

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO RANGITĪKEI? @

How Rangitīkei District Council plans to prioritise its time and resource in Year 3 of the Long Term Plan 2024-2034



KŌRERO MAI
We need to receive your feedback by 5pm on Friday 17 April 2026



ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Mihi



The Rangitikei District Council acknowledges all those who live within our District.

We send a warm welcome to you all.

Cease the winds from the west

Cease the winds from the south

Let the breeze blow over the land

Let the breeze blow over the ocean

Let the red-tipped dawn come with a sharpened air

A touch of frost, a promise of a glorious day!

E ngā mana, e ngā reo, e ngā rau rangatira mā o te rohe nei o Rangitīkei, tēnā koutou katoa.

Mihi mahana tēnei o te Kaunihera o Rangitīkei kia tātou katoa e noho ana ki roto i te rohe nei, nau mai, whakatau mai rā.

*Whakataka te hau ki te uru,
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga,
Kia mākinakina ki uta,
Kia mātaratara ki tai,
E hī ake ana te atakura,
He tio, he huka, he hau hū,
Tīhei Mauriora!*



OUR PLANNING CYCLE

Ā tatou ara whakamahere

Council plans in 10-year cycles, but reviews its budget every year, and reviews its 10-year plan every three years.

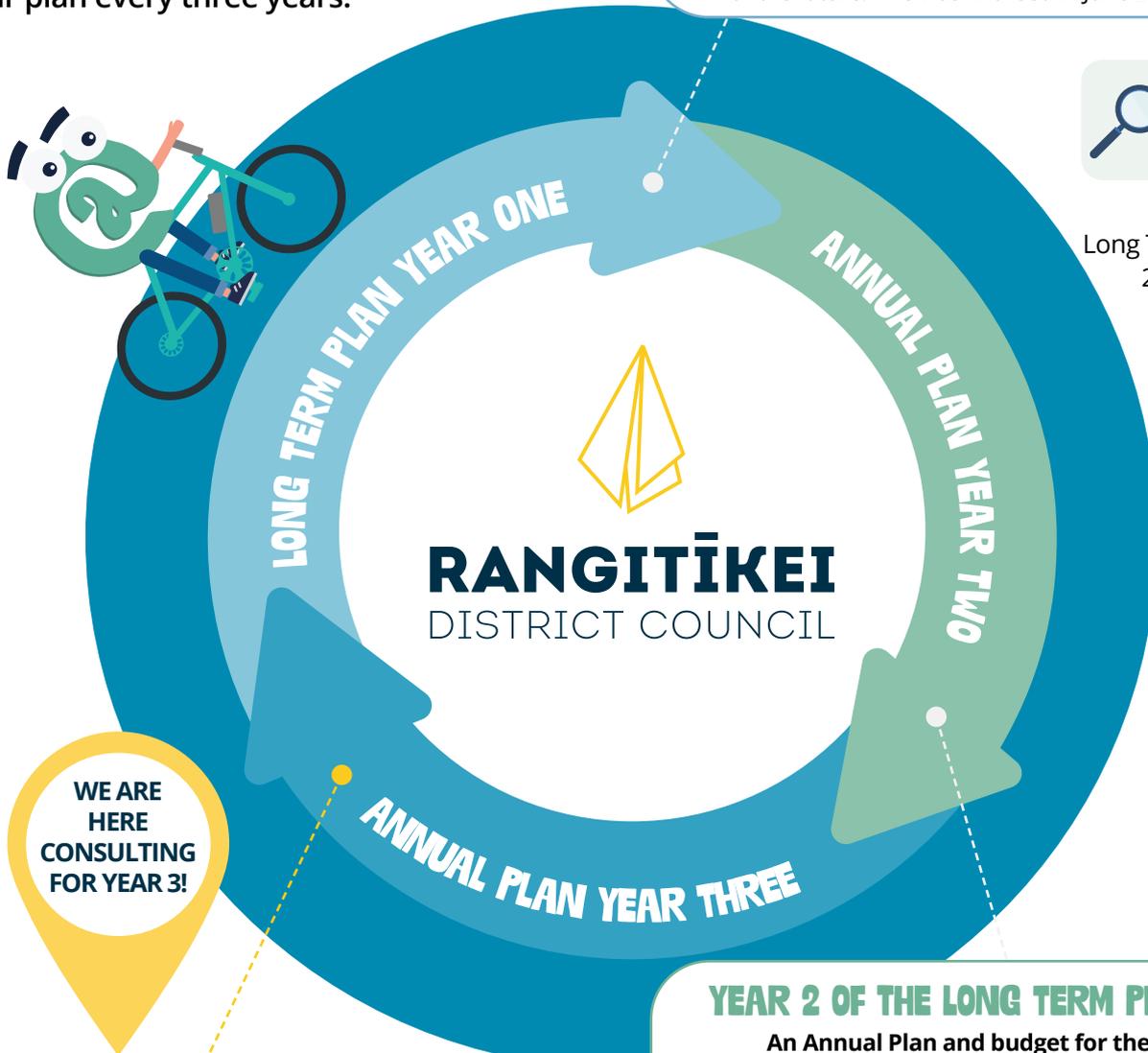
YEAR 1 OF THE LONG TERM PLAN

Our Long Term Plan is prepared in consultation with the community.

This includes the budget for Year 1 as well as our plans for the future. This was finalised in June 2024.



Read our Long Term Plan 2024-2034



WE ARE HERE CONSULTING FOR YEAR 3!

YEAR 3 OF THE LONG TERM PLAN

An Annual Plan and budget for the financial year is prepared and highlights any differences from Year 3 of the Long Term Plan.

It will outline the proposed rates for the financial year. In Year 3, pre-planning work on the upcoming Long Term Plan also begins.

The next Long Term Plan will be developed this time next year - Long Term Plan 2027-2037

YEAR 2 OF THE LONG TERM PLAN

An Annual Plan and budget for the financial year is prepared and highlights any differences from Year 2 of the Long Term Plan.

It will also outline the proposed rates for the financial year. This was finalised in June 2025.

When you spot a QR code in this document, just open your camera and hold it over the QR code, a link will pop up, click on it and it will take you to our online submission form.



