

**WHERE'S
ANNUAL PLAN & GO
RANGITĪKEI?**



COLLATED SUBMISSIONS



RANGITĪKEI
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Contents – Submissions received for Annual Plan 2026/27, Proposed Fees and Charges 2026/27, Amended Revenue and Finance Policy and Draft Rates Remission Policy

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WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 30 March 2026 11:07 AM

Creation Time: April 7, 2026 1:41 PM

Ingoa/Name:

Makere Raktairi

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Facebook

Which statement best reflects your view?

Too high, even if it means delaying projects or reducing services

Why did you choose this option?

Cost of living is way too high

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

Consider doing things that the town NEEDS not WANTS

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

Town/community (Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Keeping strong local decision-making

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

N/A

Which principle matters most to you?

Keeping rates predictable year to year

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Fees should be subsidised to keep them affordable.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

No

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Why/why not?

Cost of living is high so making it higher will put families in a hard position

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 30 March 2026 12:19 PM

Creation Time: April 7, 2026 1:41 PM

Ingoa/Name:

Samantha Scott

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Facebook

Which statement best reflects your view?

Too high, even if it means delaying projects or reducing services

Why did you choose this option?

I'm only eating twice a day now. I rarely go out except for shopping. Even with a rates discount living is hard. More and more people are becoming homeless.

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

Ratepayers cannot keep paying more and more money, we simply don't have it.

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

The wider district (Decisions are made by people representing the whole Rangitikei District, covering several towns and communities)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Lower long-term costs

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

Which principle matters most to you?

Keeping rates predictable year to year

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

People are sliding into poverty. Personally I don't care about a water feature at the village green, I need to be able to eat and heat my home.

Which statement best reflects your view?

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

I know one lady considering selling her home and moving into a campervan permanently as she can barely afford to live on her one wage, she doesn't qualify for the rebate.

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

Single people living alone/with children paying all their bills.

Victims of domestic violence leaving dangerous situations.

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

Just that it irks a lot of people watching people get pay rises who don't even need them and we're out here doing it hard as hell.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 30 March 2026 1:35 PM

Creation Time: April 7, 2026 1:41 PM

Ingoa/Name:

Kelsey Barnaby

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Facebook

Which statement best reflects your view?

Too high, even if it means delaying projects or reducing services

Why did you choose this option?

Families are already struggling to make ends meet. This will just put more pressure on the community and will further limit local spending. It's already hard trying to survive with the fuel crisis.

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

Postpone for another couple years.

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

Town/community (Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Keeping strong local decision-making, Lower long-term costs

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

With the new water bill coming out. Does that mean the rates will take water maintenance off that bill...

Which principle matters most to you?

Keeping rates predictable year to year

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

No

Why/why not?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Fees should be subsidised to keep them affordable.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Water fees. The water has always been un drinkable even with filters installed.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

No

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 30 March 2026 3:14 PM

Creation Time: April 7, 2026 1:41 PM

Ingoa/Name:

Steph boerboom

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Facebook

Which statement best reflects your view?

Too high, even if it means delaying projects or reducing services

Why did you choose this option?

Because I cannot afford it, that means many others cant too. Living costs have gone up so much that households are struggling, I don't want to chise between late psyment fees or food fir my family

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

Cut your spending like we all are at home, buying morning teas, cut back on fuel costs, upgrades that are unnecessary. Etc

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

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

The wider district (Decisions are made by people representing the whole Rangitīkei District, covering several towns and communities)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Lower long-term costs, Faster decision-making, Greater resilience in emergencies

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

At this point I want others making decisions ad I don't think RDC make hood decisions, e.g. pools

Which principle matters most to you?

Keeping rates predictable year to year

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Depends on the service.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Any at all with how much we already pay

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Why/why not?

I fudnt understand it well

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

Please please actually take real prople and real views of the people into consideration. We are all finding hard times at the moment, cutting costs where possible. Please try to do the same.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 30 March 2026 6:00 PM

Creation Time: April 7, 2026 1:41 PM

Ingoa/Name:

Nikita Tweeddale

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Facebook

Which statement best reflects your view?

Too high, even if it means delaying projects or reducing services

Why did you choose this option?

Because the cost of living for everyone is too high. Everything is going up in price and it is totally unfair to raise taxes... because that's pretty much what rates are. And I don't think the rate rise has been justified. Perhaps make some cuts to bring your costs down.

