimate assumptions. While every care has been taken in preparing the prospective financial information, the actual results may differ. These differences may be material.

The forecasts are based on assumptions and information available to Waikato Regional Council at May 2025. Actual financial results have been incorporated to the extent they affect the opening forecast prospective position at 1 July 2025. Comparative information provided for 2024/25 is as presented in this annual plan. There is no intention to update the prospective financial information after the finalisation of this annual plan.

The forecast financial information from page 30 to page 111 has been prepared in accordance with the council's current accounting policies, as specified on page 43. The forecast financial information presented in this plan has been prepared in compliance with *PBEFRSNo42: Prospective Financial Statements*.

Prospective statement of comprehensive revenue and expense

	2024/25 Annual Plan	2025/26 Annual Plan	2025/26 LTP
	\$000	\$000	\$000
General rates	46,659	48,588	48,842
Total UAGC rate revenue	19,346	19,340	19,546
Total all property rates	66,005	67,928	68,388
Targeted rates			
- Civil defence	3,116	3,115	3,160
- Regional services fund	715	724	725
- Natural heritage	2,893	2,917	2,937
- Stock truck effluent	43	18	45
- Waikato Regional Theatre	423	412	423
- Biosecurity	12,758	13,901	14,147
- Transport	16,437	21,994	24,958
- Asset management schemes	37,265	38,721	39,062
- Primary industry compliance	2,491	2,854	2,848
Total targeted rate revenue	76,141	84,656	88,305
Total rate revenue	142,146	152,584	156,693
Rates penalty income	1,451	1,800	1,451
Rates remissions granted	(650)	(775)	(650)
Net rates revenue	142,947	153,609	157,494
Government grants	28,016	27,890	31,719
Direct charges	10,971	8,340	8,237
Consent holder charges	5,779	6,011	5,882
Investment fund distribution income	4,131	4,450	4,421
Investment fund capital protection income	2,548	4,122	2,614
Interest income	1,920	1,422	1,920
Other income	13,007	15,643	13,675
Royalties	120	200	120
Rental income	646	758	646
Other gains/(losses)			
Total revenue	210,085	222,445	226,728

	2024/25 Annual Plan	2025/26 Annual Plan	2025/26 LTP
	\$000	\$000	\$000
Operating expenditure	128,968	133,467	138,829
Employee benefit expenses	66,886	71,259	68,820
Interest expense	3,470	2,990	4,140
Depreciation and amortisation	14,120	14,497	15,033
Total cost of service	213,444	222,213	226,822
Operating surplus/(deficit) before tax	(3,359)	232	(94)
Share of associate surplus/(deficit)	-	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) before income tax	(3,359)	232	(94)
Income tax expense	-	-	-
Net surplus/(deficit) after tax	(3,359)	232	(94)
Other comprehensive revenue and expenses			
Gain/(loss) on property, plant and equipment revaluations	-	16,936	16,936
Total other comprehensive revenue and expenses	(3,359)	17,168	16,842
Total comprehensive revenue and expenses	(3,359)	17,168	16,842
Transfer to/(from) reserves	(487)	18,898	19,331
Total comprehensive revenue and expenses after reserve transfers	(2,872)	(1,730)	(2,489)

Summary cost of service statement

	2024/25 Annual plan	2025/26 Annual plan	2025/26 LTP
	\$000	\$000	\$000
Revenue			
Customer, community and services	8,453	8,613	8,563
Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management	4,283	4,453	4,344
Regional hazards and emergency response	2,750	2,812	2,780
Flood protection and control works	33,005	34,722	34,618
Integrated catchment management	36,012	37,057	37,188
Resource use	27,866	28,541	29,119
Science, policy and information	33,817	35,587	35,257
Regional transport connections	56,492	61,157	67,091
Corporate and self-funding	7,296	9,392	7,651
Council controlled organisations	111	111	114
Total revenue	210,085	222,445	226,728
Expenditure			
Customer, community and services	9,775	8,425	8,389
Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management	4,283	4,453	4,344
Regional hazards and emergency response	2,750	2,812	2,780
Flood protection and control works	32,179	33,926	33,451
Integrated catchment management	36,864	37,724	37,857
Resource use	31,193	31,906	32,854
Science, policy and information	34,465	36,541	36,211
Regional transport connections	60,150	64,620	69,912
Corporate and self-funding	1,674	1,695	911
Council controlled organisations	111	111	114
Total expenditure	213,444	222,213	226,822
Net surplus/(deficit) before reserve transfers	(3,359)	232	(94)
Gain/(loss) on property, plant and equipment revaluations	-	16,936	16,936
Transfer to/(from) reserves	(487)	18,898	19,331
Net operating surplus/(deficit)	(2,872)	(1,730)	(2,489)

Prospective statement of changes in net assets/equity

	2024/25 Annual Plan \$000	2025/26 Annual Plan \$000	2025/26 LTP \$000
Equity at 1 July	1,090,717	1,099,724	1,087,358
Total comprehensive income	(3,359)	17,168	16,842
Equity at 30 June	1,087,358	1,116,892	1,104,200
Components of equity			
Retained earnings at beginning of year	210,894	207,974	208,022
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year	(3,359)	232	(94)
Net transfer (to)/from reserves	487	(1,962)	(2,395)
Retained earnings at end of year	208,022	206,244	205,533
Council created reserves at beginning of year	69,926	85,411	69,439
Transfer to/(from) retained earnings	(487)	1,962	2,395
Council created reserves at end of year	69,439	87,373	71,835
Revaluation reserves at beginning of year	809,897	806,339	809,897
Net transfer to/(from) retained earnings	-	16,936	16,936
Revaluation reserves at end of year	809,897	823,275	826,832
Total equity at end of year	1,087,358	1,116,892	1,104,200

Prospective statement of financial position

	2024/25 Annual Plan \$000	2025/26 Annual Plan \$000	2025/26 LTP \$000
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4,308	4,314	4,465
Trade and other receivables	24,388	28,194	26,320
Prepayments	3,009	1,881	3,239
Inventories	1,372	1,521	1,401
Work in progress	1,486	1,554	1,527
Other financial assets	23,000	6,000	18,500
Derivative financial instruments	-	776	-
Total current assets	57,563	44,240	55,452
Non-current assets			
Financial assets	109,497	114,352	114,583
Other financial assets	20	20	20
Investments in Council Controlled Organisations	1,068	1,111	915
Biological assets	290	290	290
Intangible assets	5,954	4,825	4,790
Property, plant and equipment	1,020,184	1,048,917	1,052,038
Derivative financial instruments	1,467	432	1,467
Total non-current assets	1,138,480	1,169,947	1,174,103
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	33,760	29,827	36,341
Employee benefit liabilities	7,986	7,792	8,217
Borrowing	10,332	5,747	10,418
Derivative financial instruments	-	-	-
Total current liabilities	52,078	43,366	54,976
Non-current liabilities			
Employee benefit liabilities	2,519	1,593	2,592
Derivative financial instruments	-	-	-
Borrowing	54,088	52,336	67,787
Total non-current liabilities	56,607	53,929	70,379

Net assets	1,087,358	1,116,892	1,104,200
Equity			
Accumulated funds	208,022	206,244	205,533
Other reserves	879,336	910,648	898,667
Total equity	1,087,358	1,116,892	1,104,200

Prospective statement of cash flows

	2024/25 Annual Plan \$000	2025/26 Annual Plan \$000	2025/26 LTP \$000
Receipts from customers	171,946	182,994	184,121
Grants	28,016	27,890	31,719
Investment income received	1,920	1,422	1,920
Receipt of funding on behalf of third parties	-	-	-
Total cash provided	201,882	212,306	217,760
Payments to suppliers	(127,915)	(132,593)	(136,548)
Payments to employees	(65,923)	(70,683)	(68,516)
Payments of funds held on behalf of third parties	-	-	-
Interest paid	(3,470)	(2,990)	(4,140)
Goods and services tax	-	-	-
Total cash applied	(197,308)	(206,266)	(209,204)
Net cash flow from operating	4,574	6,040	8,556
Loan repayments	-	-	-
Loan advances	-	-	-
Sale of intangible assets	-	-	-
Sale of property, plant and equipment	-	-	-
Sale of investments	1,900	1,978	1,949
Total cash provided	1,900	1,978	1,949
Increase in investments	(16,313)	17,153	4,653
Purchase of intangible assets	(835)	(1,058)	(866)
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(19,640)	(25,185)	(27,921)
Total cash applied	(36,788)	(9,090)	(24,134)
Net cash flow from investing	(34,888)	(7,112)	(22,185)
Proceeds from borrowings	36,348	12,595	25,748
Repayment of borrowings	(11,172)	(12,073)	(11,963)
Net cash flow from financing	25,176	523	13,785
Net cash flow	(5,137)	(550)	157
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 July	9,445	4,863	4,308
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(5,137)	(550)	157
Cash and cash equivalents at 30 June	4,308	4,313	4,464

Notes to the prospective financial statements

Net surplus will be used as follows:

	2024/25 Annual Plan \$000	2025/26 Annual Plan \$000	2025/26 LTP \$000
Transfers to/(from) reserves	(3,035)	(2,160)	(219)
Investment fund preservation	2,548	2,614	2,614
Investment fund population growth	-	1,508	-
Transfer to/(from) retained earnings	(2,872)	(1,730)	(2,489)
Net surplus/(deficit)	(3,359)	232	(94)

Main components of capital expenditure

	2024/25 Annual Plan \$000	2025/26 Annual Plan \$000	2025/26 LTP \$000
Land	-	-	-
Building development	266	354	159
Motor vehicles	924	834	732
Plant and equipment	1,752	1,618	1,649
Information services	1,665	3,396	3,460
Intangible assets	835	1,058	866
Furniture and fittings	51	22	22
Infrastructure	14,982	18,962	21,898
Total capital expenditure	20,475	26,243	28,787

Depreciation and amortisation

	2024/25 Annual Plan \$000	2025/26 Annual Plan \$000	2025/26 LTP \$000
Community and services	697	756	770
Civil defence emergency management	11	8	8
Regional hazards and emergency response	41	123	125
Flood protection and control works	7,491	8,365	7,956
Integrated catchment management	139	233	237
Regional transport connections	2,191	1,621	1,652
Resource use	585	187	1,040
Science, policy and information	1,149	1,320	1,345
Corporate and self-funding	1,816	1,885	1,899
Council controlled organisations	-	-	-
Total depreciation and amortisation	14,120	14,497	15,033

Other income

	2024/25 Annual Plan \$000	2025/26 Annual Plan \$000	2025/26 LTP \$000
Contributions from other parties	4,543	5,501	4,587
Infringement fines	441	441	441
Public transport fare revenue	8,023	9,701	8,647
Total other income	13,007	15,643	13,675

Revenue

	2024/25 Annual Plan \$000	2025/26 Annual Plan \$000	2025/26 LTP \$000
Exchange revenue	66,697	68,395	68,793
Non-exchange revenue	143,388	154,050	157,935
Total revenue	210,085	222,445	226,728

Reserves

The council maintains the following council-created reserves.

Reserve name	Purpose	Activities
General	To smooth the costs of the triennial elections over the three-year term of the council. To smooth the costs of the development of the Long Term Plan over the effective period of the Plan.	Customer, community and services
Motor vehicle and plant	To recognise the difference between actual and budgeted expenditure. Reserve funds may be applied to the funding of vehicle and plant capital expenditure.	Corporate
Operational fixed asset depreciation	To recognise the difference between budgeted and actual operational fixed asset depreciation. To ensure that depreciation funding is not applied to general council expenditure and to address timing difference in capital expenditure occurring.	Corporate
Communications network	To recognise the difference between actual and budgeted expenditure. Reserve funds may be applied to the funding of communications network capital expenditure.	Corporate
Public transport	To recognise the difference between actual and budgeted public transport expenditure. This activity is funded by way of a targeted rate. The application of a reserve ensures that the targeted rate revenue is only applied for the purpose it was charged. The reserve balance will be held at a level that provides some mitigation against increasing costs for these services.	Regional transport connections
Stock truck effluent	To allow the funding of this activity to be smoothed across financial years.	Regional transport connections

Investment fund capital protection	To recognise the provision for the inflation proofing of the investment fund capital so that the value of the fund is maintained in real terms.	Corporate (Treasury)
Investment fund equalisation	To provide a smoothing of the impact of variable investment fund returns over time. The investment equalisation reserve tracks the difference between the budgeted fund return and the actual fund return each year.	Corporate (Treasury)
Regional development fund	To recognise the unallocated / unspent portion of funds collected under the Regional Development Fund.	Science, policy and information
Building Act contingency	A legal contingency fund in relation to council's responsibilities under the <i>Building Act 2004</i> . Waikato Regional Council acts as the consenting authority on behalf of a number of other local authorities.	Resource use
Integrated regional information system (IRIS)	To allow funding for the IRIS project to be smoothed over the development period. The reserve is expected to be fully expended once the project is completed.	Corporate (council-controlled organisations)
Environmental initiatives	To recognise the difference between actual and budgeted expenditure in relation to the Environmental Initiatives Fund. Expenditure from the Environmental Initiatives Fund is dependent on applications received each financial year. The use of a reserve ensures that unspent funds can be accumulated across financial years.	Integrated catchment management
Natural heritage	To recognise the difference between actual and budgeted natural heritage expenditure. Applications to the natural heritage fund occur in an <i>ad hoc</i> manner. Maintenance of a reserve ensures that funds can be accumulated across financial years and made available once suitable applications for funding are received.	Integrated catchment management
Biosecurity	To recognise the difference between actual and budgeted biosecurity expenditure. This activity is funded by way of a targeted rate. The application of a reserve ensures that the targeted rate revenue is only applied for the purpose it was charged.	Integrated catchment management
Primary industry compliance	To recognise unallocated funding that has been provided to improvements and to support farm planning practices	Resource use
Civil defence	To recognise the difference between actual and budgeted expenditure in relation to this activity. The activity is funded by way of a targeted rate. The application of a reserve ensures that the targeted rate revenue is only applied for the purpose it was charged.	Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management Group
Complaints and enforcement	To smooth the costs associated with large enforcement cases, as these occur in an <i>ad hoc</i> manner	Resource use
Contaminated land investigation	To provide funding to respond to approved contaminated land investigations.	Science, policy and information
Regional disaster recovery	To provide funding to respond to natural disaster events, including the funding of insurance excesses.	Integrated catchment management Flood protection and control works

Zone disaster recovery	To provide funding to respond to natural disaster events of up to a 20-year return period. Events of this magnitude are not covered by insurance, meaning that council needs to make its own provisions to meet costs that may be incurred.	Integrated catchment management Flood protection and control works
Drainage	To recognise the difference between actual and budgeted expenditure in relation to the council's land drainage functions. This activity is funded through a targeted rate. The application of a reserve ensures that the targeted rate revenue is only applied for the purpose it was charged. The reserve also recognises revenue generated to fund capital expenditure.	Flood protection and control works
Watershed	To recognise the difference between actual and budgeted expenditure in relation to this catchment. This activity is funded by way of a targeted rate. The application of a reserve ensures that the targeted rate revenue is only applied for the purpose it was charged. The reserve also recognises revenue generated to fund capital expenditure.	Integrated catchment management Flood protection and control works
Coromandel	To recognise the difference between actual and budgeted expenditure in relation to this zone. This activity is funded by way of a targeted rate. The application of a reserve ensures that the targeted rate revenue is only applied for the purpose it was charged. The reserve also recognises revenue generated to fund capital expenditure.	Integrated catchment management Flood protection and control works
West Coast	To recognise the difference between actual and budgeted expenditure in relation to this zone. This activity is funded by way of a targeted rate. The application of a reserve ensures that the targeted rate revenue is only applied for the purpose it was charged. The reserve also recognises revenue generated to fund capital expenditure.	Integrated catchment management Flood protection and control works
Waihou-Piako scheme	To recognise the difference between actual and budgeted expenditure in relation to this zone. This activity is funded by way of a targeted rate. The application of a reserve ensures that the targeted rate revenue is only applied for the purpose it was charged. The reserve also recognises revenue generated to fund capital expenditure.	Integrated catchment management Flood protection and control works
Derivative financial instruments	To recognise the fluctuations in the value of derivative financial instruments. As financial instruments are held to maturity, movements in the value of the instruments at 30 June 2021 are not realised.	Corporate
Wharekawa Coast (Kaiaua)	To recognise the difference between actual and budgeted expenditure in relation to this zone. This activity is funded by way of a targeted rate. The application of a reserve ensures that the targeted rate revenue is only applied for the purpose it was charged. The reserve also recognises revenue generated to fund capital expenditure.	Integrated catchment management Flood protection and control works
Prior year surplus	A council-owned reserve for the management of operating surplus funds and their use across financial years.	Corporate
Asset revaluation reserve	To recognise the change in asset values as a result of the revaluation process.	Corporate

The following reserve movements are projected for this annual plan.