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Nā te Koromatua



Kia ora koutou,

Over the past two years, I have spoken openly about the environment local government is operating in – one shaped by reform, rising costs, and ongoing uncertainty.

When we last set our long term direction in 2024 through the Long Term Plan 2024-34, much of the challenge was understanding what the newly elected Government's reform plans might mean for Rangitikei, and how quickly change would occur.

Last year, the focus of our Annual Plan 2025/26 was on managing that change as it began to take shape (particularly in the three waters space through Local Water Done Well), while also navigating the pressure of our large but necessary infrastructure upgrades across the district.

This year's Annual Plan 2026/27 reflects the next step in this journey.

We now have clearer visibility on the reform proposed for local government, including:

- **Local Water Done Well:** Council is actively involved in establishing Central Districts Water alongside Palmerston North City and Horowhenua District Councils.
- A "**Back to Basics**" directive, which includes increased accountability and a proposed rates cap of 2 to 4% from 2029.
- **Resource Management Act reform**, with the current legislation set to be replaced by two new Acts.
- The proposed replacement of elected regional councillors with the creation of Combined Territorial Boards made up of district and city Mayors.

The work required to implement this change is immense. It is creating additional pressure on staff and Council in the short-term, before any long-term efficiencies may be realised.

I am certain collaboration across councils will increase; building on the work already underway in

the three waters space with the establishment of Central Districts Water, and in our regulatory team with various shared services arrangements operating across animal control, environmental health, civil defence and resource consenting.

Against this backdrop, the **proposed average rates increase for 2026/27 is 6.4%**. This is about maintaining essential services and providing stability for ratepayers and the wider community. I want to acknowledge the work of Council staff, who have worked incredibly hard to find efficiencies that have reduced the forecast average increase from 10.75% outlined in the Long Term Plan 2024-34, to the proposed average 6.4% this year.

Council has a responsibility to future-proof the district while also keeping services affordable for today's ratepayers.

That balance is not easy, and it is one that Councillors and I take incredibly seriously.

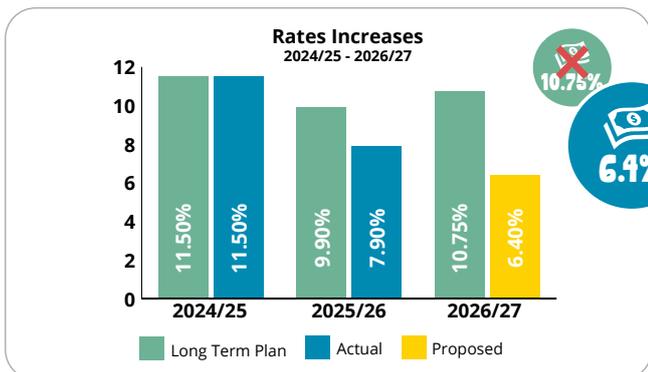
Important projects must continue to move forward – including Marton Water Strategy, the Marton Swim Centre, critical repairs to the Taihape-Napier Road, and many others. These are not short-term decisions or projects with short-term solutions. They are long-term investments that will shape the resilience and growth of Rangitikei for decades to come.

While project delays can be frustrating, Council's role is not simply to complete projects; it is to deliver them well - and in a way that reduces long-term risk and cost for Rangitikei.

This document sets out how Council proposes to fund essential work in 2026/27. It explains what your rates pay for, how they were used during the 2025 calendar year, and provides updates on key projects currently underway.

I encourage you to read and digest this information, consider the challenges and trade-offs we are navigating, and share your views. Many of the decisions ahead are not about quick wins, but about making careful, long-term choices. Council is committed to working with you at a local level to ensure those decisions support Rangitikei now, and well into the future.

Ngā mihi, Andy Watson, Mayor of Rangitikei.



RANGITIKEI RATEPAYERS HELP PAY FOR THINGS MOST OF US DON'T THINK ABOUT UNTIL THEY'RE NOT THERE

Together, these services keep our district safe, connected, and functioning every day.

1,224km
network of roads



93km
of footpaths



3
Community hubs/Libraries

6,210
Road signs



1,971
streetlights



250 bridges



700
Million litres of drinking water per year



8
CEMETERIES



Over **100** parks, reserves and green spaces; equating to **73** hectares of land maintained for public use



Management of **7** wastewater treatment plants



Emergency readiness for the district's 18 towns and remote rural settlements

72
Community houses



70km
of stormwater pipes and 85km of open drains



8
Rural Community Halls



4
Campgrounds



6
Waste transfer stations



20
Public toilets

1 Community-managed pool
2 Swim centres



The cost of delivering these services is rising. That includes small, everyday things like cleaning supplies and fuel, right through to big-ticket items like electricity, insurance, construction materials, and meeting modern safety and environmental standards.

At the same time, we know many households are also under pressure. Many of the cost increases affecting Council are affecting your household budget too.

LARGE DISTRICT, SMALL POPULATION

He Rohe whānui, He taupori iti

Your household budget supports the people who live under your roof.

Council's budget supports everyone who lives in the district - and many people who don't but still rely on our services. People like visitors, those commuting into (or through) Rangitikei for work, and freight operators.

Rangitikei is a geographically large, rural district with a relatively small population. This means our ratepayers face relatively higher costs per household - not because we deliver more than other councils, but because we deliver our services across greater distances, for fewer people, and for a wider group of users.

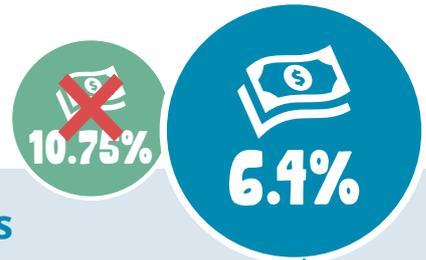
As mentioned, we also support a lot of people who don't live here. State Highway One runs through the middle of the district, carrying heavy freight and national traffic.



