

MEDIA RELEASE

Ruapehu District Council



Contact: Paul Wheatcroft, Communications Manager, 027 24 33 064

Date: Friday 30 September 2011

DROP IN GOVERNMENT VALUATIONS AFFECTS RATING EXPECTATIONS

Ruapehu District Council (RDC) has been fielding calls from ratepayers who have received their new government property valuations wanting to know how the change in value will impact on their rate bill going forward.

RDC Deputy Chief Executive, Peter Till, said that for the coming 2011-12 year there will be no impact as the rates have already been set on the previous 2007 valuation.

"The new government property valuations will come into effect from next year (2012-13) and although the new valuations show quite a marked decrease in Ruapehu since 2007 this is unlikely translate into a significant drop in rates," he said.

"All property values have shifted relative to all other property values."

"The only way people will have a significantly lower rate bill is if their property value has dropped significantly more than the other properties in their rating area."

Mr Till added that it also needs to be remembered that funding Council activities and services doesn't get cheaper because District property values have been deemed to have dropped.

"Anyone with any questions on their rate demand can call Council's Customer Service Team via their nearest Council office."

DAVID HAMMOND
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CJH : PRW