		Transfer to/(from) reserve		
	2025/26 Opening reserve balance	Transfer to/(from) reserve Annual Plan	Closing reserve balance	Closing reserve balance per LTP
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
General	22	(12)	10	(50)
Motor vehicles and plant	775	(105)	670	903
Operational fixed asset depreciation	747	-	747	447
Communications network	550	(170)	380	380
Public transport	5,363	(2,002)	3,361	613
Stock truck effluent	984	-	984	764
Investment fund capital protection	30,750	2,614	33,364	31,504
Investment Fund population growth		1,508	1,508	-
Investment fund equalisation	(3,588)	2,472	(1,116)	(1,416)
Regional Development Fund	4,029	-	4,029	3,979
Building Act contingency	99	-	99	90
IRIS	348	-	348	308
Environmental initiatives	88	-	88	58
Natural Heritage	62	-	62	262
Biosecurity	1,040	(668)	372	635
Permitted activity monitoring	914	(340)	574	407
Civil Defence	94	-	94	(60)
Complaints and enforcement	72		72	72
Contaminated land investigation	400	-	400	399
Hauraki plan change	93	(93)	0	0
Regional disaster recovery	2,838	114	2,952	3,131
Zone disaster recovery	3,777	160	3,937	4,055

Drainage	(1,407)	(38)	(1,445)	(1,474)
Watershed	21,502	610	22,112	16,049
Coromandel	3,888	(255)	3,633	4,582
West Coast	999	(1)	998	714
Waihou-Piako Scheme	3,376	283	3,659	2,361
Resilient development	20		20	-
Derivative financial instruments	1,208		1,208	1,490
Primary industry compliance	-	-	-	793
Lower Waikato flood community works	-	(65)	(65)	-
Wharekawa Coast (Kaiaua)	-	1	1	-
Prior year surplus	6,367	(2,051)	4,316	840
Asset revaluation reserve	806,339	16,936	823,275	826,833
Total reserve transfers	891,750	18,898	910,648	898,666

Accounting policies

Reporting entity

Waikato Regional Council is a territorial local authority governed by the *Local Government Act 2002* and is domiciled in New Zealand. The main purpose of these prospective financial statements is to provide users with information about core services that the council intends to provide ratepayers, the expected cost of those services and, as a consequence, how much Waikato Regional Council requires in rates to fund the intended levels of service. The prospective financial statements may not be suitable for any other purpose.

The primary objectives of Waikato Regional Council are to provide local infrastructure, local public services, and to perform regulatory functions for the community. The council does not operate to make a profit. Accordingly, Waikato Regional Council has designated itself a public benefit entity and applies International Public Sector Accounting Standards for Tier1 organisations.

These prospective financial statements comply with PBE standards.

These prospective financial statements were authorised for issue by the council on 24 June 2025. In authorising these prospective financial statements for issue, the council acknowledges its responsibility for the prospective financial statements, including the appropriateness of the assumptions and all other required disclosures.

Statement of compliance and basis of measurement

The prospective financial statements of the Waikato Regional Council have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2002*, which includes the requirement to comply with New Zealand generally accepted accounting practice.

The prospective financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis, modified by the revaluation of land and buildings, certain infrastructural assets, investment property, biological assets and financial instruments (including derivative instruments). These are detailed in the specific policies below.

The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these prospective financial statements.

The prospective financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$000). The functional currency of Waikato Regional Council is New Zealand dollars.

Significant accounting policies

Foreign currency transactions

The functional and presentation currency is New Zealand dollars. Foreign currency transactions (including those for which forward foreign exchange contracts are held) are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from settlement of such transactions are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment consists of:

- operational assets – these include land, buildings, plant and equipment, and motor vehicles
- infrastructure assets – the flood protection and erosion control assets owned by Waikato Regional Council.

Property, plant and equipment is shown at cost or valuation, less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Additions

The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised as an asset if, and only if, it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Waikato Regional Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

In most instances, an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised at its cost. Where an asset is acquired at no cost, or for a nominal cost, it is recognised at fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Work in progress is recognised at cost, less impairment, and is not depreciated.

Disposals

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount of the

asset. Gains and losses on disposal are included in the surplus or deficit. When revalued assets are sold, the amounts included in asset revaluation reserves in respect of those assets are transferred to retained earnings.

Subsequent costs

Costs incurred subsequent to initial recognition are capitalised only when it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to Waikato Regional Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

The costs of day-to-day servicing of property, plant and equipment are recognised in the surplus or deficit as they are incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis on all property, plant and equipment, other than land and drainage networks, at rates that will write off the cost (or valuation) of the assets to their estimated residual values over their useful lives. The useful lives and depreciation rates of the major classes of assets have been estimated as follows.

Operational assets	Useful life (years)
Buildings	25 – 75
Leasehold improvements	15
Motor vehicles	7.5
Computer equipment	4 – 5
Office furniture	7.5
Plant and equipment	7.5-15

Infrastructural assets	Useful life (years)
Bridges	50 – 100
Channels	25-100
Control gates	15-100
Culverts	30-100
Debris traps	100
Detentions	15-100
Drop structures	50-80
Fencing	30
Floodgates	20-100
General structures	20-100

Plantings	Not depreciated
Pump stations	10-100
Retaining structures	30-100
River training works	30-100
Stopbanks	20-100
Weirs	100

The residual value and useful life of an asset is reviewed, and adjusted if applicable, at the end of each financial year.

Revaluation

Land and buildings and infrastructure assets are revalued with sufficient regularity to ensure that their carrying amount does not differ materially from fair value and at least every three years. All other asset classes are carried at depreciated historical cost.

The carrying values of revalued assets are assessed annually to ensure that they do not differ materially from the assets' fair values. If there is a material difference, then the off-cycle asset classes are revalued.

Revaluations of property, plant and equipment are accounted for on a class-of-asset basis.

The net revaluation results are credited or debited to other comprehensive income and are accumulated to an asset revaluation reserve inequity for that class of asset. Where this would result in a debit balance in the asset revaluation reserve, this balance is not recognised in other comprehensive income but is recognised in the surplus or deficit. Any subsequent increase in revaluation that reverses a previous decrease in value recognised in the surplus or deficit will be recognised first in the surplus or deficit up to the amount previously expensed and then recognised in other comprehensive income.

Intangible assets

Software acquisition and development

Acquired computer software licences are capitalised on the basis of the costs incurred to acquire and bring to use the specific software.

Costs that are directly associated with the development of software for internal use by the Waikato Regional Council are recognised as an intangible asset. Direct costs include the software development employee costs and an appropriate portion of relevant overheads.

Staff training costs are recognised in the surplus or deficit when incurred.

Costs associated with maintaining computer software are recognised as an expense when they are incurred.

Costs associated with development and maintenance of the council's website are recognised as an expense when incurred.

Amortisation

The carrying value of an intangible asset with a finite life is amortised on a straight-line basis over its useful life. Amortisation begins when the asset is available for use and ceases at the date that the asset is derecognised. The amortisation charge for each period is recognised in the surplus or deficit.

The useful lives and associated amortisation rates of assets to be amortised have been estimated as follows.

Computer software	4 years	(25 per cent per annum)
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Impairment of property, plant and equipment and intangibles

The carrying values of operational buildings, plant and equipment and infrastructural assets are reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable.

Intangible assets subsequently measured at cost that have an indefinite useful life or are not yet available for use are not subject to amortisation and are tested annually for impairment.

Waikato Regional Council's assets do not generate direct cash inflows and cannot be grouped into cash generating units. Therefore, the council does not group its assets into cash generating units to assess impairment. The council instead annually tests for internal and external factors which may indicate that the carrying value of its assets exceeds depreciated replacement cost, which would indicate impairment has occurred.

If any such indication exists, and where the carrying values are found to exceed the estimated recoverable amount, the assets are written down to their recoverable amount or depreciated replacement cost.

Impairment losses are recognised in the surplus or deficit in the write downs and disposals line item unless they offset a prior revaluation reserve for that asset.

Investment properties

Properties leased to third parties under operating leases are classified as investment property unless the property is held to meet service delivery objectives, rather than to earn rentals or for capital appreciation.

Investment property is measured initially at its cost, including transaction costs.

After initial recognition, all investment property is measured at fair value as determined annually by an independent valuer.

Gains or losses arising from a change in the fair value of investment property are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Forestry

Standing forestry assets are independently revalued annually at fair value less estimated costs to sell for one growth cycle. Fair value is determined based on the present value of expected net cash flows discounted at a current market determined rate. This calculation is based on existing sustainable felling plans and assessments regarding growth, timber prices, felling costs, silviculture costs and takes into consideration environmental, operational and market restrictions.

Gains or losses arising on initial recognition of forestry assets at fair value less estimated costs to sell and from a change in fair value less estimated costs to sell are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Forestry maintenance costs are recognised in the surplus or deficit when incurred.

Accounting for associates

Waikato Regional Council accounts for an investment in an associate in the prospective financial statements using the equity method.

Inventories

Inventory held for distribution or consumption in the provision of services that are not supplied on a commercial basis is measured at cost (using the weighted average method), adjusted, when applicable, for any loss of service

potential. Inventories acquired through non-exchange transactions are measured at fair value at the date of acquisition.

Inventory held for use in the production of goods and services on a commercial basis is valued at the lower of cost (using the weighted average method), and net realisable value. The cost of purchased inventory is determined using the first-in first-out method.

The amount of any write-down for the loss of service potential or from cost to net realisable value is recognised in the surplus or deficit in the period of the write-down.

Receivables

Receivables are initially measured at face value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any provision for impairment.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at bank and in hand, deposits held on call and other short term highly liquid deposits with an original maturity of three months or less, and bank overdraft.

For the purposes of the cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and cash equivalents as defined above, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

Provisions

The council recognises a provision for future expenditure of uncertain amount or timing when there is a present obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that an out flow of future economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses. Provisions are measured at the present value of the expenditures expected to be required to settle the obligation that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the obligation. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as an interest expense.

Employee entitlements

Short term employee entitlements

Employee benefits expected to be settled within 12 months of balance date are measured at nominal values based on accrued entitlements at current rates of pay.

These include salaries and wages accrued up to balance date, annual leave earned to but not yet taken at balance date, and sick leave.

A liability for sick leave is recognised to the extent that compensated absences in the coming year are expected to be greater than the sick leave entitlements earned in the coming year. The amount is calculated based on the unused sick leave entitlement that can be carried forward at balance date, to the extent it will be used by staff to cover those future absences.

A liability and an expense are recognised for bonuses where the council has a contractual obligation or where there is a past practice that has created a constructive obligation.

Long term employee entitlements

Employee benefits that are due to be settled beyond 12 months after the end of the period in which the employee renders the related service, such as long service leave and retirement gratuities, have been calculated on an actuarial basis. The calculations are based on:

- likely future entitlements accruing to staff, based on years of service, years to entitlement, the likelihood that staff will reach the point of entitlement, and contractual entitlement information
- the present value of the estimated future cash flows.

Expected future payments are discounted using market yields on government bonds at balance date with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows for entitlements. The inflation factor is based on the expected long-term increase in remuneration for employees.

Presentation of employee entitlements

Sick leave, annual leave, vested long service leave, and non-vested long service leave and retirement gratuities expected to be settled within 12 months of balance date are classified as a current liability. All other employee entitlements are classified as a non-current liability.

Payables

Short term creditors and other payables are initially recognised at their face value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Leases

Finance leases

A finance lease is a lease that transfers to the lessee substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an asset, whether or not title is eventually transferred.

At the commencement of the lease term, finance leases are recognised as assets and liabilities in the statement of financial position at the lower of the fair value of the leased item or the present value of the minimum lease payments.

The finance charge is charged to the surplus or deficit over the lease period so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability.

The amount recognised as an asset is depreciated over its useful life. If there is no certainty as to whether the council will obtain ownership at the end of the lease term, the asset is fully depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and its useful life.

Operating leases

An operating lease is a lease that does not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an asset. Lease payments under an operating lease are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Grant expenditure

Non-discretionary grants are those that are awarded if the grant application meets the specified criteria and are recognised as expenditure when an application that meets the specified criteria for the grant has been received.

Discretionary grants are those grants where the Waikato Regional Council has no obligation to award on receipt of the grant application and are recognised as expenditure when a successful applicant has been notified of the Waikato Regional Council's decision.

Income tax

Income tax expense is the aggregate of current period movement in relation to both current and deferred tax.

Current tax is the amount of income tax payable based on the taxable surplus for the current year, plus any adjustments to income tax payable in respect of prior years. Current tax is calculated using tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted at balance date.

Deferred tax is the amount of income tax payable or recoverable in future periods in respect of temporary differences and unused tax losses. Temporary differences are differences between the carrying amount of the assets and liabilities in the prospective financial statements and the corresponding tax bases used in the computation of taxable surplus.

Deferred tax is measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply when the asset is realised or the liability is settled, based on tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted at balance date. The measurement of deferred tax reflects the tax consequences that would follow from the manner in which the council expects to recover or settle the carrying amount of its assets and liabilities.

Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all taxable temporary differences. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that taxable surpluses will be available against which the deductible temporary differences or tax losses can be utilised.

Deferred tax is not recognised if the temporary difference arises from the initial recognition of goodwill or from the initial recognition of an asset and liability in a transaction that is not a business combination, and at the time of the transaction, affects neither accounting surplus nor taxable surplus.

Current and deferred tax is recognised against the surplus or deficit for the period, except to the extent that it relates to a business combination, or to transactions recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity.

Revenue

Revenue is measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable.

Revenue may be derived from either exchange or non-exchange transactions.

Exchange transactions

Exchange transactions are transactions where the council receives assets or services, or has liabilities extinguished, and directly gives approximately equal value to another entity in exchange.

Non-exchange transactions

Non-exchange transactions are transactions that are not exchange transactions. In a non-exchange transaction, the council either receives value from or gives value to another entity without directly giving or receiving approximately equal value in exchange, or where the value given or received is notable to be accurately measured. An inflow of resources from a non-exchange transaction, whether this be an asset or revenue, is only recognised if a liability is not also recognised for that particular asset or revenue. A liability is only recognised to the extent that the present obligations have not been satisfied. A liability in respect of a transferred asset is recognised only when the transferred asset is subject to a condition, such as a condition for the asset to be consumed as specified and/or that future economic benefits or service potential must be returned to the owner. A liability will not be recognised in respect of a transferred asset subject to one or more restrictions.

Specific accounting policies for major categories of revenue are listed below.

Rates revenue

Rates are set annually by a resolution from the council and relate to a financial year. All ratepayers are invoiced within the financial year to which the rates have been set. Rates revenue is recognised when payable.

Rates arising from late payment penalties are recognised as revenue when rates become overdue.

Rate remissions are recognised as a reduction of rates revenue when the council has received an application that satisfies its rates remission policy.

Government grants

Government grants are recognised as revenue upon entitlement, as conditions pertaining to the eligible expenditure have been fulfilled.

Fees and charges

Fees and charges are recognised as revenue when the obligation to pay arises or, in the case of annual charges, when invoiced. Expenditure is recognised when the service has been provided or the goods received.

Interest and dividends

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method.

Dividends are recognised when the right to receive payment has been established.

Sales of goods

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when a product is sold to the customer.

Goods and services tax (GST)

All items in the financial statements are recognised net of the amount of GST except:

- where the GST incurred on a purchase of goods and services is not recoverable from the Inland Revenue Department, in which case the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the assets or as part of the expense item as applicable; and
- receivables and payables (excluding accruals) are stated with the amount of GST included.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the Inland Revenue Department is included as part of receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which is recoverable from, or payable to, the Inland Revenue Department are classified as operating cash flows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed exclusive of GST.

Equity

Equity is the community's interest in the council and is measured as the difference between total assets and total liabilities. Public equity is disaggregated and classed into a number of reserves to enable clearer identification of the specified uses of its accumulated surpluses.

- accumulated funds
- restricted reserves
- council created reserves
- asset revaluation reserves.