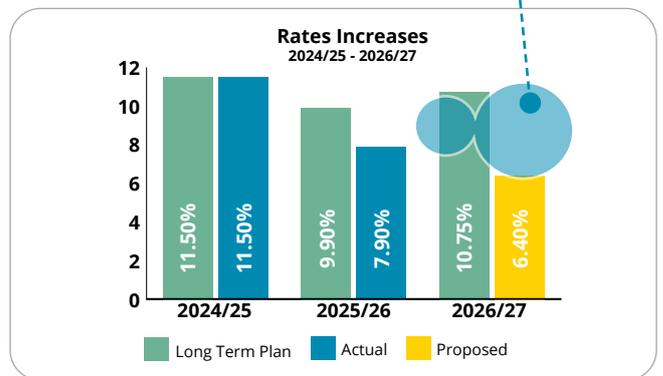
On average, there are around 16,000 vehicle movements through the district daily - that's the equivalent of the entire population of Rangitikei. Yet only local ratepayers fund most of the roads and infrastructure those 16,000 vehicle movements use.

Whether it's used by a local resident, a freight truck, or someone just passing through, all our local infrastructure (roads, water, parks, community facilities) still need to be maintained, renewed, and kept safe.

This all contributes to the costs Rangitikei District Council faces and is why the funding decisions your councillors and Mayor make must balance affordability and fairness with long-term sustainability for Rangitikei.



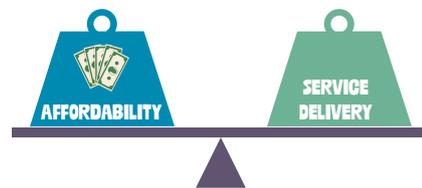
Council is proposing an average rates increase of 6.4%.



For 2026/27, Council is proposing an average rates increase of 6.4%.

This is lower than originally forecast in the Long Term Plan 2024-34, where rates income for this year was projected to increase by 10.75%.

The lower increase reflects deliberate choices by Council to reduce costs and find efficiencies. We've been able to do this without reducing day-to-day service levels (i.e. we'll still deliver every core service we said we would). However, this approach has limits.



If we continue absorbing rising costs now, it limits our options and may create higher costs later.

That's why we're consulting with you. Your feedback will help us understand what services matter most to you, where investment should be prioritised, and how we strike the right balance for Rangitikei - now and into the future.

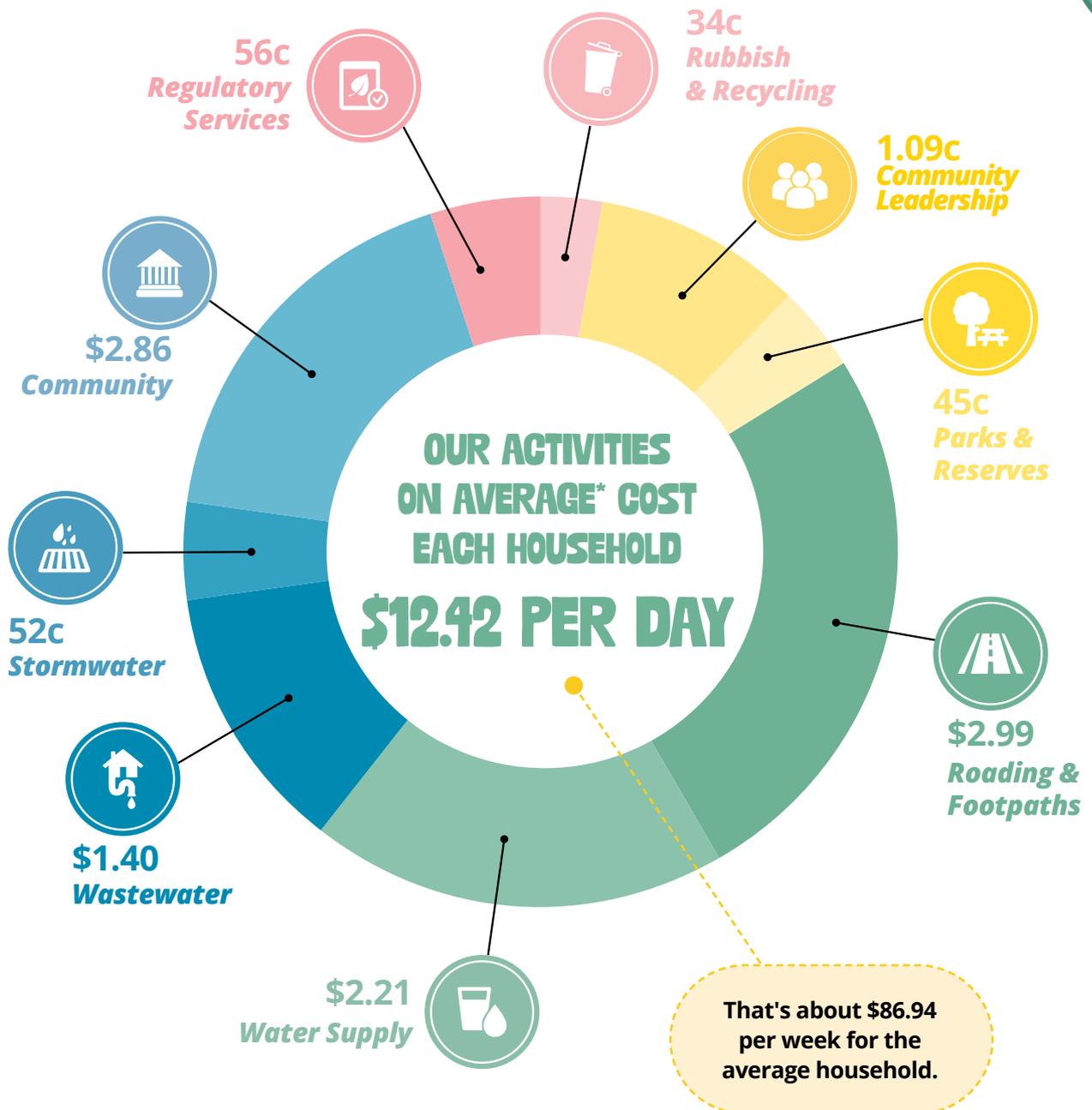


DAILY RATES BREAKDOWN*

He Tātari Reiti

KŌRERO MAI

We need to receive your feedback by 5pm on Friday 17 April 2026



* The average residential per-day cost for Rangitikei ratepayers in the 2026/27 financial year.

6.4% IS THE AVERAGE PROPOSED RATES INCREASE - BUT WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR MY RATES?