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

Listen to the people in your district. And stop concentrating on Marton. Marton is off Statehighway One, you would be better to invest in the areas that are on the main highway of New Zealand that Marton.

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

Town/community (Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Lower long-term costs

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

Which principle matters most to you?

People who benefit most should pay more

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

No

Why/why not?

Because, i fail to see any significant changes in the past 5 years. Yes costs are rising but they are for everyone else too and council make decisions on things without consulting people properly... i think the council needs to read the room. Stop withh the rate rises.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Depends on the service.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Yeah. That rates are based on my house QV and I barely use anything that the council pays for.

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

No

Why/why not?

As I've said previously. I don't like the cost increase. I prefer \$20 a week in my pocket than the councils.

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 30 March 2026 6:19 PM

Creation Time: April 7, 2026 1:41 PM

Ingoa/Name:

Paul

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Facebook

Which statement best reflects your view?

Acceptable to maintain essential services

Why did you choose this option?

Because of inflation. expecting rates to stay the same is simply not possible when rising costs. I am also struggling to afford rates as they are. I would like to see a rates rise higher on farm land. I see logging trucks destroying roads all over the place and would like to see a lower rate increase on residential and more on pine forests to cover the costs of the damage. Along with stock trucks etc.

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

Get the drinking water done its been to long! its hard to pay rates when such a vital service can not be delivered properly. time frames are a constant disappointment with this council.

Are there reserves or areas being maintained that are not being used?

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

Town/community (Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Lower long-term costs, Better quality infrastructure and services, Faster decision-making

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

They would not have to step in if the councils could get a good result. And councils could deliver in a timely manner. We do need financial support for projects.

Which principle matters most to you?

People who benefit most should pay more

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Yes

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Why/why not?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Fees should generally recover the full cost of providing a service where the service is used by an individual or identifiable group.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

Not sure what this is

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

Just get something done so we can finally see a result in the water or the pool. high rates and low return is defining this council. Revitalizing the town is something we cant afford. and a vanity project of the mayor?

Sell or remove the broken buildings and allow a property developer to make the site into something use full.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 30 March 2026 6:25 PM

Creation Time: April 7, 2026 1:41 PM

Ingoa/Name:

Melissa karaynidis

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Facebook

Which statement best reflects your view?

Too high, even if it means delaying projects or reducing services

Why did you choose this option?

Many people are struggling financially, this increase would put too much pressure and stress on many community members.

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

Get rid of ALL unnecessary costs. Focus on the water, reading, cemeteries, emergency services etc. All luxury airy fairy expenses need to go for now.

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

Town/community (Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Lower long-term costs

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

Which principle matters most to you?

People who benefit most should pay more

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

No

Why/why not?

The rise in rates is unacceptable at this time. Cut unnecessary services.

Which statement best reflects your view?

Depends on the service.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 30 March 2026 8:59 PM

Creation Time: April 7, 2026 1:41 PM

Ingoa/Name:

Dave herdson

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITĪKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Website, Facebook

Which statement best reflects your view?

Too high, even if it means delaying projects or reducing services

Why did you choose this option?

The % increase is way to high considering all the over runs and projects the council is pushing for. Combined with the increases the rdc are already getting with rate increases

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

Reduce it by 10% compared to 2025

Don't let an unqualified mayor make decisions for the area

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

The wider district (Decisions are made by people representing the whole Rangitīkei District, covering several towns and communities)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Lower long-term costs

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

Which principle matters most to you?

Keeping rates predictable year to year

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

No

Why/why not?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Fees should generally recover the full cost of providing a service where the service is used by an individual or identifiable group.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

No

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 31 March 2026 7:50 AM

Creation Time: April 7, 2026 1:41 PM

Ingoa/Name:

Kayla

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Facebook

Which statement best reflects your view?

Too high, even if it means delaying projects or reducing services

Why did you choose this option?

The world is in the middle of a huge financial war. People can hardly afford to buy petrol to get to work and buy groceries. Having new council buildings and a new main street is the last thing we need. Use the existing rates to fix the water and the pool. Do not expect people to keep up with this ridiculous increase in rates each year. People's salaries don't even increase that much every year.

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

Stick to maintaining and fixing what already exists rather than building new unnecessary things. For example the pool and water supply

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

Town/community (Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Lower long-term costs

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

Which principle matters most to you?