Reserves

Reserves are a component of equity generally representing a particular use to which various parts of equity have been assigned. Reserves may be legally restricted or created by the council. Restricted reserves are those reserves subject to specific conditions accepted as binding by the council and which may not be revised by the council without reference to the courts or third party. Transfers from these reserves may be made only for certain specified purposes or when certain conditions are met.

Council created reserves are reserves established by council decision. The council may alter them without reference to any third party or the courts. Transfers to and from these reserves are at the discretion of the council.

Asset revaluation reserves represent unrealised gains on assets owned by Waikato Regional Council. The gains are held in the reserve until such time as the gain is realised and a transfer can be made to accumulated funds.

Cost allocation

Waikato Regional Council has derived the net cost of services for each significant activity of the council using the cost allocation system outlined below.

Direct costs are those costs directly attributable to a significant activity. Indirect costs are those costs that cannot be identified in an economically feasible manner with a specific significant activity.

Cost allocation policy

Direct costs are charged directly to significant activities. Indirect costs are charged to significant activities based on a model that allocates cost, by a predetermined level of activity usage.

Other financial assets

The council classifies its financial assets into the following four categories:

- financial assets at fair value through the surplus or deficit
- held-to-maturity assets
- loans and receivables

- financial assets at fair value through comprehensive revenue and expense.

The classification depends on the purpose for which the investments are acquired. Management determines the classification of its investments at initial recognition and re-evaluates this designation at every reporting date.

Financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs unless they are carried at fair value through surplus or deficit, in which case the transaction costs are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Purchases and sales of investments are recognised on trade-date, the date on which the council commits to purchase or sell the asset. Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred and the council has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership.

The fair value of financial instruments traded in active markets is based on quoted market prices at the balance sheet date. The quoted market price is the current bid price.

The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market is determined using valuation techniques. The council uses a variety of methods and makes assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at each balance date. Quoted market prices or dealer quotes for similar instruments are used for long term debt instruments held. Other techniques, such as estimated discounted cash flows, are used to determine fair value for the remaining financial instruments.

The four categories of financial assets are as follows.

Financial assets at fair value through surplus or deficit

This category has two sub-categories:

- financial assets held for trading
- those designated at fair value through surplus or deficit at inception.

A financial asset is classified in this category if acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short term or it is part of a portfolio of identified financial instruments that are managed together and for which there is evidence of short-term profit-taking. Derivatives are also categorised as held for trading unless they are designated as hedges. Assets in this category are classified as current assets if

they are either held for trading or are expected to be realised within 12 months of the balance sheet date.

After initial recognition they are measured at their fair values. Gains or losses on re-measurement are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Financial assets in this category include council funds under management. The underlying assets of the investment fund may be actively traded by the fund managers and sold at any point in time to provide operating cash flow in line with the council's investment policy.

Loans and receivables

These are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They are included in current assets, except for maturities greater than 12 months after the balance date, which are included in non-current assets. After initial recognition they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less impairment. Gains and losses when the asset is impaired or derecognised are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Held to maturity investments

Held to maturity investments are assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturities that the council has a positive intention and ability to hold to maturity. They are included in current assets, except for maturities greater than 12 months after balance date, which are included in non-current assets.

After initial recognition they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less impairment. Gains and losses when the asset is impaired or derecognised are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense

Financial assets at fair value through comprehensive revenue and expense are those that are designated as fair value through equity at initial recognition or are not classified in any of the other categories above. This category encompasses investments that the council intends to hold long term but which may be realised before maturity.

After initial recognition these investments are measured at their fair value, gains and losses are recognised directly in other comprehensive revenue and expense except for impairment losses, which are recognised in the surplus or deficit. On derecognition the cumulative gain or loss previously recognised in comprehensive revenue and expense is reclassified from equity to the surplus or deficit.

Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets are assessed for objective evidence of impairment at each balance date. Impairment losses are recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Loans and receivables, and held-to-maturity investments

Impairment is established when there is objective evidence that the council will not be able to collect amounts due according to the original terms of the receivable. Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy, receivership, or liquidation and default in payments are considered indicators that the asset is impaired. The amount of the impairment is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cashflows, discounted using the original effective interest rate. For debtors and other receivables, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced through the use of an allowance account, and the amount of the loss is recognised in the surplus or deficit. When the receivable is uncollectable, it is written off against the allowance account. Overdue receivables that have been renegotiated are reclassified as current (that is, not past due). Impairment in term deposits, local authority stock, government stock and community loans, and impairment losses are recognised directly against the instrument's carrying amount.

Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense

For equity investments, a significant or prolonged decline in the fair value of the investment below its cost is considered objective evidence of impairment.

For debt investments, significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter into bankruptcy, and default in payments are considered objective indicators that the asset is impaired.

If impairment evidence exists for investments at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense, the cumulative loss (measured as the difference between the acquisition cost and the current fair value, less and impairment loss on that financial asset previously recognised in the surplus or deficit) recognised in other comprehensive revenue and expense is reclassified from equity to the surplus or deficit.

Equity instrument impairment losses recognised in the surplus or deficit are not reversed through the surplus or deficit.

If in a subsequent period the fair value of a debt instrument increases and the increase can be objectively related to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised, the impairment loss is reversed in the surplus or deficit.

Financial instruments

Derivatives financial instruments

Derivative financial instruments are used to manage the exposure to foreign exchange and interest rate risks arising from the council's financing activities. In accordance with its treasury policy, the council does not hold or issue derivative financial instruments for trading purposes. The council has elected not to apply hedge accounting. Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value on the date a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured at their fair value at each balance date with the resulting gain or loss recognised in the surplus or deficit.

Borrowing

Borrowings are initially recognised at their fair value plus transaction costs. Interest due on the borrowings is subsequently accrued and added to the borrowings balance. Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the council has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the balance sheet date.

Prospective financial information

The financial information contained within this document is prospective financial information in terms of accounting standard PBE FRS42. The purpose for which it has been prepared is to enable ratepayers, residents and any other interested parties to obtain information about the expected future financial performance, position and cash flow of Waikato Regional Council.

In preparing these prospective financial statements the Waikato Regional Council has made estimates and assumptions concerning the future. These estimates and assumptions may differ from the subsequent actual results.

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Management has not exercised any critical judgements in applying Waikato Regional Council's accounting policies to the proposed budget.

Financial reporting and prudence regulations

Annual plan disclosure statement for year ending 30 June 2026

What is the purpose of this statement?

The purpose of this statement is to disclose the council's planned financial performance in relation to various benchmarks to enable assessment of whether the council is prudently managing its revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities and general financial dealings.

The council is required to include this statement in its annual plan in accordance with the *Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014* (the regulations). Refer to the regulations for more information, including definitions of some of the terms used in this statement.

Benchmark		Planned	Met
Rates affordability benchmark			
• Income	Total rates revenue will comprise up to 75 per cent of council's annual revenue requirements	68.6%	Yes
• Increases	Increases in the annual rate revenue requirement will be limited to a 10 per cent increase in revenue from current ratepayers	5.7%	Yes
Debt affordability benchmark	Net debt/total revenue <100 per cent	14.8%	Yes
	Net interest/total revenue <10 per cent	0.7%	Yes
	Net interest/annual rates revenue is <15 per cent	1.0%	Yes
	Liquidity is >110 per cent	143%	Yes
Balanced budget benchmark	100%	100%	Yes
Essential services benchmark	100%	234%	Yes
Debt servicing benchmark	10%	1.3%	Yes

Notes

1 Rates affordability benchmark

1) For this benchmark, —

- the council's planned rates income for the year is compared with a quantified limit on rates contained in the financial strategy included in the council's long term plan; and
- the council's planned rates increases for the year are compared with a quantified limit on rates increases for the year contained in the financial strategy included in the council's long-term plan.

2) The council meets the rates affordability benchmark if—

- its planned rates income for the year equals or is less than each quantified limit on rates; and
- its planned rates increases for the year equal or are less than each quantified limit on rates increases.

2 Debt affordability benchmark

- For this benchmark, the council's planned borrowing is compared with quantified limits on borrowing contained in the financial strategy included in the council's long term plan.
- The council meets the debt affordability benchmark if its planned borrowing is within each quantified limit on borrowing.

3 Balanced budget benchmark

- For this benchmark, the council's planned revenue (excluding development contributions, vested assets,

financial contributions, gains on derivative financial instruments, and revaluations of property, plant, or equipment) is presented as a proportion of its planned operating expenses (excluding losses on derivative financial instruments and revaluations of property, plant, or equipment).

- 2) The council meets the balanced budget benchmark if its revenue equals or is greater than its operating expenses.

4 Essential services benchmark

- 1) For this benchmark, the council's planned capital expenditure on network services is presented as a proportion of expected depreciation on network services.
- 2) The council meets the essential services benchmark if its planned capital expenditure on network services equals or is greater than expected depreciation on network services.

5 Debt servicing benchmark

- 1) For this benchmark, the council's planned borrowing costs are presented as a proportion of planned revenue (excluding development contributions, financial contributions, vested assets, gains on derivative financial instruments, and revaluations of property, plant, or equipment).
- 2) Because Statistics New Zealand projects that the council's population will grow slower than the national population growth rate, it meets the debt servicing benchmark if its planned borrowing costs equal or are less than 10 per cent of its planned revenue

Ngā tauākī pānga pūtea mā te kāhui mahi

Funding impact statements by group of activity

The following information is presented in compliance with the *Local Government (Financial Reporting) and Prudence Regulations 2014*. In accordance with the regulations, this information is not prepared in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles and should not be relied upon for any other purpose than compliance with the *Local Government (Financial Reporting) and Prudence Regulations 2014*. The key difference between these statements and the prospective financial statements is the exclusion of depreciation expense.

Whole of council

	2024/25 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 LTP (\$000)
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	67,456	69,729	69,839
Targeted rates	76,142	84,657	88,303
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	28,016	27,890	31,719
Fees and charges	30,082	30,508	28,119
Interest and dividends from investments	8,599	9,994	8,955
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	441	441	441
Total operating funding (A)	210,735	223,220	227,378
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	196,504	205,501	208,298
Finance costs	3,470	2,990	4,140
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	199,974	208,490	212,439
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	10,761	14,730	14,940
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	5,974	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	25,176	4,800	13,786
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	25,176	10,774	13,786
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve the level of service	4,226	6,390	5,799

- to replace existing assets	16,249	19,853	22,987
Increase (decrease) in reserves	15,462	(739)	(60)
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	35,937	25,504	28,726
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	(10,761)	(14,730)	(14,940)
Funding balance ((A-B)+(C-D))	-	-	-

Customer, community and services

	2024/25 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 LTP (\$000)
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	7,124	7,271	7,221
Targeted rates	1,138	1,136	1,147
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	2	2	2
Fees and charges	190	203	193
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	-	-	-
Total operating funding (A)	8,453	8,613	8,563
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	7,172	5,763	5,773
Finance costs	406	348	380
Internal charges and overheads applied	2,197	2,314	2,236
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	9,775	8,425	8,389
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	(1,322)	188	174
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	(472)	(512)	(498)
Gross proceeds from the sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	(472)	(512)	(498)
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve the level of service	-	-	-
- to replace existing assets	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(1,794)	(324)	(324)
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	(1,794)	(324)	(324)
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	1,322	(188)	(174)
Funding balance ((A-B)+(C-D))	-	-	-

Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management Group

	2024/25 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 LTP (\$000)
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	-	-	-
Targeted rates	3,116	3,115	3,160
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
Fees and charges	1,168	1,339	1,184
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	-	-	-
Total operating funding (A)	4,283	4,453	4,344
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	2,875	3,019	2,919
Finance costs	-	-	-
Internal charges and overheads applied	1,397	1,426	1,417
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	4,272	4,445	4,336
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	11	8	8
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	-	-	-
Gross proceeds from the sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve the level of service	-	-	-
- to replace existing assets	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in reserves	11	8	8
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	11	8	8
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	(11)	(8)	(8)
Funding balance ((A-B)+(C-D))	-	-	-

Regional hazards and emergency response

	2024/25 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 LTP (\$000)
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	2,584	2,667	2,606
Targeted rates	-	-	-
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
Fees and charges	166	145	174
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	-	-	-
Total operating funding (A)	2,750	2,812	2,780
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	1,428	1,395	1,394
Finance costs	-	-	-
Internal charges and overheads applied	1,281	1,294	1,260
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	2,709	2,689	2,655
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	41	123	125
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	-	-	-
Gross proceeds from the sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve the level of service	-	-	-
- to replace existing assets	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in reserves	41	123	125
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	41	123	125
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	(41)	(123)	(125)
Funding balance ((A-B)+(C-D))	-	-	-

Flood protection and control works

	2024/25 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 LTP (\$000)
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	4,100	4,213	4,299
Targeted rates	28,017	28,962	29,433
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	467	-
Fees and charges	887	1,080	887
Internal charges and overheads recovered	5,920	6,447	6,131
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	-	-	-
Total operating funding (A)	38,925	41,169	40,750
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	14,893	15,425	14,807
Finance costs	1,345	1,190	1,934
Internal charges and overheads applied	14,380	15,404	14,897
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	30,617	32,019	31,638
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	8,308	9,150	9,112
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	5,974	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	24,253	3,383	12,652
Gross proceeds from the sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	24,253	9,357	12,652
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve the level of service	1,370	1,592	1,213
- to replace existing assets	13,612	17,370	20,686
Increase (decrease) in reserves	17,580	(454)	(134)
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	32,561	18,508	21,764
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	(8,308)	(9,150)	(9,112)
Funding balance ((A-B)+(C-D))	-	-	-

Integrated catchment management

	2024/25 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 LTP (\$000)
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	8,555	8,709	8,705
Targeted rates	24,899	26,578	26,713
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	1,541	754	754
Fees and charges	1,016	1,016	1,016
Internal charges and overheads recovered	1,316	1,342	1,376
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	-	-	-
Total operating funding (A)	37,327	38,399	38,564
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	26,254	26,247	26,832
Finance costs	(133)	(192)	(128)
Internal charges and overheads applied	12,037	12,983	12,501
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	38,157	39,038	39,203
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	(830)	(639)	(639)
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	49	-	(1)
Gross proceeds from the sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	49	-	(1)
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve the level of service	798	570	581
- to replace existing assets	25	-	-
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(1,604)	(1,209)	(1,221)
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	(781)	(639)	(640)
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	830	639	639
Funding balance ((A-B)+(C-D))	-	-	-

Regional transport connections

	2024/25 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 LTP (\$000)
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	2,514	2,194	2,434
Targeted rates	16,481	22,012	25,003
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	26,367	26,657	30,857
Fees and charges	11,131	10,294	8,798
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	-	-	-
Total operating funding (A)	56,492	61,157	67,091
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	54,134	58,891	64,257
Finance costs	-	28	20
Internal charges and overheads applied	3,847	4,102	4,005
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	57,982	63,020	68,283
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	(1,490)	(1,863)	(1,192)
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	-	604	388
Gross proceeds from the sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	-	604	388
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve the level of service	690	2,597	2,646
- to replace existing assets	-	208	-
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(2,180)	(4,064)	(3,450)
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	(1,490)	(1,259)	(804)
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	1,490	1,863	1,192
Funding balance ((A-B)+(C-D))	-	-	-

Resource use

	2024/25 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 LTP (\$000)
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	15,236	14,885	15,885
Targeted rates	2,491	2,854	2,848
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	106	10	106
Fees and charges	9,591	10,351	9,840
Internal charges and overheads recovered	-	-	-
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	441	441	441
Total operating funding (A)	27,866	28,541	29,119
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	18,348	19,026	19,096
Finance costs	474	300	631
Internal charges and overheads applied	11,954	12,579	12,278
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	30,776	31,905	32,004
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	(2,910)	(3,364)	(2,885)
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	2,731	2,995	2,706
Gross proceeds from the sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	2,731	2,995	2,706
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve the level of service	-	-	-
- to replace existing assets	247	182	185
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(426)	(551)	(364)
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	(179)	(369)	(179)
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	2,910	3,364	2,885
Funding balance ((A-B)+(C-D))	-	-	-

Science, policy and information

	2024/25 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 LTP (\$000)
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	28,634	30,257	29,980
Targeted rates	-	-	-
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
Fees and charges	5,183	5,331	5,276
Internal charges and overheads recovered	155	155	155
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	-	-	-
Total operating funding (A)	33,972	35,743	35,411
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	20,175	21,445	21,400
Finance costs	-	-	-
Internal charges and overheads applied	14,445	15,251	14,965
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	34,620	36,697	36,365
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	(648)	(954)	(954)
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	-	-	-
Gross proceeds from the sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	-	-	-
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve the level of service	696	1,090	1,127
- to replace existing assets	550	566	560
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(1,894)	(2,610)	(2,642)
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	(648)	(954)	(954)
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	648	954	954
Funding balance ((A-B)+(C-D))	-	-	-

Corporate and management

Corporate and management activities support the service delivery of all of council's activities and sit outside of council's groups of activities.