The proposed 6.4% increase is an average across all ratepayers. To be as transparent as possible about how that average applies to different properties, we have included examples of average rates bills for a range of property types across the district.

Rangitikei is home to about 8,300 rateable properties.

The total amount Council needs to collect to deliver essential services – such as maintaining roads, managing drinking water, wastewater and stormwater, and other community services – is shared across these properties.

How much each property contributes depends on factors such as the value of the property and the Council services it uses.

This means the final dollar amount on your rates bill will vary. For some households, the increase will be lower than 6.4%. For others, it may be higher. Your rates may be different from your neighbours, and they will also differ depending on whether you live in Marton, Taihape, or another part of the district.

KŌRERO MAI
We need to receive your feedback by 5pm on Friday 17 April 2026



KŌRERO MAI - HAVE YOUR SAY

The proposed average rates increase for 2026/27 is 6.4%.

Which statement best reflects your view?

- Acceptable to maintain essential services
- Too high, even if it means delaying projects or reducing services
- Too low if it risks higher costs later
- Unsure / need more information

Why did you choose this option?

Make a submission by scanning the QR code and filling in our online form →



The examples below show how the average rates increase may apply to different property values and types. Your actual rates may differ. You can see the impact on your property using the rates calculator on Council's website: www.rangitikei.govt.nz/rates



RESIDENTIAL TAIHAPE

Average Property Valuation \$324,131.40	Proposed Average Rate: \$3,874.16		Current Annual Rate: \$3,807.29		
	Property Valuation	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	Increase per week	% Increase
High (Approx. 25 % above average value)	\$410,000.00	\$4,241.10	\$4,334.27	\$1.79	2.20%
Medium (nearest to average value)	\$324,131.40	\$3,807.29	\$3,874.16	\$1.29	1.76%
Low (Approx. 25 % below average value)	\$240,000.00	\$3,824.77	\$3,871.36	\$0.90	1.22%

Average Increase:

\$1.29
per week

1.76%
per week



RESIDENTIAL MARTON

Average Property Valuation \$417,239.19	Proposed Average Rate: \$4,257.04		Current Annual Rate: \$4,157.70		
	Property Valuation	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	Increase per week	% Increase
High (Approx. 25 % above average value)	\$525,000.00	\$4,488.05	\$4,621.59	\$2.57	2.98%
Medium (nearest to average value)	\$417,239.19	\$4,157.70	\$4,257.04	\$1.91	2.39%
Low (Approx. 25 % below average value)	\$310,000.00	\$3,961.51	\$4,036.14	\$1.44	1.88%

Average Increase:

\$1.91
per week

2.39%
per week



RESIDENTIAL BULLS

Average Property Valuation \$494,615.79	Proposed Average Rate: \$4,429.88		Current Annual Rate: \$4,306.74		
	Property Valuation	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	Increase per week	% Increase
High (Approx. 25 % above average value)	\$620,000.00	\$4,720.70	\$4,880.27	\$3.07	3.38%
Medium (nearest to average value)	\$494,615.79	\$4,306.74	\$4,429.88	\$2.37	2.86%
Low (Approx. 25 % below average value)	\$370,000.00	\$4,108.45	\$4,199.52	\$1.75	2.22%

Average Increase:

\$2.37
per week

2.86%
per week



COMMERCIAL

Average Property Valuation \$437,000.00	Proposed Average Rate: \$4,630.98		Current Annual Rate: \$4,390.82		
	Property Valuation	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	Increase per week	% Increase
High (Approx. 25 % above average value)	\$550,000.00	\$4,646.62	\$4,843.11	\$3.78	4.23%
Medium (nearest to average value)	\$437,000.00	\$4,390.82	\$4,630.98	\$4.62	5.47%
Low (Approx. 25 % below average value)	\$325,000.00	\$4,055.77	\$4,167.66	\$2.15	2.76%

Average Increase:

\$4.62
per week

5.47%
per week



RURAL (ALL)

Average Property Valuation \$2,122,935.25	Proposed Average Rate: \$7,194.05		Current Annual Rate: \$6,613.62		
	New Property Valuation	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	Increase per week	% Increase
High (Approx. 25 % above average value)	\$2,700,000.00	\$7,924.09	\$8,650.31	\$13.97	9.16%
Medium (nearest to average value)	\$2,122,935.25	\$6,613.62	\$7,194.05	\$11.16	8.78%
Low (Approx. 25 % below average value)	\$1,595,000.00	\$5,217.95	\$5,641.40	\$8.14	8.12%

Average Increase:

\$11.16
per week

8.78%
per week



RURAL (GREATER THAN \$1M)

Average Property Valuation \$4,091,643.24	Proposed Average Rate: \$12,927.31		Current Annual Rate: \$11,791.71		
	Property Valuation	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	Increase per week	% Increase
High (Approx. 25 % above average value)	\$5,130,000.00	\$15,152.26	\$16,539.58	\$26.68	9.16%
Medium (nearest to average value)	\$4,091,643.24	\$11,791.71	\$12,927.31	\$21.84	9.63%
Low (Approx. 25 % below average value)	\$3,065,000.00	\$8,783.29	\$9,618.38	\$16.06	9.51%

Average Increase:

\$21.84
per week

9.63%
per week



RURAL (LESS THAN \$1M)

Average Property Valuation \$535,946.22	Proposed Average Rate: \$2,572.43		Current Annual Rate: \$2,439.52		
	Property Valuation	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	Increase per week	% Increase
High (Approx. 25 % above average value)	\$670,000.00	\$2,917.93	\$3,096.79	\$3.44	6.13%
Medium (nearest to average value)	\$535,946.22	\$2,439.52	\$2,572.43	\$2.56	5.45%
Low (Approx. 25 % below average value)	\$400,000.00	\$2,291.39	\$2,387.41	\$1.85	4.19%

Average Increase:

\$2.56
per week

5.45%
per week



UTILITIES

Average Property Valuation \$3,641,745.76	Proposed Average Rate: \$13,843.39		Current Annual Rate: \$11,969.06		
	Property Valuation	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	Increase per week	% Increase
High (Approx. 25 % above average value)	\$6,600,000.00	\$20,357.70	\$23,844.38	\$67.05	17.13%
Medium (nearest to average value)	\$3,641,745.76	\$11,969.06	\$13,843.39	\$36.04	15.66%
Low (Approx. 25 % below average value)	\$2,750,000.00	\$9,227.35	\$10,677.38	\$27.89	15.71%

Average Increase:

\$36.04
per week

15.66%
per week

* The calculations reflect the average across our sample properties in each of these towns, including the average valuation, rates increase and actual rates. We have included these rateable property types as an example. You can see the impact on your property using the rates calculator on Council's website: www.rangitikei.govt.nz/rates

2025 KEY MILESTONES AND TARGETS

Ngā Whāinga matua o 2025

Most of the services we provide happen quietly and consistently throughout the year, but there are some key milestones and targets that we think you might be interested in knowing about. The following is a list of some of the things that your rates went towards achieving in 2025.



