

YOUR RATES YOUR SERVICES YOUR PLAN

LONG-TERM PLAN 2027/37

Why we need to make choices



Affordable rates

We need to keep services affordable for our communities.



Financial stability

We need to fund essential services now and in the future.



Right-sized organisation

We need to match the organisation to the work required and services our communities value.



Water costs

Water charges are forecast to increase by 93% reaching \$3,950 per property by 2033/34.



Government reform

Changes to local government affect how we plan and deliver services.



Rates capping

Rates capping will constrict Council income with rates increases restricted to a 2% to 4% range.

Rates capping and water charges

What about rates capping?

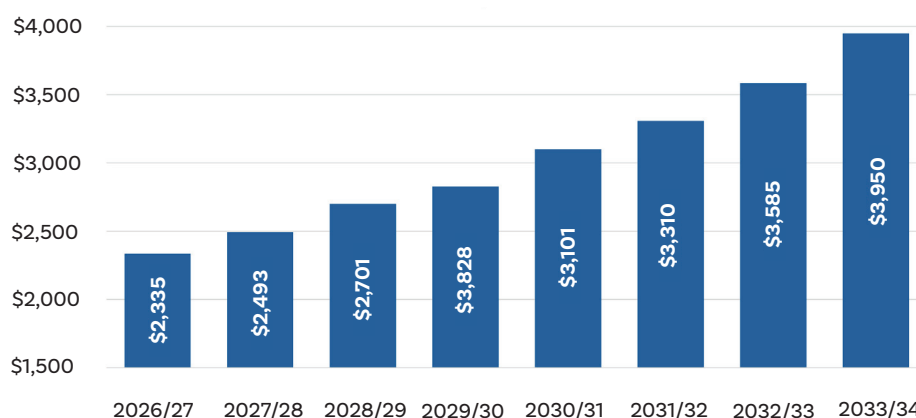
The Government has introduced legislation to cap council rates increases. Under the proposed system, councils would generally be expected to keep annual rates increases within a target range of **2% to 4% per year**, although exemptions may be available in limited circumstances.

However, the proposed cap will not apply to your future water service charges.

This distinction is important because part of what you currently pay through your rates helps fund drinking water, wastewater and stormwater services. These services are scheduled to transfer to the new two-council Water Services Council-Controlled Organisation (WS-CCO) being set-up with Whanganui District Council. The new WS-CCO will set water charges separately and will be outside the proposed rates cap.

Current forecasts (based on the 2024/34 Long-Term Plan costs) indicate water charges will increase by around 92% between 2024 and 2034, reaching approximately \$3,950 per property* by 2033/34.

Forecast water charges : Two-council WS-CCO



What Does This Mean for You?

Council's efforts to reduce costs and keep rates increases low will not impact on future water charges with future water costs set by the new WS-CCO.

Note:

- Managing affordability is a key focus as the new WS-CCO is established.
- In its response to the Water Services Delivery Plan, the Department of Internal Affairs also highlighted future pricing and affordability as important considerations as the new organisation is established.
- Further financial modelling is underway to provide a clearer picture of future costs.

Community hui and 'Coffee with a Councillor'



Bring your questions to one of our community hui or join us for a coffee in Ohakune or Taumarunui

Ohakune - 'Coffee with a Councillor'

Sat 17 Oct - Opposite New World - 9am-12pm

Owhango Hall Tue 20 Oct - 6-9pm

Ohura Hall Wed 21 Oct - 6-9pm

Waimarino The Park Hotel Tue 27 Oct - 6-9pm

Raetihi Royal Theatre Wed 28 Oct - 6-9pm

Taumarunui - 'Coffee with a Councillor'

Sat 31 Oct - Kainui Coffee - 9am-12pm