	2024/25 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 Annual Plan (\$000)	2025/26 LTP (\$000)
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charges, rates penalties	(1,292)	(466)	(1,291)
Targeted rates	-	-	-
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	-	-	-
Fees and charges	751	751	751
Internal charges and overheads recovered	95,273	99,743	98,121
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, and other receipts	8,599	9,994	8,955
Total operating funding (A)	103,330	110,022	106,536
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	51,764	55,131	52,389
Finance costs	1,379	1,317	1,304
Internal charges and overheads applied	40,587	41,492	41,655
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-
Total applications of operating funding (B)	93,730	97,941	95,349
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	9,600	12,081	11,187
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-	-	-
Development and financial contributions	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	(1,385)	(1,670)	(1,460)
Gross proceeds from the sale of assets	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-
Total sources of capital funding (C)	(1,385)	(1,670)	(1,460)
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	-	-	-
- to improve the level of service	671	541	233
- to replace existing assets	1,816	1,527	1,556
Increase (decrease) in reserves	5,728	8,342	7,938
Increase (decrease) of investments	-	-	-
Total applications of capital funding (D)	8,215	10,411	9,727
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	(9,600)	(12,081)	(11,187)
Funding balance ((A-B)+(C-D))	-	-	-

Te tauākī pānga pūtea ā-tau

Annual funding impact statement for 2025/26

Funding mechanisms

Waikato Regional Council proposes to use the following funding mechanisms:

- General rate
- Uniform annual general charge
- Targeted rates
- Fees and charges
- Investment revenue
- Financial contributions
- Grants and contributions
- Rentals and royalties
- Borrowing
- Reserve funds
- Proceeds from asset sales.

Details of these mechanisms can be found in the Revenue and Financing Policy, available on our website: www.waikatoregion.govt.nz. The council does not have a lump sum contribution policy and will not invite lump sum contributions for any targeted rate.

Funding mix

The funding mix resulting from the council's *Revenue and Financing Policy* is as follows.

Revenue	2025/26 %	2024/25 %
General rate	22	22
UAGC	9	9
Targeted rates	38	36
Government grants	13	13
Direct charges	4	5
Consent holder charges	3	3
Interest income	1	1
Investment income	4	3
Rental income	0	0
Other income	7	7
Total Revenue	100	100

The funding mix by activity is detailed in the *Revenue and Financing Policy*

The forecast of revenue for the period of the *2025/26 Annual Plan* is as follows:

	2024/25 Annual Plan	2025/26 Annual Plan	2025/26 LTP	2026/27 LTP	2027/28 LTP	2028/29 LTP	2029/30 LTP	2030/31 LTP	2031/32 LTP	2032/33 LTP	2033/34 LTP
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
General rate	46,659	48,588	48,842	50,433	54,537	53,215	52,500	53,393	52,828	53,558	54,850
UAGC	19,346	19,340	19,546	20,510	22,146	22,590	22,869	22,923	23,294	23,130	23,494
Targeted rates	76,141	84,656	88,305	94,805	94,589	95,644	98,234	99,533	101,878	104,412	106,645
	142,146	152,584	156,693	165,748	171,272	171,449	173,603	175,849	178,000	181,100	184,989
Government grants	28,016	27,890	31,719	33,224	29,514	29,180	30,134	30,440	31,230	32,120	33,132
Direct charges	10,971	8,340	8,237	8,474	8,645	8,759	8,880	9,016	9,139	9,256	9,398
Consent holder charges	5,779	6,011	5,882	6,070	6,159	6,240	6,338	6,431	6,468	6,541	6,647
Investment fund distribution income	4,131	4,450	4,421	4,733	5,067	5,426	5,811	6,225	6,669	7,146	7,658
Investment fund capital protection income	2,548	4,122	2,614	2,682	2,752	2,824	2,897	2,972	3,050	3,129	3,210
Interest income	1,920	1,422	1,920	1,920	1,920	1,920	1,920	1,920	1,920	1,920	1,920
Other income	13,808	16,668	14,476	14,250	17,281	17,178	17,757	17,409	17,723	18,027	18,433
Royalties	120	200	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
Rental income	646	758	646	646	646	646	646	646	646	646	646

Other gains/(losses)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total other Income	67,939	69,861	70,035	72,119	72,104	72,293	74,503	75,179	76,965	78,905	81,164
Total Revenue	210,085	222,445	226,728	237,867	243,376	243,742	248,106	251,028	254,965	260,005	266,153

The projected total number of rating units within the region at 30 June 2025 is 224,387.

The projected total capital value of all rating units within the region at 30 June 2025 is \$262.216 billion.

The projected total land value of all rating units within the region at 30 June 2025 is \$155.126 billion.

All rate figures in the policy are GST inclusive unless otherwise stated.

General rate

What it funds

The general rate is used to fund part or all of the activities that are of public benefit, where no other direct source of revenue is identified to cover the cost of the activities. The general rate and investment income provide the funding for general revenue. The general rate amounts to 22 per cent of the council's total revenue for the year. For this year, the amount of general rate revenue required is \$55,876,000 (GST Inclusive) compared with \$53,658,000 (GST Inclusive) in 2025/26.

The general rate revenue (GST Inclusive) will be used to fund the following activities.

Activity	\$000 (GST inclusive)
Community and services	-
Waikato civil defence emergency management group	-
Regional hazards and emergency response	35
Flood control and protection works	4,844
Integrated catchment management	7,324
Regional transport connections	1,844
Resource use	12,788
Science, policy and information	31,646
Corporate	(2,606)
Total	55,876

How it is applied

The general rate is set on a capital value basis. It is set on a differential basis using projected values and the location of the land within the Waikato region in accordance with section 131 of the *Local Government (Rating) Act 2002*. A process to consider projected values is undertaken on an annual basis to take account of the different revaluation cycles of the territorial authorities in the region. The rate in the dollar, per dollar of capital value of a rating unit is determined by dividing the general rate revenue requirement, by the capital value of all rateable properties in the Waikato region, taking account of the differential. The capital value of the region used for the 2025/26 year is \$262.216 billion.

The 2025/26 rate

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	Percentage of region	Rate \$1 per \$1 CV (GST inclusive)	\$(000) (GST inclusive)
Hamilton City	24.62%	0.00021494	13,783
Matamata-Piako	7.61%	0.00021194	4,247
Ōtorohanga	2.35%	0.00019830	1,311
Rotorua	0.91%	0.00020737	506
South Waikato	3.53%	0.00021486	1,969
Taupō	10.93%	0.00020252	6,102
Thames-Coromandel	13.52%	0.00022213	7,550
Waikato	17.69%	0.00021624	9,876
Waipā	13.19%	0.00020751	7,367
Waitomo	1.80%	0.00021495	1,006
Hauraki	3.87%	0.00021493	2,160
Total	100%		55,876

Uniform annual general charge (UAGC)

What it funds

The UAGC is used to fund portions of activities that have been identified through the *Revenue and Financing Policy* as meeting one of the following criteria.

- The expenditure is a “public good” to which every ratepayer has equal access.
- The expenditure is related to “people” rather than property.
- The expenditure does not directly change the condition of economic value of a property or resource.

For this year, the amount of UAGC revenue required is \$22,241,000 (GST Inclusive). This amounts to 9 per cent of the council's total revenue for the year, and 13 per cent of total rates revenue.

The UAGC will be used to fund the following activities:

Activity	\$000 (GST inclusive)
Governance	4,006
Planning and reporting	1,527
Iwi Māori partnerships	2,097
Community support	732
Transport policy and planning	679
Waikato Regional Council emergency response	795
Resilient development	2,237
Environmental science and information	1,495
Regional consents processing	1,202
Biodiversity	2,690
Maritime services	3,128
Social and economic information	1,520
Strategic and spatial planning	133
TOTAL	22,241

How it is applied

The UAGC is set on every rating unit in the Waikato region. The estimated number of rating units is 224,387.

The 2025/26 rate

The rate is \$99.10 per rating unit (GST inclusive). This is a decrease of \$0.62 from 2024/25.

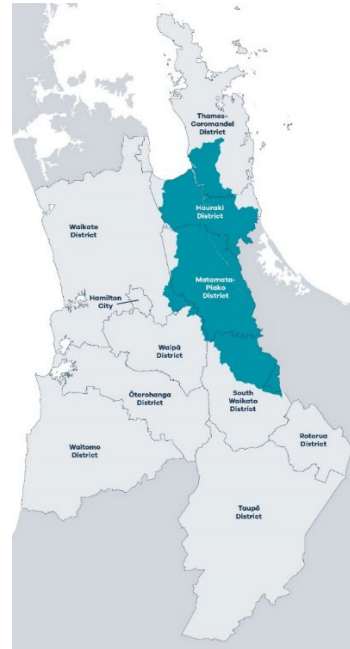
Targeted rates

The following map illustrates the areas over which the council's targeted catchment rates are assessed.

The council proposes to set and assess the following targeted rates.

Waihou-Piako schemes

The Waihou Valley Scheme and Piako River Scheme are two major historic schemes that provide a range of flood protection, river management, land drainage and soil conservation services that cover most of the Waihou-Piako Zone. The objectives for each scheme are set out in the relevant zone management plans.



What it funds

Waihou Valley Scheme	Projected expenditure (\$000) (GST inclusive)	Targeted rate revenue (\$000) (GST Inclusive)
Flood protection	7,722	6,159
River management	2,139	1,818
Catchment new works	617	433
Catchment maintenance	479	407
Catchment oversight	916	778
Information and advice	286	243
Total Waihou Valley Scheme	12,158	9,839

Piako River Scheme	Projected expenditure (\$000) (GST inclusive)	Targeted rate revenue (\$000) (GST Inclusive)
Flood protection	6,329	5,221
River management	921	783
Catchment new works	543	416
Catchment maintenance	116	99
Catchment oversight	842	716
Information and advice	211	180
Total Piako River Scheme	8,962	7,414

How it is applied

This rate is assessed on a benefit/contributor classification basis, using a combination of capital value, land value, land area and direct benefit, as follows:

- a targeted differential catchment rate, on a capital value basis
- a targeted differential urban direct benefit rate, on a capital value basis
- relief from the land value portion of the catchment rate for land that is in indigenous vegetation or exotic forests, is more than 10 hectares in area and has stock excluded
- a rural direct benefit rate which is made on a benefit classification basis using equalised land value in the Waihou Valley Scheme and on a benefit-classification-basis using land area in the Piako River Scheme.

Local protection – Piako River Scheme maintenance

Piako River Scheme: Total targeted rate revenue per layer:

Layer	Targeted rate revenue (\$000) (GST Inclusive)
Tidal flooding	1,260
River flooding	986
Drainage	2,743
Residential, industrial/commercial	497
Total	5,486

The 2025/26 rate

The following tables show the \$ per m² and \$1 per \$1 capital value rates for the Piako River Scheme.

Piako classifications

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	Factor used	TF1	TF2	TF3	TF4
Tidal Flooding	\$ per m2	0.01032307	0.00774230	0.00516153	0.00051615

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	Factor used	RF1	RF2	RF3	RF4	RFPZ1	RFPZ2	RFPZ3
River flooding	\$ per m2	0.00730323	0.00365162	0.00273871	0.00091290	0.00292129	0.00146065	0.00036516

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	Factor used	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	D7	D8	D9
Drainage	\$ per m2	0.00790478	0.00632382	0.00474287	0.00395239	0.00368890	0.00342540	0.00210794	0.00079048	0.00026349

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	Factor used	RIC1	RIC2
Residential, industrial/commercial	\$1 per \$1 capital value	0.00091268	0.00045634

Local protection – Waihou Valley Scheme maintenance

Layer	Targeted rate revenue (\$000) (GST Inclusive)
Rural	5,805
Urban	1,476
Total	7,281

The 2025/26 rate

The following table shows the rate in the \$1 per \$1 land value and capital value for the Waihou Valley Scheme.

Waihou classifications

Layer	Targeted rate revenue (\$000) (GST Inclusive)
Catchment	4,486

The 2025/26 rate

The following rate is applied to all rating units within the Waihou and Piako zones.

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	Factor used	WPC1	WPC2	WPC3
Catchment	\$1 per \$1 capital value	0.00022070	0.00013242	0.00008828

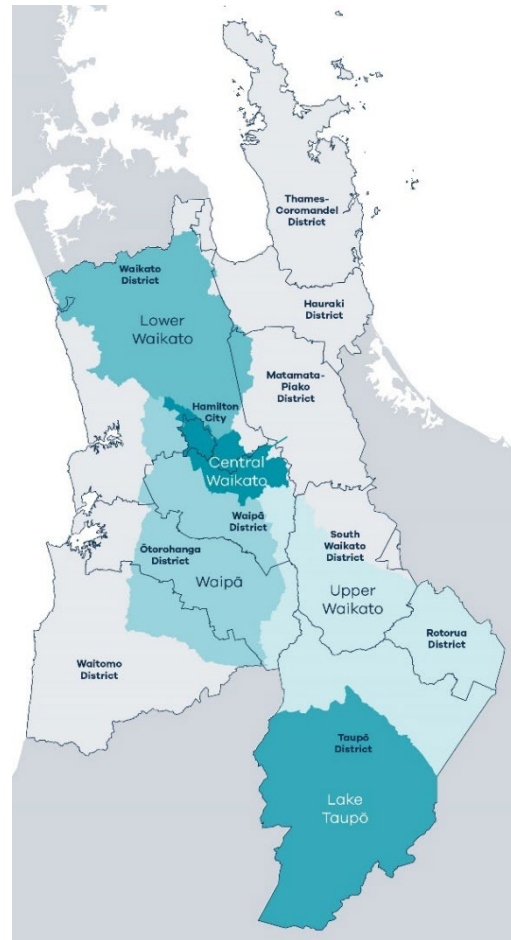
Waikato-Waipā (Watershed)

The Watershed scheme provides flood protection, river management, land drainage and soil conservation to the Waikato/Waipā river catchment.

The catchment includes the Waikato and Waipā rivers and the areas of land that drain into them.

Details of the scheme can be obtained from the funding document.¹

The scheme was adopted under special order on 27 June 2002, under part V of the Rating Powers Act 1988, and subsequent special order on 29 November 2002, for the hydro contributor and the Tauranga-Taupō river management and flood protection layer, the Tongariro River management and flood protection layer, the Whangamaire pump area, the Uapoto drainage subdivision and the Kawa drainage area.



What it funds

The funding provides for the following projected expenditure for 2025/26.

Zone	Projected expenditure (\$000) (GST inclusive)	Targeted rate revenue (\$000) (GST Inclusive)
Lake Taupō management zone	1,504	1,095
Upper Waikato management zone	1,378	790
Central Waikato management zone	2,578	1,818
Waipā management zone	4,677	2,947
Lower Waikato management zone	16,319	12,625
TOTAL	26,458	19,274

The targeted rate requirement is \$19,274,000 (GST Inclusive), an increase of \$357,000 on the amount required in the 2025/26 year. The targeted rate includes funding of operating expenses, depreciation, interest expense and provision for debt repayment.

How it is applied

This rate is assessed on a benefit/contributor classification basis, using a combination of capital value, land value, land area and direct benefit.

¹¹ Waikato River Catchment Services, "Project Watershed". Level of Service and Funding Policy, June 2002. Docs # 752002.

The scheme consists of several differentials that are applied to the rating unit.

Greater Waikato catchment differential

This is based on the capital value of all rating units within the catchment boundary. The rate is set on a differential basis, according to the location of the land. This differential aims to smooth the impact of the timing of general property revaluations undertaken by district councils.

Contributor differential

This is based on land value of all rating units within the catchment boundary except for those identified in the differential classification as being hydro properties.

Contributor differential – hydro

This is based on capital value of all rating units identified as being hydro classification within the catchment boundary.

Beneficiary differential – hydro

This is based on capital value of all rating units identified as being hydro classification within the catchment boundary.

Management zone differential

This is based on the capital value of all rating units within the management zone boundaries.

The different management zones are Lake Taupō, Upper Waikato, Middle Waikato, Waipā and Lower Waikato.

River control and flood protection direct benefit differential

This is based on a differential basis of capital value, land area, or per rating unit for each differential classification.