ENABLING GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

- Finalised Rangitikei Tomorrow, Council's Economic Development Strategy. Implementation of this will focus on three key priorities; establishing Rangitikei as a diverse economy, ensuring the district is economically vibrant, supporting our local businesses to be healthy and sustainable.
- Successfully received a plan stop exemption from the Government for us to progress a plan change focused on urban growth. Proposed Plan Change 3 - Urban Growth is now out for consultation. Read more and make a submission at www.rangitikei.govt.nz/ppc3

IMPROVING ESSENTIAL SERVICES

- Implemented a new roading maintenance contract with Downer NZ, designed to deliver greater efficiency, consistency, and value for ratepayers across the district's extensive roading network.
- Completed a four-month trial of Marton's new bore water and nanofiltration system, marking a major milestone towards a more resilient drinking water supply for Marton residents. More info on page 13 about this project.
- Diverted 1,200 tonnes of waste away from the landfill, supporting more sustainable waste management across Rangitikei.
- Introduced a community mobile recycling trailer available for community events to reduce pressure on our landfill.
- New roof design for the Marton Swim Centre signed off, and we have gone out for tender to find a contractor to complete this work.





Marton Market Day



First set of streetlight flags to be on show - Armistice Day Flags.

SUPPORTING COMMUNITY VIBRANCY AND PARTICIPATION

- Awarded \$77k in funding to local community events and creative initiatives in 2025
- Introduced a streetlight flag system in all main towns, improving local identity and town centre vibrancy for commuters on SH1.
- Rangitikei Aotearoa (Council's place-based tourism brand) delivered another year of successful district-wide events such as Market Day and Harvest Festival, helping attract visitors and boost the local economy.
- Relocated the #YHQ Youth Hub to Marton Memorial Hall to meet growing demand, make better use of an existing Council facility, and support youth development.
- Introduced a new online booking system for Te Matapihi - the Bulls Community Hub, making it faster and easier for community groups to access this premium location for events and meetings.
- A clean, on-time independent audit of the 2025 Annual Report, providing assurance that council funds are being managed responsibly.

STRONG GOVERNANCE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE

- Delivered a successful Local Government Election, achieving a 49.6% voter turnout – the highest in at least the last three elections.
- Our fantastic customer experience team responded to a total of 12,930 calls, averaging 1,175 inbound calls per month.
- They actioned 4,810 service requests, helping resolve issues and maintain everyday services across the district.



Local Government Election 2025 promotion



Customer Experience - Marton Head Office

WHAT IS AN ANNUAL REPORT?



An Annual Report is a formal record (that is audited) on what we achieved compared to the Long Term Plan (not Annual Plan) for a particular financial year. The Long Term Plan says this is what we will do - the Annual Report says this is what we did.



ARE YOU PREPARED?

HOUSEHOLD EMERGENCY CHECKLIST

Food and water for 5+ days

- Water (at least 3L per person per day) for drinking
- Water for washing and cooking
- Non-perishable food (canned or dried)
- A primus or gas bbq to cook on
- A can opener

Emergency supplies

- First aid kit and medications
- Wind and waterproof clothing along with strong outdoor shoes
- Face masks
- Pet supplies
- Torch with spare batteries
- Emergency toilet - toilet paper and rubbish bag

Emergency grab bag

Everyone in the house should have a packed bag in an easily accessible place which includes:

- Emergency water and easy to carry food
- Extra supplies of dietary requirements
- Formula, food, and nappies for young children
- First aid kit and medications
- Hearing aids with spare batteries, glasses, and mobility aids
- Face masks
- Toiletries- towel, soap, toothbrush, sanitary items, toilet paper etc
- Change of clothes
- Pet supplies
- Torch with spare batteries
- Important documents such as:
 - Identification- birth certificate, passport, drivers license etc
 - Precious family photos
 - Financial- insurance and mortgage documents

For more information:
0800 422 522 | [f rangitikeidc](https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/civildefence)
www.rangitikei.govt.nz/civildefence
www.getthru.govt.nz



RANGITĪKEI
DISTRICT COUNCIL

AN UPDATE ON KEY PROJECTS

Te haerenga o ngā mahi matua

Across the district, Council is working on a range of projects – some led by us, others shaped and driven by community groups. Below is an update on where things are at, what we've heard from the community so far, and what's next:

TAIHAPE

Taihape Wastewater Network

Towards the end of 2025 and into January 2026, we completed investigations of the Taihape wastewater network. This project is looking to improve the efficiency of the Taihape wastewater plant.

Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand

Council has completed investigation and concept design work, with \$1 million set aside for seismic strengthening. The project is progressing as a community-led restoration, with the Taihape Grandstand Restoration Group meeting in January 2026 to discuss scope options (including beneath the grandstand), compliance requirements, and funding opportunities.

Taihape Town Hall and Library Redevelopment

This project is progressing through detailed design following Council's confirmation of the preferred "rebuild" option in April 2025. Staff are currently considering implications of recent changes to Earthquake Prone Building legislation. Project completion is targeted for 2028.

Papakai Park and Hautapu River Bridges

New bridges and walking trails have reconnected parks along the Hautapu River – the latest bridge was opened in January 2026. This is a community-led project by Friends of Taihape, with support from Council.

MARTON

Marion Offices and Community Hub

We are progressing the detailed design phase of a new integrated office and community hub in Marton to replace ageing facilities.

Marion Water Supply Strategy

Testing of Marton's proposed new nanofiltration system was completed in December 2025. Council now needs to make a decision on the next steps.