People who benefit most should pay more

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Fees should generally recover the full cost of providing a service where the service is used by an individual or identifiable group.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

I think everyone should pay rates, depending on the value of their home, whether wealthy or on the benefit. I think the council should just stop putting the rates up so much every year because in general people that live in Martons' salaries don't increase at the same rate as the cost of living and council rates rise

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

The world is still trying to recover from COVID and now there is a war on. Keep spending and new projects to a minimum. Demolish the empty, derelict buildings in the town centre and let private investors build housing apartments there. Don't worry about making the main street and paving pretty when the buildings are all falling apart. Don't worry about a new council building, sort out what already exists and brings down the value of everything before trying to have urban intensification growth centers and flash council buildings as if this is Auckland. Sort out the basic amenities in the town like the pool and drinking water before taking on new projects that are going to cost the residents money that they don't have

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 1 April 2026 2:30 PM

Creation Time: April 7, 2026 1:41 PM

Ingoa/Name:

Belinda Howard

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Chapters Bookshop (NZ)

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Facebook

Which statement best reflects your view?

Why did you choose this option?

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

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

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

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

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

Which principle matters most to you?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Why/why not?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

Annual Plan submission.docx, 0.02MB

Anything else?

Please see attached document

Annual Plan submission

Climate Change Resilience

I understand that Rangitikei District Council does not undertake any proactive maintenance of its stormwater pipe network.

I enquired how often the pipes were flushed to remove debris and buildup, and was told:

“There is no regular inspection done on the network, however we do regular inspections of known problem areas prior to a weather event.

“We will check other areas as and when they are brought to our attention if they are problematic for residents.”

It seems the approach is to wait until a pipe becomes completely blocked and water backs up causing flooding, then say “Oops” and do something – too late for the property owner who has sustained preventable flood damage.

It’s not clear what “inspections” are done prior to weather events, as my understanding is that to check the state of a pipe, cameras need to be put into the network to see whether or not they are blocked.

I have read through the draft Annual Plan and can see no indication that proactive maintenance of the stormwater pipe network is part of the plan. It appears that while renewing parts of the network is planned, looking after the rest of the network is not on the agenda.

Flooding is probably the major hazard in our urban areas. Given the projected increase in both frequency and severity of heavy rain events for our district as a result of climate change, it would seem that a proactive approach, ensuring that the pipe network is capable of carrying away stormwater, would be sensible. It should save money in the long term, and would also reduce the risk of flood damage for residents and businesses.

Please note I am NOT referring to the grates that cover the intakes to the stormwater network – I am referring to the pipes that carry the water away (or don’t, if they are blocked).

Consultation

I have noticed that when information sessions, public meetings etc around consultations are planned, they are almost always held during working hours. While this might mean Rangitikei District Council doesn't have to pay overtime to staff, it also actively excludes anyone who has work or business commitments.

The information sessions for PPC3 were held exclusively during work hours. The sessions for this Annual Plan consultation were also held during work hours.

Does Rangitikei District Council think that people who work don't have valid ideas and questions? Holding sessions exclusively during work hours almost guarantees that most of the engagement and feedback you get will be from older, retired people. You are not connecting with the 25-65 demographic, which could explain why the level of submissions is low. I spent several years working in a communications/community engagement role for a district council, and there is SO MUCH more you could be doing to engage the community. While the social media game has significantly improved in the past couple of years, there is plenty more that could be done to meet people when and where they are, instead of expecting them to come to you at inconvenient times.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 3 April 2026 8:58 AM

Creation Time: April 7, 2026 1:41 PM

Ingoa/Name:

Samantha

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

How did you hear about this consultation?

Facebook

Which statement best reflects your view?

Too high, even if it means delaying projects or reducing services

Why did you choose this option?

to provide my feedback on the 2026/27 Annual Plan. While I acknowledge the Council's efforts to reduce the forecast increase from 10.75% to 6.4%, I believe there is still significant room to eliminate "wasteful spending" on non-essential projects to further ease the burden on ratepayers.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

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

strongly urge the Council to cease all "beautification" and "placemaking" projects for the 2026/27 financial year. Example of Waste: In 2025, funds were spent on painting "activities" on the footpaths in Bulls. These are objectively sub-par in quality and provided almost no long-term utility to the community.