The land within the scheme is assigned to the appropriate classification, which corresponds to a level of benefit the land receives from the scheme.

The details of the classifications can be found in the funding document.

How it is applied

Differential	Targeted rate revenue (\$000) (GST Inclusive)
Greater Waikato catchment differential	4,192
Contributor differential urban	2,529
Contributor differential rural	1,164
Contributor differential - hydro	910
Management zone differential	
- Lower Waikato	3,180
- Central Waikato	992
- Upper Waikato	404
- Waipā	1,219
- Lake Taupō	460
- River control and flood protection benefit	4,226
Total	19,274

The 2025/26 rate

Greater Waikato catchment differential

Zone	Factor used	Rate in the \$1 per \$1 of value (GST inclusive)
Greater Waikato catchment differential		
- Hamilton city	capital value	0.00001966
- Waipā district	capital value	0.00002198
- Waikato district	capital value	0.00002454
- Ōtorohanga district	capital value	0.00003199
- Hauraki district	capital value	0.00003615
- Matamata-Piako district	capital value	0.00003554
- South Waikato district	capital value	0.00002784
- Waitomo district	capital value	0.00003145
- Taupō district	capital value	0.00002384
- Rotorua district	capital value	0.00005436
Contributor differential urban	land value	0.00003547
Contributor differential rural	land value	0.00003547
Contributor differential - hydro	capital value	0.00071778

Lake Taupō management zone differential	Factor used	Rate in the \$1 per \$1 of value (GST inclusive)
- Taupō district	capital value	0.00001997

Upper Waikato management zone differential	Factor used	Rate in the \$1 per \$1 of value (GST inclusive)
- Ōtorohanga district	capital value	0.00002979
- South Waikato district	capital value	0.00002106
- Taupō district	capital value	0.00001698
- Rotorua district	capital value	0.00004120
- Waipā district	capital value	0.00003371
- Matamata-Piako district	capital value	0.00000587

Central Waikato management zone differential	Factor used	Rate in the \$1 per \$1 of value (GST inclusive)
- Hamilton city	capital value	0.00001119
- Waipā district	capital value	0.00000951
- Waikato district	capital value	0.00001130

Lower Waikato management zone differential	Factor used	Rate in the \$1 per \$1 of value (GST inclusive)
- Waikato district	capital value	0.00012843
- Matamata-Piako district	capital value	0.00017443
- Hauraki district	capital value	0.00013714
- Hamilton city	capital value	0.00002014

Waipā management zone differential	Factor used	Rate in the \$1 per \$1 of value (GST inclusive)
- Waipā district	capital value	0.00004541
- Waikato district	capital value	0.00004324
- Ōtorohanga district	capital value	0.00005483
- Waitomo district	capital value	0.00005469
- Hamilton city	capital value	0.00000869

River control and flood protection benefit differential

The following tables show the rate for each of the direct benefit classifications.

Lower Waikato direct benefit rates

Rated at \$ per m²

Main channel works

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	1	2	3	4	5	6	6A
Waikato	0.00191540	0.00134078	0.00114924	0.00095770	0.00076616	0.00057462	-
Mangawara	0.00068223	0.00054578	0.00047756	0.00027289	0.00017056	0.00010233	0.00006822

Main channel works continued

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	7	8	9A	9B	9C
Waikato	0.00047885	0.00038308	0.00028731	0.00019154	0.00009577
Mangawara	0.00003411	-	-	-	-

Community works

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	1	2	3	4	5	6	6A	7	8
Waikato	0.00380214	0.00304171	0.00266150	0.00228128	0.00190107	0.00152085	-	0.00133075	0.00038021
Mangawara	0.00123639	0.00098911	0.00086547	0.00049456	0.00030910	0.00018546	0.00012364	0.00006182	-

Local protection works

Franklin district

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Motukaraka	-	0.01954881	0.01851992	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bell Road	-	-	-	-	0.02392474	-	-	-	-
Tickles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Waller	-	-	-	0.09263453	-	-	-	-	-
Orton	-	-	-	0.03357432	0.02764944	0.02172456	-	-	-
Parish Polder	-	-	-	0.04370408	-	-	-	-	-
Whangamarie	0.01768584	0.01061150	0.00707434	0.00265288	-	-	-	-	-
Te Kōhanga	0.02495311	-	-	0.02121014	-	-	-	-	-
Tuakau	-	-	-	0.03174432	-	-	-	-	-
Onewhero West	-	-	-	0.02169801	-	-	-	-	-
Mangatawhiri									
- Comp 1	-	-	-	0.00832459	-	-	0.00440713	0.00391745	-
- Comp 2	-	-	0.02650925	0.02503652	-	-	-	-	-
- Comp 3	-	-	-	0.02206787	-	-	-	-	-
- Comp 4	-	-	0.02673272	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Comp 5	-	-	-	0.05274481	-	-	-	-	-

Waikato district

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Waahi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0073	-	0.0029
Meremere west	-	-	-	0.04330476	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meremere	-	-	-	-	0.02488988	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Waikare	0.01049348	-	0.00944413	0.00891946	-	-	0.00472207	0.00419739	-	-	0.0021	-
Huntly west	0.01038178	-	-	-	-	-	0.00467180	0.00415271	-	-	-	0.0010
Kimihia	0.02036022	-	0.01832420	0.01730619	-	-	-	0.00814409	-	-	-	-
Deroles	-	-	-	-	0.03063640	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vrsalijkos	-	0.04541423	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Churchill	-	-	0.01855882	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruawaro	-	-	-	0.04594432	-	-	-	-	0.0162	-	-	0.0054
Swan	-	0.01178589	-	-	-	0.00682341	0.00558279	-	-	-	-	-
Island Block	-	-	0.05544482	-	-	-	-	-	0.0185	-	-	-
Orchard Road	-	-	-	0.22662108	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Locke	-	-	0.03617254	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Waikato district continued

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Aka Aka (LPSECB)	0.00111588	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aka Aka (LPG)	0.00283750	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aka Aka (LPPG)	0.00945833	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aka Aka (LPP)	0.01229583	0.01182291	0.02364582	-	-	-	-	-	-

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Mercer west									
- Southern	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00730865	-	-
- Morrisons	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.01543090	-
Mangawara	0.00683503	0.00546802	0.00478452	0.00273401	0.00170876	0.00102525	0.00034175	-	-
Mangawara A	-	-	-	-	-	0.00068350	-	-	-

Waikato zone - fixed direct benefit rate

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	Factor used	Rate (\$) GST inclusive
Huntly	per rating unit (GST inclusive)	\$80.01

Waipā zone - direct benefit rate

Rated at \$ per m².

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	1	2
Kawa	0.00149132	0.00074566

Waipā zone - fixed direct benefit rate

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	Factor used	Rate (\$) GST inclusive
Ōtorohanga	per rating unit (GST inclusive)	\$46.96

Local protection works - capital

Lower Waikato zone

Rated at \$ per m².

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Deroles capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mercer west - Morrisons capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0046158	-
Jefferis capital	-	0.02818785	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Taupō zone – direct benefit rates

Rated at \$1 per \$1 of capital value

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	1	2	3	3A	4
Tongariro	0.00030148	0.00018089	0.00012059		0.00010552
Tauranga/Taupō	0.00040300	0.00032240	0.00014105		0.00011284
Tauranga/Taupō A				0.00010075	

Rated at \$1 per \$1 of capital value

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	5	6	7
Tongariro	0.00006030	0.00003015	-
Tauranga/Taupō	0.00004030	-	-
Tauranga/Taupō A			

Drainage rates

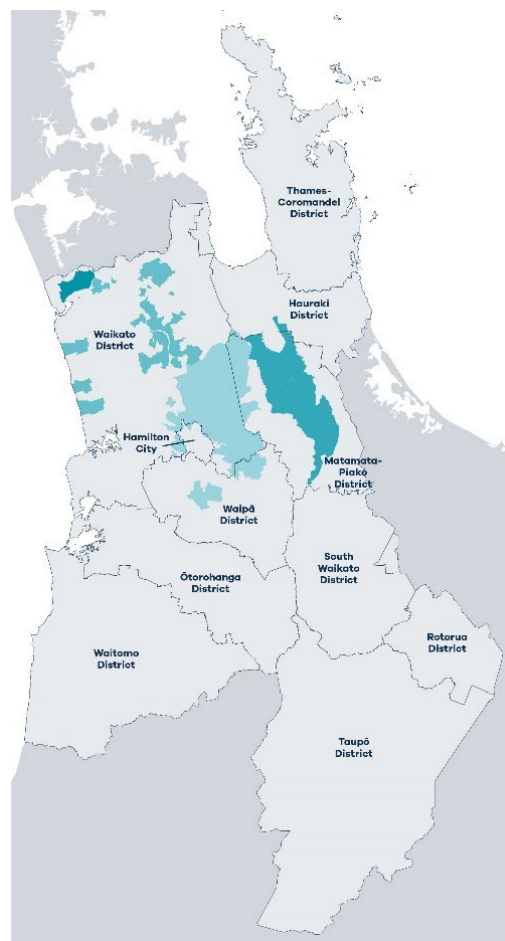
The drainage rates for Thames Valley, Waikato north, Waikato south, Franklin and Waikato district areas provide land drainage in these areas. Details of the areas covered can be obtained from the funding documents.²

These schemes were implemented under the *Land Drainage Act 1908*, and more recently the Rating Powers Act 1988.

This rate is assessed on a benefit classification basis, using land area.

What it funds

The revenue requirement for each area is based on expenditure as shown below.



Expenditure	(\$000) (GST inclusive)
Thames Valley drainage maintenance	1,064
Waikato Central drainage maintenance	1,721
Franklin Waikato drainage maintenance	925
Aka Aka / Otatau drainage maintenance	498
Total expenditure	4,208

How it is applied

These rates are assessed on a benefit classification basis, using land area. The land within the scheme is given a classification, which corresponds to a level of benefit the land receives from the scheme. Details of the classifications can be found in the funding document.

²² Thames Valley: Tahuna Subdivision Drainage District, Classification Report. Elstow Subdivision Drainage District, Classification Report. Waihou Subdivision, Classification Report. Whakahoro Drainage District, Classification Report. Tatuanui Subdivision, Classification Report. Waihekeau Subdivision and Manawaru Extension, Classification Report, 1986 and 1987. Manawaru Subdivision, Classification. Hungahunga Special Order Waikato North: Te Rapa Drainage, Classification Report. Fencourt and Eureka, Funding Policy. Komakorau Subdivision, Classification Report. Waikato South: Hautapu Drainage District, Special Order. Ōhaupo-Ngaroto, Classification Report. Franklin District: Franklin district drainage areas Funding Policy. Doc # 1620129 Waikato District: Waikato district drainage areas Funding Policy. Doc # 1922441

Rate revenue per subdivision

Thames Valley	(\$000) (GST inclusive)
Hungahunga	67
Manawaru	90
Waiheke	83
Tatuanui	99
Whakahoro	120
Waitoa	130
Waihou	68
Elstow	210
Tahuna	66
Ahikope pumping	25
Tahuna pumping	43
Rowes East	11
Bancroft	10
Matamata Urban	43
Total	1064

Waikato Central	(\$000) (GST inclusive)
Rotomanuka	45
Hautapu	92
Fencourt	93
Ōhaupō-Ngāroto	29
Freshfield maintenance	89
Freshfield pumping	69
Komokorau 1	221
Komokorau 2	6
North Mangawara	40
South Mangawara	74
Tauhei	96
Tenfoot	84
Uapoto	44
Ngāruawahia	111
Rotokauri	83
Ohote Basin	36
Mangaonua	103
Waitakaruru	180

Manor Park	33
Greenhill	12
Hopuhopu	18
Kirikiroa	13
Koromatua	7
Matangi	92
Ngāruawahiā North	10
Pukeroro	8
Puketaha	11
Te Kōwhai	21
Total	1721

Franklin Waikato	(\$000) (GST inclusive)
Waller Commins	0
Motukaraka	156
Bell Road	22
Tuakau Swamp	21
Mangatawhiri compartment 1	9
Mangatawhiri compartment 2	30
Mangatawhiri compartment 3	18
Mangatawhiri compartment 4	57
Mangatawhiri compartment 5	4
Orton	20
Morrison's Swamp	6
Te Kohanga	22
Kaawa	52
Onepoto	25
Onewhero Downstream	0
Okowhau	27
Huntly West	25
Hills	9
Horohoro	29
Austins	17
Blairs	8
Guests	19
Ruawaro Furniss	9
Ruawaro Central	6
Ruawaro North	9
Kimihia pumped	3

Kimihia	10
Ohinewai	0
Rangiriri	25
Island Block	17
Orchard Road	10
Swan Road	46
Vrsalijkos Road	7
Churchill East	53
Meremere East	35
Mangati	4
Mangawara	14
Pukekapia 1	10
Pukekapia 2	9
Ruawaro East	5
Ruawaro West	8
Waikare Frost	11
Waikare Ohinewai	7
Waikare Nikau	8
Waikare Rangiriri	9
Waikare West	24
Waikorea	9
Total	925

Aka Aka	(\$000) (GST inclusive)
Aka Aka	498

The 2025/26 rate

Thames Valley drainage area

\$ per m².

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	Urban	A	B	C	D	E	F
Hungahunga	0.01671303	0.00167130	0.00133704	0.00083565	0.00041783	0.00025070	0.00008357
Manawaru	0.02152412	0.00215241	0.00172193	0.00107621	0.00053810	0.00032286	0.00010762
Waihekau	0.01852564	0.00185256	0.00148205	0.00092628	0.00046314	0.00027788	0.00009263
Tatuanui	-	0.03391824	0.00271346	0.00169591	0.00084796	0.00050877	0.00016959
Whakahoro	-	0.00336123	0.00268898	0.00168062	0.00084031	0.00050418	0.00016806
Waitoa	0.03815324	0.00381532	0.00305226	0.00190766	0.00095383	0.00057230	0.00019077
Waihou	-	0.00412469	0.00329975	0.00206234	0.00103117	0.00061870	0.00020623
Elstow	0.05721794	0.00572179	0.00457744	0.00286090	0.00143045	-	0.00028609
Tahuna	-	0.00280166	0.00224133	0.00140083	0.00070041	0.00042025	0.00014008
Ahikope pumping	-	0.00415176	0.00332141	0.00207588	0.00103794	0.00062276	0.00020759
Tahuna pumping	-	0.00344857	0.00275886	0.00172428	0.00086214	0.00051729	0.00017243
Rowes East	-	0.01456340	0.01165072	0.00728170	0.00364085	0.00218451	0.00072817
Bancroft	-	0.00189447	0.00151558	0.00094724	0.00047362	0.00028417	0.00009472
Matamata Urban	-	0.02327124	0.01861699	0.01163562	0.00581781	0.00349069	0.00116356

Waikato Central drainage area

\$ per m².

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	Urban	A	B	C	D	E	F
Rotomanuka	-	0.00228831	0.00080107	0.00012574	-	-	-
Hautapu	0.02783229	0.00278323	0.00194826	0.00139161	0.00069581	0.00041748	0.00013916
Fencourt	0.05468032	0.00546803	0.00382762	0.00273402	0.00109361	0.00082020	0.00027340
Ōhaupō-Ngāroto	-	0.00232524	0.00162767	0.00116262	0.00058131	0.00046505	0.00011626
Freshfield maintenance	0.03255879	0.00325588	0.00244191	0.00162794	0.00081397	0.00048838	0.00016279
Freshfield pumping	-	0.03872678	0.02904508	0.01936339	0.00968169	0.00580902	-
Komokorau 1	-	0.00336371	0.00235460	0.00168186	0.00100911	0.00050456	0.00016819
Komokorau 2	-	-	-	0.02131974	0.01065987	-	0.00106599
North Mangawara	0.03893927	0.00389393	0.00272575	0.00194696	0.00077879	0.00058409	0.00023364
South Mangawara	0.03622306	0.00362231	0.00253561	0.00181115	0.00072446	0.00054335	0.00021734
Tauhei	0.02391796	0.00239180	0.00167426	0.00119590	0.00047836	0.00035877	0.00014351
Tenfoot	0.03697821	0.00369782	0.00258847	0.00184891	0.00073956	0.00055467	0.00022187
Uapoto	0.04036325	0.00403633	0.00282543	0.00201816	0.00080727	0.00060545	0.00024218
Ngāruawahia	0.10750159	0.01075016	0.00860013	0.00537508	0.00268754	0.00161252	0.00053751
Rotokauri	0.09261618	0.00926162	0.00740929	0.00463081	0.00231540	0.00138924	-

Ohote Basin	0.02718001	0.00679500	0.00441675	0.00407700	-	0.00169875	0.00101925
Mangaonua	0.05643399	0.00564340	0.00395038	0.00282170	0.00112868	0.00084651	-
Waitakaruru	0.05037545	0.00503755	0.00352628	0.00251877	0.00100751	0.00075563	0.00025188
Manor Park	0.40440662	0.08088132	-	-	-	0.04044066	-
Greenhill	-	0.01490639	0.01341575	0.00939102	-	-	-
Hopuhopu	-	0.00842283	0.00555907	0.00280480	0.00092651	-	-
Kirikiriroa	-	-	-	0.00535686	0.00267843	-	0.00053569
Koromatua	-	0.00642075	0.00427943	0.00106777	-	-	-
Matangi	-	0.00476149	-	-	-	-	-
Ngāruawahia North	-	0.03018415	-	-	-	-	-
Pukeroro	-	0.00663853	0.00442126	0.00331926	-	-	-
Puketaha	0.06759928	0.00675993	0.00473195	0.00337996	0.00202798	0.00101399	0.00033800
Te Kōwhai	-	0.02839496	0.02126783	0.01064811	0.00709874	0.00354937	-

Aka Aka drainage area

Subdivision		
Aka Aka	\$0.01037356	fixed rate per m2 (GST inclusive)

Franklin Waikato drainage areas

\$ per m².