Marion netball courts – Community-led project.

In November 2025, this project was confirmed as a community-led initiative, with Rangitikei Netball taking the lead. Council has agreed to contribute \$50,000 toward resurfacing. Plexipave has been approved as the preferred contractor (subject to agreements being signed), with resurfacing planned for October/November 2026. Netball will use two courts this season, with all courts planned to be ready for the 2027 season.

Marion Streetscape

In December 2025, we asked you what you thought about our proposal to refresh Marton's main street. You told us there are definitely improvements that need to be made to Marton's main street, but you don't want this project to get in the way of progressing other key projects.

Marion Swim Centre

We are now working through a list of potential construction organisations to complete this work. Reopening the facility as soon as possible is a priority.

Rangitikei Emergency Operations Centre

A dedicated Emergency Operations Centre is being constructed to strengthen civil defence and emergency response capability. The new Rangitikei Emergency Operations Centre will be on the same site as Council's Marton office. We expect construction to begin in 2026, subject to consent approval.

WHOLE OF DISTRICT

Central Districts Water

This is the new council-controlled organisation being established by Horowhenua, Palmerston North, and Rangitikei councils to manage three waters services. Now that the shareholder committee has been established, their first role is to select the Board. All three councils are planning for Central Districts Water to be operational by July 2027. Ratepayers can expect their first bill from Central Districts Water in 2028.

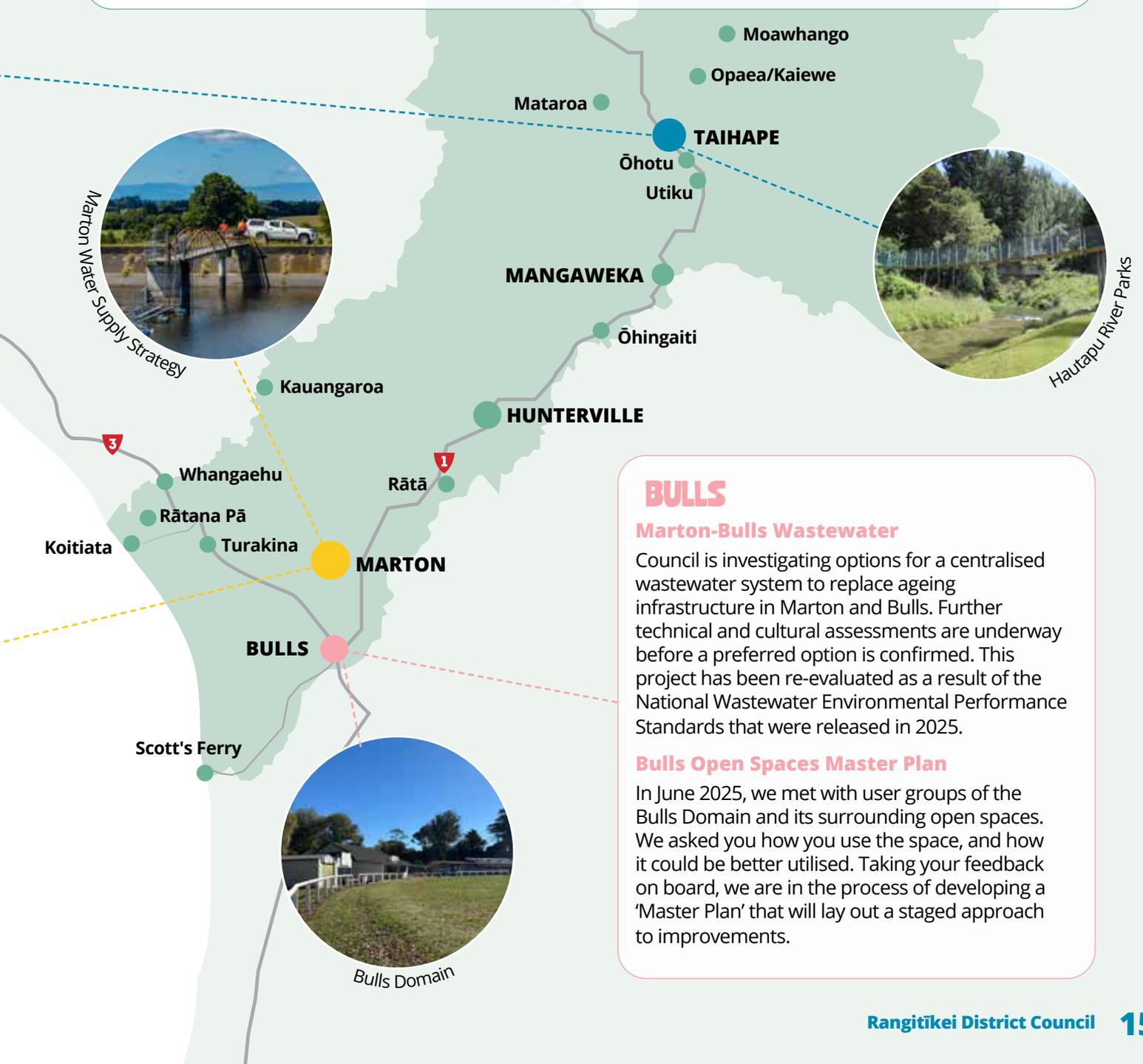
Kerbside Recycling

This was a key choice in our Long Term Plan 2024–34 consultation due to Government requirements at the time for councils to introduce standardised kerbside recycling services nationwide by 2028. Since then, new legislation has removed that

requirement. As a result, Council has paused any further spending or implementation work. We will revisit this as part of next year's Long Term Plan consultation, as it directly affects the level of service provided to ratepayers.

Storm Recovery

The Valentine's Weekend weather event caused significant damage across the district. While the storm itself passed quickly, recovery takes much longer. Ongoing repairs to roads and infrastructure have created unexpected costs that Council must carefully manage alongside essential services and planned investment. Council may need to consider options for resilience funding in the future.



BULLS

Marton-Bulls Wastewater

Council is investigating options for a centralised wastewater system to replace ageing infrastructure in Marton and Bulls. Further technical and cultural assessments are underway before a preferred option is confirmed. This project has been re-evaluated as a result of the National Wastewater Environmental Performance Standards that were released in 2025.