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

Town/community (Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Lower long-term costs

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

Which principle matters most to you?

Keeping rates predictable year to year

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

Revenue and Financing Policy should include stricter 'Return on Investment' criteria for community projects. If a project like the Bulls footpath paintings cannot demonstrate a clear community or economic benefit, it should not be funded by general rates

Which statement best reflects your view?

Fees should generally recover the full cost of providing a service where the service is used by an individual or identifiable group.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

No

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Why/why not?

As a homeowner with a mortgage and standard income, I do not qualify for any of the Council's Rates Remission or Rebate schemes. I am a 'full-payer' with zero spare income after meeting my basic financial obligations.

If the Council has enough money to spend on "sub-par" paintings in Bulls, they have enough money to lower the overall rate increase for everyone.

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

discretionary spending, including the Creative Communities Scheme and town center 'revitalisation' budgets, be slashed and reallocated to core services to reduce the overall 6.4% burden on the households that are actually funding this district

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

The current economic climate is untenable for ratepayers. Between the sharp rise in mortgage interest rates and external inflationary shocks—such as the surge in fuel prices driven by the conflict in Iran—households have no 'ventilation' left in their budgets. My current rates and water bill already total \$5,000 per year; further increase is not just an inconvenience, it is an act of financial negligence by the Council

Until the Council can prove it has exhausted all internal cost-cutting measures and stripped its operations back to the absolute basics, any rates increase should be rejected.

As for salaries:

It is unacceptable that while ratepayers are facing a 6.4% increase, the Mayor and Councillors have recently received pay increases of approximately 6.5% to 6.7% For someone paying \$5k in rates/water, a 6.4% increase is roughly an extra \$320 a year. For the Mayor, a 6.46% increase is an extra \$8,398 a year

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 5 April 2026 5:41 PM

Creation Time: April 7, 2026 1:41 PM

Ingoa/Name:

Jason Port

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Website

Which statement best reflects your view?

Acceptable to maintain essential services

Why did you choose this option?

We understand that everyone including local government are facing increased costs, and really appreciate the work council has done to reduce the increase to 6.4%, that's a lot more palatable than 10.75%.

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

Keep a close eye on costs, and ensure you manage to operate within your means, we all have to find savings.

I do note though, is it necessary for council staff to use council vehicles if they live outside of the district, as I have noticed an animal control vehicle daily heading towards fielding and Palmerston North. With fuel as high as it is, maybe it's time to try and find efficiencies in the vehicle fleet and its use. Also, with relation to the Marton Swim Centre, there is a clear message in the community that the cost to replace the roof is extreme and should be put on ice, and needs to be closely looked at. \$6 million dollars is ridiculous for a roof.

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

The wider district (Decisions are made by people representing the whole Rangitikei District, covering several towns and communities)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Keeping strong local decision-making, Lower long-term costs, Better quality infrastructure and services

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

Which principle matters most to you?

Costs should be shared broadly to keep services affordable

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Yes

Why/why not?

It covers everything in a clear and easy to understand way.

Which statement best reflects your view?

Depends on the service.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Yes

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 5 April 2026 6:47 PM

Creation Time: April 7, 2026 1:41 PM

Ingoa/Name:

Helen Koster

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

Please tick this box if you would like to speak to your submission at the Council Hearings on early May 2025. Someone will contact you to confirm this.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Website

Which statement best reflects your view?

Too high, even if it means delaying projects or reducing services

Why did you choose this option?

Water is an essential service. It is essential for life. Since the first time I purchased property in Marton (2022 at) until now I can say that the water is not drinkable or even acceptable to bath in. Irrespective of whether or not the water passes safety tests, I don't believe it is water that you put in the centre of the table at council meetings. I personally believe that council is in breach of its duty to provide drinkable water, irrespective of tests that show it is safe. For this reason I do not believe that council has any right to increase rates until such time that the water issue is resolved. To be honest, I believe that people have the right to refuse to pay their rates until such time that the issues is suitable resolved. I don't believe that council is meeting its legislative requirement.

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

WRT water, focus on key infrastructure that delivers results in the upcoming financial year.