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	Urban	A	B	C	D	E	F
Waller Commins	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Motukaraka	-	0.00824606	-	-	-	-	-
Bell Road	-	-	-	0.01766299	-	-	-
Tuakau Swamp	-	-	0.02177616	-	0.00483915	-	-
Mangatawhiri Compartment 1	-	-	-	0.00772531	0.00257510	0.00154506	-
Mangatawhiri Compartment 2	-	-	0.02850361	0.01900240	0.00633413	0.00380048	-
Mangatawhiri Compartment 3	-	-	0.00384402	-	0.00076880	-	-
Mangatawhiri Compartment 4	-	-	0.01397368	0.00931579	0.00310526	-	0.00124211
Mangatawhiri Compartment 5	-	-	-	-	0.01508666	-	-
Orton	-	0.00959913	0.00575948	0.00383965	0.00191983	-	-
Morrisons Swamp	-	0.00737274	0.00552956	0.00368637	0.00184319	-	-
Te Kohanga	-	0.00357722	0.00119241	0.00059620	-	-	-
Kaawa	-	0.03361150	0.01680575	-	-	-	-

Onepoto	-	0.05356205	0.04017154	0.02678102	-	-	-
Onewhero Downstream	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Okowhau	-	0.03073237	0.01756355	0.00878331	0.00438551	-	-
Huntly West	-	0.00906574	0.00647584	0.00259008	0.00129640	-	-
Hills	-	0.01441687	0.01029941	0.00411890	0.00206305	-	-
Horohoro	-	0.00606331	0.00433042	0.00173229	0.00086584	-	-
Austins	-	0.00910728	0.00569296	0.00227682	-	-	-
Blairs	-	0.01533838	0.01095621	0.00438218	0.00219339	-	-
Guests	-	0.01223017	0.00815141	-	-	-	-
Ruawaro Furniss	-	-	0.01617082	0.01077785	-	-	-
Ruawaro Central	-	0.02843808	0.02031332	-	-	-	-
Ruawaro North	-	0.01021404	0.00760639	0.00292121	-	-	-
Kimihia SRA	-	0.02047681	0.01024250	-	-	-	-
Kimihia	-	0.01027688	0.00514050	-	-	-	-
Rangiriri	-	0.03057100	0.02547482	0.01528856	-	-	-
Island Block	-	0.01998744	0.00998972	0.00499886	-	-	-
Swan Road	-	-	0.01021867	0.00681177	0.00340690	-	-
Vrsalijkos	-	0.01900585	-	0.00950103	-	-	-
Orchard Road	0.13935599	0.01393560	0.00975492	0.00696780	-	0.00209034	0.00069678
Churchill East	-	0.01210899	0.00968598	0.00726539	-	-	-
Meremere East	-	0.00994512	0.00745884	0.00497157	0.00248628	-	-
Mangati	-	0.00838974	0.00671179	-	-	-	-
Mangawara	-	0.00268540	0.00167569	0.00134270	0.00033299	-	-
Pukekapia 1	-	0.00541388	0.00270694	0.00135347	-	-	-
Pukekapia 2	-	0.00977271	0.00488636	0.00244318	-	-	-
Ruawaro East	-	-	0.00286156	0.00190580	0.00095290	-	-
Ruawaro West	-	0.00779867	0.00584900	0.00389933	0.00194967	-	-
Travers Road	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Waikare Frost	-	0.00740598	0.00370299	0.00185150	0.00093315	-	-
Waikare Ohinewai	-	-	0.01592770	0.00796385	0.00395007	-	-
Waikare Nikau	-	0.01158280	0.00959056	0.00771414	-	0.00385707	0.00192274
Waikare Rangiriri	-	0.00916886	0.00549215	0.00183377	-	-	-
Waikare West	-	0.00599476	0.00478382	0.00239191	0.00119296	-	-
Waikorea	-	0.00866572	-	-	-	-	-

Peninsula project (Coromandel Zone)

The Peninsula Project (Coromandel Zone) scheme provides for work to address the issues of flood protection, soil conservation and river management on the Coromandel Peninsula. Details of the funding policy and the area covered by this scheme can be obtained from the Peninsula Project (Coromandel Zone) Revenue and Funding Policy.³

What it funds

The funding provides for projected costs of \$3,922,000 (GST inclusive).

Activity	Projected expenditure (\$000) (GST inclusive)	Targeted rate revenue (\$000) (GST Inclusive)
Flood protection	523	472
River management	876	701
River improvement	175	140
Catchment new works	741	380
Catchment maintenance	56	42
Catchment oversight	737	523
Information and advice	190	141
Works and services - coastal marine area	624	266
Total	3,922	2,664

How it is applied

The rate is assessed on a benefit/contributor classification basis, using a combination of capital value, land value and land area.

The scheme consists of the following differentials that are applied to a rating unit.

Catchment differential – capital value basis

This is based on the capital value of all rating units within the catchment boundary.

Catchment differential – per rating unit basis

This is based on a uniform fixed amount per rating unit on all rating units within the catchment boundary.

River and flood control direct benefit differential

This is based on the amount of benefit a rating unit receives from river and flood control works. The land within the scheme is classified on this basis and assigned within rating differentials. Rating is calculated on a capital value or per rating unit basis within each differential. This applies to capital works and maintenance associated with capital works. Base-level stream maintenance is funded by one differential across the whole scheme. The details of the classifications can be found in the funding document.

The targeted rate requirement is as follows:

Differential	Targeted rate revenue (\$000) (GST inclusive)
Catchment - Coromandel	1,351
River and flood control direct benefit	1,313
Total	2,664

³ Peninsula Project (Coromandel Zone) Revenue and Funding Policy. Doc # 889245

The 2025/26 rate

Differential	Factor Used	Rate (\$) GST inclusive
Catchment		
CV basis	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00003628
Per-rating-unit basis	Per rating unit	44.95
Coromandel Retirement Village		
Maintenance	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00006747
Coromandel township		
Maintenance	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00007429
Coromandel township capital		
Capital channel 1	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00003846
Capital channel 2	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00001923
Capital channel 3	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00000961
Capital indirect	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00000077
Grahams Creek		
Indirect maintenance	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00004732
Indirect capital	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00000926
Capital channel CH1	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00012886
Capital stopbank SB2	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00007446
Capital channel CH2	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00003222
Capital stopbank SB1	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00022337
Karaka Stream capital		
Capital KL1	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00025231
Capital KL2	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00012616
Capital KL3	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00004205
Pohue Channel capital		
Capital channel 1	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00039430
Tairua Harbour		
Maintenance	Per rating unit	-
Tapu		
Maintenance	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00021656
Te Puru		
Maintenance	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00025262
Te Puru capital Indirect		
Te Puru capital Indirect	Per rating unit	75.35
Te Puru channel capital		
Capital channel 1	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00005571
	Per rating unit	38.03
Capital channel 1a	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00005571

	Per rating unit	947.27
Capital channel 2	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00002785
	Per rating unit	19.01
Capital channel 2a	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00002785
	Per rating unit	53.24
Capital channel 3	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00001393
	Per rating unit	9.51
Te Puru stopbank capital		
Capital stopbank 1	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00035147
	Per rating unit	238.54
Capital stopbank 1a	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00035147
	Per rating unit	5,941.99
Capital stopbank 2	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00017573
	Per rating unit	119.27
Capital stopbank 2a	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00017573
	Per rating unit	333.95
Capital stopbank 3	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00008787
	Per rating unit	59.63
Waiomu channel capital		
Capital channel 1	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00048436
Capital channel 2	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00024218
Capital channel 3	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00012109
Waiomu stopbank capital		
Capital Stopbank 1	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00023641
Capital Stopbank 3	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00003940
Waiomu-Pohue		
Capital indirect	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00002608
Maintenance	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00025664
Whangamatā Harbour		
Maintenance	Per rating unit	-

West coast

The West Coast scheme provides for work to address the issues of flood protection, soil conservation and river management within the West Coast Zone. Details of the funding policy and the area covered by this scheme can be obtained from the West Coast Zone Funding Policy.⁴

What it funds

The funding provides for projected costs of \$2,455,000 (including GST at the prevailing rate).

Activity	Projected expenditure (\$000) (GST inclusive)	Targeted rate revenue (\$000) (GST Inclusive)
River management	367	183
Catchment new works	1,571	619
Catchment maintenance	67	34
Catchment oversight	363	181
Information and advice	86	43
Total activity	2,455	1,061

How it is applied

The rate is assessed on a per rating unit and capital-value-basis.

The scheme consists of the following differentials, which are applied to rating unit.

Catchment differential – capital value basis

This is based on the capital value of all rating units within the catchment boundary.

Catchment differential– per rating unit basis

This is based on a uniform rate on all rating units within the catchment boundary.

The targeted rate requirement is as follows:

Differential	Targeted rate revenue (\$000) (GST Inclusive)
Catchment - West Coast	1,061

The 2025/26 rate

West Coast

Differential	Factor Used	Rate (\$) GST inclusive
Catchment - West Coast		
Capital value basis	\$1 per \$1 capital value	0.00006393
Per rating unit basis	\$ per rating unit	74.14

⁴ West Coast Zone Funding Policy. Doc # 1629995

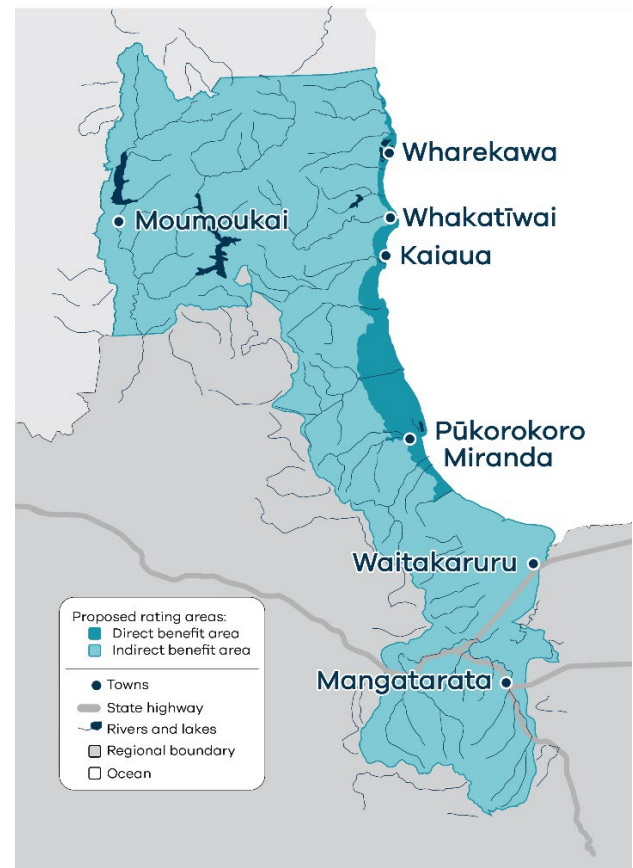
Wharekawa Coast (Kaiaua)

What it funds

The Wharekawa Coast (Kaiaua) rate funds the local community's contribution to river and catchment management activities on the Wharekawa Coast. Details of the funding policy and the area covered by the scheme can be found in the Wharekawa Funding Policy.⁵

The targeted rate requirement is \$108,900 (GST inclusive). This is a new rate for 2025/26.

How it is applied



This rate is assessed on a capital value basis with two differentials applied within the catchment boundary.

- Targeted rate based on a capital value for all rateable properties within the direct benefit area.
- Targeted rates based on capital value for all rateable properties within the indirect benefit area.

The 2025/26 rate

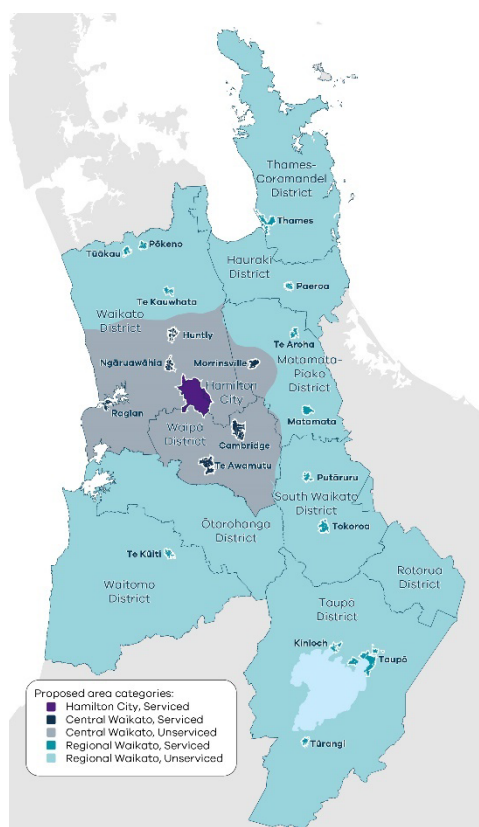
Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	Factor Used	Rate (\$) GST inclusive
Wharekawa Indirect Benefit Area	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00004592
Wharekawa Direct Benefit Area	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00022030

⁵ Wharekawa Funding Policy Statement doc # 31641109

Public transport rate

What it funds

The public transport rate helps fund a portion of the costs for delivering essential public transport services across the Waikato region. This includes the Hamilton city urban bus network, the Regional Connector service, Te Huia interregional passenger rail service, as well as community transport and Total Mobility services that support accessibility for people with disabilities and those with limited transport options.



The total revenue required in 2025/26 is \$25,293,000 (GST inclusive).

How it is applied

The public transport rate consists of five rating categories which are differentiated based on the location of a property and the level of public transport services available across the region.

The Urban Public Transport rail rate consists of two differentials applied within the Hamilton city boundary.

- Public Transport Hamilton – rate in the dollar per dollar of capital value of all rating units within the described rating category. The total rate requirement for 2025/26 is \$18,131,000 (GST inclusive).
- Public Transport Central Waikato Served – based on a uniform fixed amount per rating unit on all rating units within the described rating category. The total rate requirement for 2025/26 is \$2,204,000 (GST inclusive).
- Public Transport Central Waikato Unserved – based on a uniform fixed amount per rating unit on all rating units within the described rating category. The total rate requirement for 2025/26 is \$852,000 (GST inclusive).
- Public Transport Regional Waikato Served – based on a uniform fixed amount per rating unit on all rating units within the described rating category. The total rate requirement for 2025/26 is \$1,210,000 (GST inclusive).
- Public Transport Regional Waikato Unserved – based on a uniform fixed amount per rating unit on all rating units within the described rating category. The total rate requirement for 2025/26 is \$755,000 (GST inclusive).
- Urban Public Transport Rail Unit Rate – based on a uniform fixed amount per rating unit on all rating units within the Hamilton city boundary. The total rate requirement for 2025/26 for the unit rate is \$1,301,000 (GST inclusive).
- Urban Public Transport Rail Rate – rate in the dollar per dollar of capital value of all rating units within the Hamilton city boundary. The total rate requirement for 2025/26 for the capital value based rate is \$840,000 (GST inclusive).