Bulls Open Spaces Master Plan

In June 2025, we met with user groups of the Bulls Domain and its surrounding open spaces. We asked you how you use the space, and how it could be better utilised. Taking your feedback on board, we are in the process of developing a 'Master Plan' that will lay out a staged approach to improvements.

WHAT'S COMING UP IN 2026/27

He aha ngā mahi e whai ake nei hei te 2026/27

KŌRERO MAI

We need to receive your feedback by 5pm on Friday 17 April 2026

In 2026/27, our focus is on maintaining essential infrastructure, meeting new regulatory requirements, and continuing priority community projects.

For more on what each of these activities covers (including levels of service), see our Annual Plan 2026/27 supporting information.



COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

- Long term plan 2027-2037
- Plan Change 3 – Urban Growth
- Dog control Bylaw, Dog control and owner responsibility policy



PARKS AND RESERVES

- Replace old parks and reserves equipment
- Invest in parks, open spaces, and play parks in alignment with the Parks, Open Spaces, and Sporting Facilities Strategy
- Upgrade existing playground equipment
- Installation of cremation walls



COMMUNITY

- Implement renovation, and improvements as per the Property Review and Maintenance Schedule 2023 (and the Better Off Housing Business Case)
- Marton Offices and Library development project
- Taihape Hall and Library project
- Deliver Marton Market Day and Marton Harvest Festival
- Support wellbeing by providing or administering funding for organisations, events, and individuals
- Create, facilitate and contribute to collaborative and community led partnerships
- Continue to celebrate and develop our cultural identity, heritage, and history by promoting and showcasing the district's history and culture
- Continue to facilitate services that support youth development such as programme delivery, #YHQ, The Lobby and the Youth Council.
- Continue to build the capacity and capability of emergency management response teams and volunteers



REGULATORY SERVICES

- Implementation of the Building (earthquake-prone buildings) Amendment Act
- Resource Management Act reform
- Emergency Operations Centre



RUBBISH & RECYCLING

- Taihape Waste Transfer Station expansion.



WASTEWATER

- Resource consent work for Marton, Bulls and Taihape
- Mangaweka treatment plant renewal
- Taihape terminal pump station upgrade
- Treatment plant upgrades for Bulls, Marton and Hunterville



STORMWATER

- Rātana stormwater upgrade
- Renewals



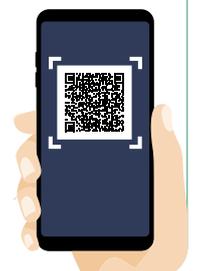
WATER SUPPLY

- Water Supply Reticulation Renewals Calico Line treatment upgrade
- Treatment Plant upgrades to comply with the new Quality Assurance Rules
- Marton Water Supply

KŌRERO MAI - HAVE YOUR SAY

If you could give one piece of advice to Council as it finalises the 2026/27 Annual Plan, what would it be?

Make a submission by scanning the QR code and filling in our online form →



KŌRERO MAI

We need to receive your feedback by 5pm on Friday 17 April 2026

HOW REFORM COULD IMPACT US

Ngā piki me ngā heke o ngā whakahoutanga

Government reform may change how some council services are planned, delivered, or governed in the future. While some details are still unclear, here's what we know so far.

WHAT WE KNOW

- Water reform is moving ahead through new regional arrangements – Rangitikei is developing a shared arrangement, Central Districts Water, with Palmerston North City Council and Horowhenua District Council.
- Resource Management Act (RMA) reform will replace the current RMA with new two-Act system (i.e. the Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill), which will change how land use and environmental decisions are made.
- There is increasing discussion nationally about the role, structure, and funding of councils, including how councils work together regionally.

WHAT WE DON'T KNOW YET

- How quickly changes will be implemented
- How costs will be shared between councils and central government
- What final governance arrangements will look like

WHAT THIS COULD MEAN FOR RANGITIKEI

- Some services may be delivered differently in future
- It will remain important that Rangitikei local voice is heard in regional and national decisions

& GO

KŌRERO MAI - HAVE YOUR SAY

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

What does 'local decision-making' mean to you?

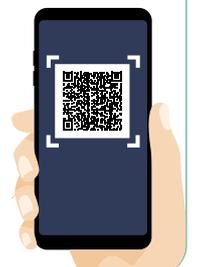
- Town/community
(Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)
- The wider district
(Decisions are made by people representing the whole Rangitikei district, covering several towns and communities)
- The wider region
(Decisions are made by people representing the whole Horizons region)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you? (Select up to two)

- Keeping strong local decision-making
- Lower long-term costs
- Better quality infrastructure and services
- Faster decision-making
- Greater resilience in emergencies

Anything else you'd like to add about government reform?

Make a submission by scanning the QR code and filling in our online form →



WHAT ELSE WE'RE CONSULTING ON

He uiuinga anō

As well as asking for your feedback on what we are proposing to do for this Annual Plan, we are also wanting your feedback on some changes we've made to two of our core financial policies, and the schedule of fees and charges for 2026/27.

REVENUE AND FINANCING POLICY

WHO PAYS FOR WHAT?

Every service Council provides must be paid for. The Revenue and Financing Policy explains how Rangitikei District Council funds its services and activities, and how costs are shared between its different funding mechanisms:

- **General rates** are paid by all ratepayers and are used to fund services that benefit the whole community, such as roads, parks, and libraries.
- **Targeted rates** are paid by specific properties or areas and are used to fund services that benefit those properties directly, such as local infrastructure.
- **User fees and charges** are paid by the people who use a particular service, such as building consents, hall hire or event bookings.
- **Subsidies and grants** are funding Council receives from the Government or other organisations to help pay for specific projects or services, reducing the amount that needs to be funded through rates.
- **Other funding sources** include income such as interest, rental income from community houses, or asset sales.

All councils in Aotearoa New Zealand have a Revenue and Financing Policy, but the funding sources that they have available and the way they split costs may differ.

HOW DOES RANGITIKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL DECIDE WHO PAYS?

When deciding how to fund each activity, we consider;

- who benefits from the service (all ratepayers, a small group, or an individual),
- how long those benefits last (a point in time like a consent, or ongoing like a connection to wastewater pipes),
- who creates the need for the service, and
- the impact of the service on rates and household affordability – how much it costs.