The 2025/26 rate

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	Factor Used	Rate (\$) GST inclusive
Public Transport Hamilton	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00028354
Public Transport Central Waikato Unserviced	Per rating unit	38.94
Public Transport Central Waikato Serviced	Per rating unit	77.88
Public Transport Regional Waikato Serviced	Per rating unit	27.26
Public Transport Regional Waikato Unserviced	Per rating unit	11.68
Urban public transport - rail - value based	Capital value \$1 per \$1	0.00001314
Urban public transport - rail - per property	Per rating unit	20.00

Biosecurity rate

What it funds

The biosecurity rate funds the cost of plant and animal control works aimed at improving biodiversity across the region.

The total biosecurity rate revenue requirement for 2025/26 is \$15,986,000 (GST inclusive), an increase of \$1,314,000 from 2024/25.

How it is applied

The biosecurity rate is set on a capital-value-basis. It is set on a differential basis using equalised capital value and the location of the land within the Waikato region. An equalisation process is undertaken on an annual basis to take account of the different revaluation cycles of the territorial authorities in the region.

The rate in the dollar per dollar of capital value of a rating unit is determined by dividing the biosecurity rate revenue requirement by the capital value of all rateable properties in the Waikato region taking account of the differential. The capital value of the region used for the 2025/26 year is \$262.216 billion.

The 2025/26 rate

Area of benefit (GST inclusive)	Percentage of region	Rate \$1 per \$1 CV (GST inclusive)	\$(000) GST inclusive
Hamilton City	24.62%	0.00006158	3,935
Matamata-Piako	7.61%	0.00006068	1,216
Otorohanga	2.35%	0.00005677	375
Rotorua	0.91%	0.00005937	145
South Waikato	3.53%	0.00006151	564
Taupō	10.93%	0.00005798	1,747
Thames-Coromandel	13.52%	0.00006359	2,161
Waikato	17.69%	0.00006191	2,827
Waipā	13.19%	0.00005941	2,109
Waitomo	1.80%	0.00006154	288
Hauraki	3.87%	0.00006152	618
Total	100%		15,986

Natural heritage rate

What it funds

This rate funds the cost of work associated with protecting natural heritage areas in the region.

How it is applied

The revenue required is \$3,355,000 (GST inclusive). It is applied on a uniform basis to every rating unit in the Waikato region.

The 2025/26 rate

The 2025/26 rate is \$15.00 per rating unit (GST inclusive).

Primary Industry Compliance Rate

What it funds

This rate funds Council's permitted activity monitoring programme and primary industry engagement.

How it is applied

The revenue required is \$3,282,000 (GST inclusive). It is applied on a uniform basis to every rating unit of twenty hectares or greater in the Waikato region on a differential basis.

The 2025/26 rate

The 2025/26 rate is \$299.53 (GST inclusive) per rating unit of twenty hectares or greater in land area.

Regional services rate

What it funds

This rate funds the region's contribution to voluntary emergency services operating within the Waikato region.

How it is applied

The revenue required is \$832,000 (GST inclusive). It is applied on a uniform basis to every rating unit in the Waikato region.

The 2025/26 rate

The 2025/26 rate is \$3.71 per rating unit (GST inclusive).

Stock truck effluent rate

What it funds

This rate funds the construction and maintenance of stock truck effluent stations across the region in accordance with the *Stock Truck Effluent Strategy*.

How it is applied

The revenue required is \$21,000 (GST inclusive). It is applied on the capital value of every rating unit in the Waikato region of two hectares and above.

The 2025/26 rate

The rate is \$0.00000028 per \$1 of capital value (GST inclusive).

Civil Defence and emergency management

What it funds

This rate funds the region's Civil Defence and Emergency Management services, on behalf of the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Group.

How it is applied

The revenue required is \$3,582,000 (GST inclusive). It is applied on a uniform basis to every rating unit in the Waikato region.

The rate is \$15.96 per rating unit (GST inclusive).

Waikato Regional Theatre rate

What it funds

The Waikato Regional Theatre rate funds the council's contribution to the capital construction of the Waikato Regional theatre.

How it is applied

The scheme consists of two differentials:

- a uniform rate applied to every rating unit within the boundaries of Waikato District, Waipā District and Matamata-Piako District. The total rates requirement for 25/26 is \$426,000 (GST inclusive)
- a uniform rate applied to every rating unit within the boundaries of Thames-Coromandel District, Hauraki District, Ōtorohanga District, Waitomo District, Taupō District and Rotorua District. The total rates requirement for 2025/26 is \$47,000 (GST inclusive).

The 2025/26 rate

Territorial authority area	\$ Per rating unit	\$(000) GST inclusive
Waikato District	5.68	197
Waipā District	5.68	140
Matamata-Piako District	5.68	90
Thames-Coromandel District	0.56	16
Hauraki District	0.56	6
Ōtorohanga District	0.56	3
South Waikato District	0.56	6
Waitomo District	0.56	3
Taupō District	0.56	13
Rotorua District	0.56	1
Total		474

Separately used or inhabited parts of a rating unit

Separately used or inhabited parts of a rating unit can be defined as:

- Any part of a rating unit that is, or is able to be, separately used or inhabited by the ratepayer, or by any other person or body having a right to use or inhabit that part by virtue of a tenancy, lease, licence or other agreement, but excluding uses of a minor or incidental nature.
- Each use that involves different activity conducted by a person, company or organisation different to the ratepayer is considered to be a separate use.

The council does not currently use separately used or inhabited parts of a rating unit as a basis for its rating.

Other financing mechanisms

Borrowing

Borrowing is recognised as an effective method of achieving equity between different generations of ratepayers (inter-generational equity).

Where there are targeted rates that do not cover the operating costs of the activity in any one year, the council uses borrowing to fund the deficit.

Reserve funds

Reserves arise where funding has been obtained for a particular activity and, at a point in time, not all the revenue has been spent on the activity.

Maintaining reserves ensures that revenue is used for its intended purpose and enables revenue to be maintained at a constant level when the service provided is continuing at the same level.

They also allow the ability to fund works of an inter-generational nature, capital expenditure in particular, over the most appropriate time period.

The council only maintains reserves relating to targeted rates which have been provided by regional ratepayers for specific activities.

While the cash associated with reserves may be used as funding for other activities within the organisation, it will continue to be identified as an asset and interest will be credited to the area for which the revenue was raised.

Rates collection

Waikato Regional Council will be issuing a single invoice in September with payment due by 31 October 2025 (being the last business day of the month). Payment options available are:

- internet/phone banking
- direct debit/automatic payment
- credit card (via internet)
- EFTPOS/cash payment at NZ Post shops
- EFTPOS at Waikato Regional Council's Hamilton office

Pursuant to section 53 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, the council has appointed Hamilton City Council to act as a collection agent on its behalf in relation to outstanding rates on rating units within the Hamilton City Council boundary.

A penalty of 10 per cent will be added (on 1 November 2025) to rates assessed for the 2025/26 financial year that are unpaid after the due date for payment (31 October 2025).

A penalty of 10 per cent will be added (on 4 July 2025) to all rates assessed in any financial year that are unpaid on 1 July 2025.

A penalty of 10 per cent of the amount of rates to which a penalty was added on 4 July 2025, which remain unpaid on 4 January 2026, will be added on 8 January 2026.

Penalties will not be applied to accounts with an outstanding balance where an agreed arrangement to pay is in place.

Where any payment is made by a ratepayer that is less than the amount now payable, the council will apply the payment firstly to any rates outstanding from previous rating years and then proportionately across all current year rates due.

Postponed rates will attract a yearly interest rate of one per cent above the average 90-day bill rate on the outstanding yearly balance, including interest charges from any previous years.

Rates enquiries – how your regional rates are spent

Any queries about how your regional rates are spent should be directed to the Waikato Regional Council's freephone – 0800 800 401

Te rārangi o ngā nama me ngā utu

Schedule of fees and charges

The council may fix charges relating to its functions and responsibilities under Section 36 of the *Resource Management Act 1991* (RMA). The council may also fix charges relating to its functions and responsibilities as provided for under other legislation identified in this schedule. The current policy and charges are provided below.

Application charges

Changes to policy statements and plans (section 36(1)(a) of the RMA)

When assessing applications for the preparation of, or changes to policy statements or regional plans, the council will:

- charge applicants actual and reasonable costs
- require applicants to pay a deposit of up to 50 per cent of the estimated costs with a minimum deposit of \$1000, prior to carrying out its functions in relation to such applications
- require applicants or their agent to pay for the costs incurred on an ongoing basis.

Resource consent application processing (section 36(1)(b) of the RMA)

For pre-application engagement, and carrying out its functions in relation to the receiving, processing, and deciding on resource consent applications (including assessment of applications for certificates of compliance), and for considering and deciding on changes to or reviews of consent conditions and transfer of consents, the council will:

- charge applicants and consent holders actual and reasonable costs
- charge a fixed amount for specified consents (see table below) and require applicants and consent holders to pay the full charge prior to work commencing on the application or review
- require applicants or consent holders, where a specific amount has not been fixed, to pay a deposit of up to 50 per cent of the estimated costs with a minimum deposit of \$1000 prior to consideration of the application or review, with the balance of the costs to be paid on a regular basis as costs are incurred
- require applicants or consent holders, where a specific amount has not been fixed, to pay the actual and reasonable costs for the processing of the application as determined, according to the following formula:

Charge = staff time x charge rate + administration fee + direct costs including disbursements + notification and hearing costs

Fixed application charges	2025/26 \$ (GST exclusive)
Bore consent (controlled activity)	475
Mooring consent inside zoned mooring area (ZMA)	475
Change to mooring consent	235
Consent application lodgement fee (fee per activity)	
• One activity	275
• Two activities	220
• Three activities	195
• Four or more activities	170
Consent transfer fee (for one consent)	150
Each additional consent	105
Note: actual and reasonable charges may be incurred for very complex transfers.	

Staff charge rates*

	2025/26 Rate per hour (\$) (GST exclusive)
Technical expert	220
Technical officer	175
Manager, Team leader, Principal consents advisor	200
Senior consents / Monitoring / Compliance officer	180
Consents / Monitoring / Compliance officer, Duty planner	160
Business support	105

*These rates apply to charges incurred by council employees, but rates will vary in instances when aspects of consenting, monitoring, or technical aspects of assessment and reporting are undertaken by external parties at council discretion.

Charges for consent processes administered by other agencies

Council has certain functions, powers and duties, as well as discretionary ability to engage in, specified aspects of resource consent processes that are administered by other agencies. These include, but are not limited to, processes administered by the Environmental Protection Authority (under RMA Part 6AA and Fast Track Approvals Act) and Environment Court (under RMA s87C). The council will charge the actual and reasonable costs incurred in undertaking these functions, powers, duties, and engagement, to the extent provided for by the relevant provisions of the RMA and/or other empowering legislation. In this regard, “actual and reasonable costs” means in accordance with the staff charge rates in the table above and/or the council’s “Requests for Information and Documents” policy below (as relevant).

Annual consent holder charges (section 36(1)(c) of the RMA)

Consent administration charge

The resource consent annual administration fee contributes to the cost the council incurs for undertaking its consenting and monitoring functions required under the Resource Management Act 1991. This includes generating resource consents, maintaining consent and compliance information, updating consent status, processing consent surrenders and expiries, annual charge enquiries as well as general oversight of the consenting and monitoring activities of the council. This charge is the same for all categories of resource consent.

Information gathering and research

Councils have a duty to gather information and monitor the environment under the Resource Management Act. A key part of this includes field monitoring (e.g. river flow, groundwater availability, water quality, ecology, air quality) and scientific investigations to enable activities to occur in a sustainable way in the Waikato region.

Where council considers the need for this work is caused by or benefits consent holders, it can apportion some of the charge to consent holders.

The scale of charge assessed for each class of consent is based on the forecast expenditure for the relevant council work programmes and an assessment of the share of these costs that should be borne by consent holders or the public. Overall, the total funding contribution from consent holders is equivalent to approximately one-third of the total cost. The monitoring and investigations undertaken are not usually specific to the location of an individual consent. It provides for managing the cumulative impacts of many activities and consents on a broader catchment, aquifer or airshed scale.

Consent compliance monitoring

All monitoring of compliance with consent conditions, excluding farm dairy water take consents, will be charged on an actual cost basis.

Actual and reasonable costs for monitoring consent compliance will be directly charged according to the following formula:

Charge = staff/contractor time x charge rate (*refer to above page) + direct costs including disbursements

Consent holders or their agent are required to pay for costs incurred on an ongoing basis as they occur, unless otherwise agreed by Waikato Regional Council.

Where a consent is held to take water for farm dairy purposes, an annual compliance monitoring charge of \$80 applies, which is included as part of the annual consent holder charge. This charge applies so long as monitoring determines that compliance has been achieved. If the consent holder is found to be non-compliant, any costs in addition to the \$80 charge will be directly charged in accordance with the above charging formula.

National direction permitted activity compliance monitoring

Monitoring of permitted activities under:

- (a) the National Environmental Standard for Commercial Forestry 2017 (NЕСF) pursuant to Part 3, Regulation 106, and
 - (b) the National Environmental Standard for Freshwater 2020 (NESF) pursuant to Part 4, Regulation 75
- will be charged actual and reasonable costs for monitoring compliance according to the following formula:

Charge = staff/contractor time x charge rate (*refer to refer to above page) + direct costs including disbursements

Parties operating under the NESCF and/or NESF will be charged for costs incurred on an ongoing basis as they occur, unless otherwise agreed by Waikato Regional Council.

Waikato Regional Council may set fixed charges for monitoring activities carried out under the NESCF and/or NESF. Council may require operators to pay the full charge towards monitoring the activity prior to any monitoring taking place.

Regional plan permitted activity compliance monitoring, other monitoring and activities associated with abatement notices and enforcement orders (s36(1)(caaa) to (caac))

This section applies to:

- (a) charges payable by a person carrying out a permitted activity, for the carrying out by the local authority of monitoring the person's compliance with any rule in a plan that relates to the permitted activity (s36(1)(caaa))
- (b) charges payable by a person who an enforcement officer considers has contravened this Act, a national environmental standard, a regulation, a rule in a plan, or a resource consent, for the carrying out by the local authority of any function necessary to determine whether the contravention has occurred (s36(1)(caab)): and
- (c) charges payable by a person who is the subject of an abatement notice or an enforcement order for the carrying out by the local authority of its functions relating to issuing, administering, supervising, or monitoring compliance with the notice or order (s36(1)(caac)).

Activities undertaken in accordance with s36(1)(caaa) to (caac) will be charged actual and reasonable costs for monitoring compliance according to the following formula:

Charge = staff/contractor time x charge rate (*refer to refer to above page) + direct costs including disbursements

Note: provisions s36(1)(caaa) to (caac) are proposed by Clause 10 of the Resource Management (Consenting and Other System Changes) Amendment Bill, which at the time of finalising the Annual Plan, was not yet passed into law. The cost recovery policy described in this sub-section of the Schedule will therefore only have effect to the extent that it is enabled by the provisions of the Resource Management (Consenting and Other System Changes) Amendment Act if/when it is passed into law.

2025/26 Resource consent holder charges

All amounts are GST exclusive.

Consent class	Description	Consent administration	Information gathering, research and data monitoring	Compliance monitoring	Total
Air					
Discharge of contaminants	Discharges of contaminants to the air under NES for Air Quality	165	615	-	780
Other discharges	Other discharges to air including odour	165	-	-	165
Agricultural					
Agricultural discharges	Discharges to land and water from agricultural sector activities	165	950	-	1,115
Process discharges					
Major	Stormwater discharge >4ha land; Sewage >15m³ per day; mine wastewater >100m³ per day	165	1050	-	1,215
Minor	Industrial, mining, quarry, urban and commercial discharges to land and water that do not fall into ‘Major’ class	165	539	-	704
Geothermal					
Discharge	Discharge of geothermal sourced fluids	165	16 cents per tonne or m3 (daily rate)		
Take	Takes of geothermal sourced fluids	165	30 cents per tonne or m³ (daily rate)		
Water takes					
Water takes	Takes of surface or ground water, excluding farm water takes	165	Minimum charge of \$65, then 48 cents per m³	-	
Farm water takes	Takes of surface or ground water for farming support	165	Minimum charge of \$65, then 48 cents per m³	80	

Consent class	Description	Consent administration	Information gathering, research and data monitoring	Compliance monitoring	Total
Non-consumptive water takes (no impact)	Non-consumptive water takes with no impact on water availability, or for flood management or environmental purposes	165	-	-	165
Non-consumptive water takes (impact)	Non-consumptive water takes that impact flow regimes or water availability	165	600	-	765
Dams					
Waikato	Large dams within the Waikato hydro network used for electricity generation	165	11,228 per dam	-	11,393
Large	Dams deeper than 3 metres and which hold more than 20,000m ³ of water	165	7,186 per dam	-	7,351
Small	All dams not covered by the consent classes above	165	337 per dam	-	502
Coastal					
Marine farms		165	45 per hectare	40	
Moorings	All mooring structures Refer to the bylaw requirement table for further charges.	165	25	15	205
Other	Activities requiring consent which may significantly impact upon the coastal environment and/or do not sit within the classes listed above	165	657	-	822
Land use					
Major	Large scale land use activities that have potential to generate significant land instability or sediment discharges. Including (but not limited to):	165	1,921	-	2,086

Consent class	Description	Consent administration	Information gathering, research and data monitoring	Compliance monitoring	Total
	Forestry harvesting >20ha Metal extraction >500m ³ Earthworks >10,000m ³				
Minor	Large scale land use activities that have some potential to generate significant land instability or sediment discharges. Including (but not limited to): Forestry harvesting <20ha Metal extraction <500m ³ Earthworks <10,000m ³	165	360	-	525
Land use - Lake Taupō					
Large	Land areas greater than 100 hectares	165	684	-	849
Medium	Land areas from 20 to 100 hectares	165	344	-	509
Small	Land areas less than 20 hectares	165	166	-	331
Administration					
Administration charge only	Activities requiring consent which do not fit within the consent classes above, and which are not expected to have environmental effects that will require some supervision and monitoring by Waikato Regional Council	165	-	-	165

Note:

1. All charges exclude GST.
2. GST at the prevailing rate will be added to all charges when invoiced.
3. Whitebait stands and bore permits will not be charged an annual charge.

Remission

Under Section 36(5) of the RMA, council has discretion to remit the whole or any part of any charge. Charges will be remitted where:

- charges to individual consent holders are deemed to be unreasonable
- a redress of relative benefits to the consent holder is necessary
- the information produced by an applicant for a resource consent benefits the community as a whole.
- for Land use - Lake Taupō a remission of the information gathering, research and data monitoring component of this charge will be considered where the consent holder can demonstrate that the consented land use is primarily a low nutrient discharge.

Navigation safety related charges

Pursuant to section 33M of the *Maritime Transport Act 1994*, Waikato Regional Council has made a bylaw in respect of navigation safety within the Waikato region. Section 33R of the *Maritime Transport Act 1994* allows Waikato Regional Council to set fees in respect of activities that it has to undertake to implement the bylaw.

Any costs incurred for particular services provided for navigation safety which are not outlined below are fully recoverable from the person or organisation causing this cost to be incurred.

Bylaw requirement	2025/26 fee (\$) (GST exclusive)
Application for temporary events (Clause 5.6), or suspension or exemption of any provisions within this bylaw (Bylaw 4.2)	\$130.00
Application for permanent speed uplifting's (Clause 5.8)	Actual and reasonable costs
Public notice for a temporary event (Clause 5.6.5)	Actual and reasonable costs
Mooring fee – harbourmaster activities (charged annually). Refer to the moorings charge in the resource consent holder charges table for additional charges.	\$140.00
Mooring licence fee (when PA rule in coastal plan is operative)	\$140.00
Management of navigation safety related activities for Port Taharoa	Actual and reasonable costs
Management and inspection of navigation safety-related activities	Actual and reasonable costs
Assessment and report on any RMA consent application which has the potential to affect navigational safety	Actual and reasonable costs

Note:

1. The bylaw does not apply to Lake Taupō
2. All charges exclude GST, GST at the prevailing rate will be added to charges when invoiced

Kāwhia mooring licence fee

Waikato Regional Council holds a consent for the management of a number of moorings within the Kāwhia harbour. A charge of \$140.00 per annum will be charged where council licenses the use of these moorings to individuals. The charge covers costs incurred to administer these moorings under the terms of the council's consent. All prices are GST exclusive.

Charges under the Building Act 2004

Waikato Regional Council will charge for all application, inspection, and compliance processes associated with its regulatory role under the *Building Act 2004*, including but not limited to PIMs, building consents, compliance schedules, inspections, code of compliance certificates, DSAP, and annual WOF and dam classification certificates.

Requests for information and documents: resource management plans and consents

Except as provided in relation to policy document, actual and reasonable costs will be charged for providing documents, information and advice in respect of resource management plans and resource management consents (sections 36(1)(e) and (f) of the *Resource Management Act (1991)*). The first half hour of staff time will not be charged, after which the total staff time spent on actioning the request will be charged at the relevant staff rate

Marine oil spill response: charges under the Maritime Transport Act 1994

In accordance with section 444 of the Maritime Transport Act (MTA) regional councils exercising a delegated function or power may charge a fee in relation to that function or power. This includes fees and charges for the functions set out in Section 33R(a)-(d) of the MTA. The total hours charged for cost recovery will be at the discretion of the Regional on Scene Commander. Staff hourly rates will be at the appropriate rate as set out in the schedule of fees and charges.

Marine oil spill role	2025/26 Rate per hour (GST exclusive)
Regional on-scene commander (ROSC)	\$215
Subject Matter Expert (SME) i.e. wildlife, environmental scientist.	\$168
Senior Regional Responder (SRR)/Leading Hand/EOC Function Manager	\$168
Regional Responder (RR), Operations team member, EOC function team member	\$147
Business Support (after termination of response)	\$105
Disbursements (e.g. but not limited to; meals and accommodation, vehicle running costs, specialist equipment, external agency advice, waste management)	Actual costs incurred

Documents and data

Technical reports

Many of our technical reports are available to download free of charge on the council's website: www.waikatoregion.govt.nz.

Technical reports will be charged at a base rate of \$20.00 plus \$0.15 per A4 page and \$0.30 per A3 page. Earlier technical reports priced less than \$10.00 will be provided free of charge. All prices are GST exclusive.

Policy documents

Many of our policy documents and plans are available to download free of charge on the council's website: www.waikatoregion.govt.nz.

Requests for policy documents and plans will be charged at the following rates:

Document	2025/26 Fee (\$) (GST exclusive)
Regional Coastal Plan – hard copy	\$120
Waikato Regional Plan – hard copy	\$120
Waikato Regional Plan Maps (full set) – hard copy	\$1,800
Waikato Regional Plan – individual maps	Cost of production
Transitional Regional Plan	\$20
Regional Policy Statement	\$80

Spatial information data

Waikato Regional Council, at its discretion, may charge for access to or extraction of spatial information data. The total staff time spent will be charged at the technical officer charge rate as per the schedule of fees and charges. There is no charge for the data itself.

River and catchment service charges

Waikato Regional Council, at its discretion, may charge for the provision of information and advice relating to the following:

- hazard information and advice
- technical information and advice
- property information
- provision of historic information and records
- licences to construction structures on Waikato Regional Council owned or managed land
- provision of other information or services where costs, including staff time, are incurred by Waikato Regional Council.

Actual and reasonable costs will be charged for the provision of information, documents and technical advice. The first half hour of staff time involved in providing the service will not be charged, after which the total staff time spent providing the service may be charged.

Charges for requests for official information

The *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987* (LGOIMA) provides that any charge for the supply of official information must be reasonable. Regard may be had to the cost of the labour and materials involved in making the information available and any costs incurred pursuant to a request of the applicant to make the information available urgently.

Accordingly, where costs are recovered for the provision of official information, the amount charged for staff time will be in accordance with the Ministry of Justice guidelines for charging for services.⁶ Time spent by staff searching for relevant material, abstracting and collating, copying, transcribing and supervising access where the total time involved *is in excess of one hour* will be charged out as follows, after that first hour:

- an initial charge of \$38 (including GST at the prevailing rate) for the first chargeable half hour or part thereof; and
- then \$38 (including GST at the prevailing rate) for each additional half hour or part thereof.

Charges for the rates postponement policy

The council currently has a rates postponement policy that allows eligible individuals to postpone their rates.

Application fees in relation to these postponements are as follows.

1. Costs to register a statutory land charge in relation to the postponed rates. The fee will reflect the current charges set by LandOnline at the time the statutory land charge is registered.
2. Costs to release statutory land charge in relation to the postponed rates. The fee will reflect the current charges set by LandOnline at the time the statutory land charge is released.

Charges for debt collection

In situations where the council is required to engage the service of a debt collection agent to recover amounts owing to the council, the cost charged by the collection agency to the council will be payable by the debtor.

⁶ Charging guidelines for OIA requests | New Zealand Ministry of Justice

Ngā pānga ā-reiti mō ngā whenua tauira

Rating impacts for sample properties

The following tables provide a range of examples of the impact of the council's planned budgets on the rates requirement. The actual rates charged to a property will depend on where it is located, its size and its value. To understand the impact the proposed budgets will have on the rates charged to your property, please refer to the Waikato Regional Council website:

www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/rates.

General rate: charges to all properties in the region

	\$500,000 property			\$1,000,000 property			\$2,000,000 property		
Territorial authority	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change
Hamilton	107.06	107.47	0.41	214.12	214.94	0.82	428.24	429.89	1.64 Revalued
Hauraki	102.55	107.46	4.91	205.10	214.93	9.83	410.20	429.85	19.65 Revalued
Matamata-Piako	110.00	105.97	(4.03)	219.99	211.94	(8.05)	439.98	423.87	(16.11) Revalued
Otorohanga	107.35	99.15	(8.20)	214.71	198.30	(16.41)	429.42	396.60	(32.81)
Rotorua	108.82	103.68	(5.13)	217.64	207.37	(10.27)	435.27	414.74	(20.54)
South Waikato	109.26	107.43	(1.83)	218.53	214.86	(3.67)	437.05	429.72	(7.33) Revalued
Taupo	99.32	101.26	1.94	198.64	202.52	3.89	397.27	405.05	7.77
Thames-Coromandel	107.18	111.06	3.88	214.36	222.13	7.77	428.71	444.25	15.54
Waikato	86.21	108.12	21.92	172.41	216.24	43.83	344.82	432.49	87.66
Waipa	104.77	103.75	(1.01)	209.53	207.51	(2.02)	419.06	415.02	(4.05)
Waitomo	103.77	107.48	3.70	207.55	214.95	7.41	415.09	429.90	14.81 Revalued

Uniform annual general charge – charged to all properties in the region

2024/25 rate	99.72 per rating unit
2025/26 rate	99.10 per rating unit
Change	(0.61) per rating unit

Civil defence emergency management rate – charged to all properties in the region

2024/25 rate	16.06	per rating unit
2025/26 rate	15.96	per rating unit
Change	(0.10)	per rating unit

Natural heritage rate – charged to all properties in the region

2024/25 rate	15.00	per rating unit
2025/26 rate	15.00	per rating unit
Change	(0.00)	per rating unit

Biosecurity rate – charged to all properties in the region

	\$500,000 property			\$1,000,000 property			\$2,000,000 property			
Territorial authority	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change	
Hamilton	29.32	30.79	1.47	58.65	61.58	2.94	117.29	123.17	5.88	Revalued
Hauraki	28.07	30.76	2.69	56.13	61.52	5.39	112.27	123.04	10.77	Revalued
Matamata-Piako	30.10	30.34	0.23	60.21	60.68	0.47	120.42	121.36	0.94	Revalued
Otorohanga	29.38	28.39	(1.00)	58.76	56.77	(1.99)	117.53	113.54	(3.98)	
Rotorua	29.78	29.68	(0.10)	59.57	59.37	(0.20)	119.13	118.74	(0.40)	
South Waikato	29.90	30.76	0.85	59.81	61.51	1.70	119.62	123.03	3.41	Revalued
Taupo	27.18	28.99	1.81	54.37	57.98	3.62	108.73	115.96	7.23	
Thames-Coromandel	29.33	31.80	2.46	58.67	63.59	4.92	117.34	127.18	9.85	
Waikato	23.59	30.95	7.36	47.19	61.91	14.72	94.38	123.82	29.44	
Waipa	28.67	29.70	1.03	57.35	59.41	2.06	114.69	118.82	4.12	
Waitomo	28.40	30.77	2.37	56.80	61.54	4.73	113.61	123.08	9.47	Revalued

Regional services rate – charged to all properties in the region

2024/25 rate	3.70	per rating unit
2025/26 rate	3.71	per rating unit
Change	0.00	per rating unit

Public transport rate – charged to all properties in the region

From 2025/26 Council is taking over the rating for public transport services for the region. This means that some properties will be charged a public transport rate by Waikato Regional Council for the first time this year.

Property location	\$500,000 property			\$1,000,000 property			\$2,000,000 property		
	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change
Urban public transport - rail - per property	20.00	20.00	-	20.00	20.00	-	20.00	20.00	-
Urban public transport - rail - value based	5.44	6.57	1.13	10.88	13.14	2.27	21.75	26.28	4.53
Hamilton City		141.77	141.77		283.54	283.54		567.08	567.08
Central Waikato Unserviced		77.88	77.88		77.88	77.88		77.88	77.88
Central Waikato Serviced		38.94	38.94		38.94	38.94		38.94	38.94
Regional Waikato Serviced		27.26	27.26		27.26	27.26		27.26	27.26
Regional Waikato Unserviced		11.68	11.68		11.68	11.68		11.68	11.68

Primary industry compliance rate – charged to all properties twenty hectares and above

2024/25 rate	260.24per rating unit
2025/26 rate	299.53per rating unit
Change	39.29per rating unit

Stock truck effluent rate – charged to all properties two hectares and above

\$500,000 property			\$1,000,000 property			\$2,000,000 property		
2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change
0.33	0.00	(0.33)	0.65	0.00	(0.65)	1.30	0.00	(1.30)

Waihou Piako catchment rate – charged on a differential basis to all properties in the zone

Property type	\$500,000 property			\$1,000,000 property		
	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change
Residential	105.28	110.35	5.07	210.57	220.70	10.13

Property type	\$2,000,000 property			\$3,500,000 property		
	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change
Rural	421.13	441.39	20.26	736.98	772.44	35.46

Waikato-Waipā scheme (watershed) – charged on a differential basis to all properties in the zone

Management zone / territorial authority	\$500,000 property			\$1,000,000 property			\$2,000,000 property		
	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change
Central Waikato zone - Hamilton City	23.13	22.42	(0.71)	46.27	44.85	(1.42)	92.54	89.70	(2.84)
Central Waikato zone - Waipa District	26.23	26.82	0.60	52.45	53.65	1.19	131.13	134.11	2.99
Lower Waikato zone - Waikato District	83.26	82.06	(1.19)	166.51	164.13	(2.39)	416.28	410.32	(5.96)
Waipa zone - Otorohanga District	49.99	50.33	0.34	99.97	100.65	0.68	249.93	251.63	1.70
Upper Waikato - South Waikato District	16.99	17.52	0.53	33.98	35.04	1.06	84.95	87.60	2.65
Upper Waikato - Rotorua District	32.53	32.82	0.28	65.07	65.63	0.57	162.67	164.08	1.41
Lake Taupo zone - Taupo District	28.28	28.60	0.32	56.56	57.21	0.65	141.40	143.02	1.62

Coromandel zone rate – charged on a differential basis to all properties in the zone

\$500,000 property			\$1,000,000 property			\$2,000,000 property		
2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change
64.49	63.09	(1.40)	83.09	81.23	(1.86)	120.28	117.51	(2.78)

West Coast Zone rate – charged on a differential basis to all properties in the zone

\$500,000 property			\$1,000,000 property			\$2,000,000 property		
2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change
105.35	106.10	0.75-	137.31	138.06	0.75-	201.23	201.99	0.76-

Drainage rate – charged on a differential basis to all properties in the drainage area

	0.2 ha property (Residential)			2.0 ha property (Lifestyle)			75 ha property (Dairying)		
	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change
Waikato Central	71.41	73.96	2.54	49.99	51.77	1.78	2,677.97	2,773.37	95.39

	0.2 ha property (Residential)			2.0 ha property (Lifestyle)			75 ha property (Dairying)		
	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change
Thames Valley	28.80	33.43	4.62	23.04	26.74	3.70	1,080.18	1,253.48	173.29

	0.2 ha property (Residential)			2.0 ha property (Lifestyle)			75 ha property (Dairying)		
	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change	2024/25	2025/26	Change
Aka Aka	20.50	20.75	0.25	204.99	207.47	2.49	7,686.94	7,780.17	93.23



He taiao mauriora ▲ **Healthy environment**

He hapori hihiri ▲ **Vibrant communities**

He ōhanga pakari ▲ **Strong economy**

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