WHAT IS CHANGING?

Most of the Policy's wording is unchanged, and the proposed changes do not introduce any new charges or services.

The proposed changes are about accurately reflecting how some activities are funded and how Council shares costs across different funding tools.

The size of the pie isn't changing; we're proposing tweaks to how it is sliced.

Some key proposals include:

- **Community housing:** More funding from rates, recognising that rental income does not fully cover costs and the service provides social benefit.
- **Parks and reserves (domains):** Small increase in user fees for specific events, while most costs remain rate-funded.
- **Resource consents:** Slightly more funding from rates.
- **Civil defence:** Moving from general rates to a targeted rate to ensure stable, reliable funding.



You can review all proposed changes in the supporting information of this consultation at www.rangitikei.govt.nz/wheres-annualplan-andco



SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES

Council charges fees when a service is used by an individual or a specific group, rather than the whole community.

For example:

- Parks and reserves are funded by rates because everyone benefits. But if a group books a park for a private event or winter sport, they pay a fee.
- Building consents are paid for by the person applying, because they are the main beneficiary.

Each year, Council reviews its fees and charges.

Most proposed changes for 2026/27 are a 2.6% increase to keep up with inflation.

In some cases, fees may change by more than inflation so Council can recover the actual cost of providing that service - especially where the benefit is mostly private.

& GO



You can review all proposed changes in the supporting information of this consultation at www.rangitikei.govt.nz/wheres-annualplan-andco

RATES REMISSION POLICY

WHEN CAN RATES BE REDUCED?

The Rates Remission Policy explains when Council may reduce all or part of someone's rates.

This applies in specific situations, such as:

- Financial hardship
- Exceptional circumstances
- Supporting community organisations
- Encouraging housing development

Remissions are not automatic. People must apply and meet clear specified criteria.

& GO



You can review all proposed changes in the supporting information of this consultation at www.rangitikei.govt.nz/wheres-annualplan-andco

WHAT CHANGES ARE PROPOSED?

- **Community and sporting organisations:** Clearer eligibility rules and adjusted remission levels, including where liquor licenses are held.
- **Water leak remission (new category):** A proposed remission for unusually high water bills caused by internal leaks.
- **Residential development incentives:** Clearer separation between new homes and subdivision remissions.
- **Subdivision remissions:** Clearer time limits and eligibility rules for unsold sections.
- **Exceptional cases:** Clarification of how Council can consider situations not covered elsewhere.



KŌRERO MAI - HAVE YOUR SAY

Our projected average rates increase for 2026/27 is 6.4%

KŌRERO MAI

We need to receive your feedback by 5pm on Friday 17 April 2026

YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS

Some decisions are already set through the Long Term Plan 2024-34. Others can still be influenced.

The feedback you provide will help your councillors and Mayor decide:

1. Whether our limited funding is being focused in the right places.
2. Whether our proposed rates increase and how we charge for services feels fair and affordable.

If you don't provide feedback, **decisions will still be made** – just without your input.

So, kōrero mai – have your say!

WHAT WE'RE ASKING YOU TO DO

1

Read the sections that matter most to you:

- Rates increase for 2026/27 = page 8
- Local Government Reform = page 18
- Revenue and Financing Policy = page 19
- Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges = page 20
- Rates Remission Policy = page 20

2

Tell us what you support, what concerns you, and what you think is missing:

- Scan the QR Code below to fill in the online submission form
- Pick up a submission form our head office in Marton or from your local community hub

3

Submit your feedback:

- Online
- In person at one of our Community hubs in Taihape, Marton or Bulls
- Email us

IT'S EASY TO MAKE A SUBMISSION

Anyone can make a submission on this Consultation Document by filling out the form online at: www.rangitikei.govt.nz/wheres-annualplan-andco

Submission forms are available from:

- Marton Head Office
- Marton Community Hub
- Te Matapihi - Bulls Community Hub
- Taihape Community Hub

Freepost to:

Rangitikei District Council - 172050
Private Bag 1102, Marton, 4741

Email: submissions@rangitikei.govt.nz

When you spot a QR code in this document, just open your camera and hold it over the QR code, a link will pop up, click on it and it will take you to our online submission form.



CONSULTATION MILESTONES

Ngā Kōrero Whakahiato

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?



CONSULTATION OPEN

Monday 16th March 2026

This is your opportunity to provide feedback for Council to consider.



CONSULTATION CLOSED

5pm Friday 17 April 2026

Please provide feedback before this date to ensure it is considered.



HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS

Early May 2026

You will be given the opportunity to speak to Elected Members directly about your feedback (If you would like this opportunity, please note this on your submission form).



DELIBERATIONS AND DECISION

Thursday 21 May 2026

This is where Elected Members consider all feedback provided during consultation and discuss whether any changes need to be made to the proposed documents before they are adopted and put into action.



ADOPTION

By 30 June 2026

Everything we are consulting on: The Annual Plan 2026/27, Rates Remission Policy, Revenue and Financing Policy and Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges will be adopted by Council before the new financial year.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

To find more information on any part of this process, or this document, you can:



Visit our website

www.rangitikei.govt.nz/wheres-annualplan-andco



Contact our Council staff by calling

0800 422 522 or contact one of our Councillors



Email us at info@rangitikei.govt.nz



KŌRERO MAI

We need to receive your feedback by 5pm on Friday 17 April 2026



YOUR DECISION MAKERS - ELECTED MEMBERS

Ngā Kaikaunihera

This is your Rangitīkei District Council. You've elected representatives from across Rangitīkei to work alongside our community as we move towards making this place home.

We want to hear from you throughout this process. Get in touch with your local elected member if you would like to have a chat about this document, or any of our projects.



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andy.watson@rangitikei.govt.nz



Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson ●
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Councillor Diana Baird ●
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Councillor Jeff Wong ●
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Councillor Alan Buckendahl ●
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- Central Ward
- Northern Ward
- Southern Ward
- Tiikeitia ki Tai (Coastal) Ward
- Tiikeitia ki Uta (Inland) Ward

Scan the QR Code to read more about our Councillors →





WHERE'S IT @ RANGITIKEI

Tirohanga Whakamua
Look to the future

info@rangitikei.govt.nz
www.rangitikei.govt.nz