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

The wider district (Decisions are made by people representing the whole Rangitikei District, covering several towns and communities)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Keeping strong local decision-making, Better quality infrastructure and services

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

There should be a ban on private/public partnerships within Councils around the country (currently happening in the Waikato region). I believe that Council should remain a public service with full transparency to its rate payers. In Albany, Ohio a private/public partnership has seen public money used for private entities and absent of disclosure to its rate payers. I would not approve of that in New Zealand.

Which principle matters most to you?

Costs should be shared broadly to keep services affordable

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Why/why not?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Fees should be subsidised to keep them affordable.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Services should be subsidised. In the building industry, this helps with presenting advantage/desire to undertake work in the region. Rangitikei needs to attract more people. The advantage would be collection of more rates once building works is complete. I am sure there are many other good examples.

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 6 April 2026 9:30 PM

Creation Time: April 7, 2026 1:41 PM

Ingoa/Name:

Charity

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

Yes

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Taihape Playground Group

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

Please tick this box if you would like to speak to your submission at the Council Hearings on early May 2025. Someone will contact you to confirm this.

How did you hear about this consultation?

Meeting

Which statement best reflects your view?

Unsure / need more information

Why did you choose this option?

I am the president of Taihape Playground Group and have already sent through submissions for toilets to be added to the LTP. We have seen the draft plans presented by the Grandstand committee and we are happy with the layout.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

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

Please remove the existing toilets. Our group would like council to pay for the toilets according to the draft on the Grandstand draft design.

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

Town/community (Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Faster decision-making

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

Which principle matters most to you?

Keeping rates predictable year to year

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Depends on the service.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 8 April 2026 09:22

Creation Time: April 8, 2026 4:57 PM

Ingoa/Name:

Taine Knight

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

Yes

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Utiku & Old Boys RFC

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Mail

Which statement best reflects your view?

Acceptable to maintain essential services

Why did you choose this option?

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

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Not sure

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

The wider district (Decisions are made by people representing the whole Rangitikei District, covering several towns and communities)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

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?

Which principle matters most to you?

Costs should be shared broadly to keep services affordable

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Depends on the service.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

funding is allocated in the 2026 Annual Plan budget for the new toilet facilities in the Taihape Grandstand as part of its upgrade to allow for use of the full green- space approved by Council for the new Taihape playground.

the old toilet block is dangerous for children to use, inadequate for the mobility challenged and the stalls are too small for general use. Allowing budget room for this necessary renewal of services to this end of the Park is essential for the success of the Playground project and contributes to the Community-wide focus of the Grandstand renewal.

quote p.16 of the Annual Plan Consultation document that has:

"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..."

And community

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 12 April 2026 17:41

Creation Time: April 16, 2026 4:02 PM

Ingoa/Name:

Jessica Torstonson

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

other: Word of mouth - it wasn't very visibly advertised.

Which statement best reflects your view?

Too high, even if it means delaying projects or reducing services

Why did you choose this option?

We already pay higher rates than anywhere in New Zealand. The projects being proposed, such as new council buildings and revamping the town centre are not essential, especially when we don't have a water supply that is safe - despite what the council tells us. Since moving to Marton, I have had constant dermatitis from using the water, and we purchase drinking water for our household. Because of the amount that we pay for services, I think that the public's opinion should be considered. But it seems like any complaints made, especially in a public forum such as Facebook, are met with snarky comments and little information by the person who handles the council's communication.

As a person who only lives in the Rangitikei region (myself and my husband work in the Manawatu and Whanganui regions respectively) I only really utilise a tiny portion of the services provided by the council.

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

We are all struggling, with the price of petrol, food, electricity and well... everything else. You're just making it harder for people by raising rates again and again. Since moving into Marton four and a half years ago, our rates have almost doubled. And we still can't drink the water.

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

Town/community (Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Lower long-term costs, Better quality infrastructure and services

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

I would like to add that the people representing local communities should have their finger on the pulse. In my experience, any complaints and observations are met with excuses,

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

vague information or of course, snarky Facebook posts from the RDC communications department.

Which principle matters most to you?

People who benefit most should pay more

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

I'm a big believer in user pays. For example, recycling and rubbish services provided by RDC - I use these and paying for that is fair. But paying for community housing and roading, we already pay into these with our tax, registrations and other charges.

Which statement best reflects your view?

Fees should generally recover the full cost of providing a service where the service is used by an individual or identifiable group.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

Maybe consider advertising these surveys more publicly.

Also, it would be great to be able to attend council meetings. Many rate payers don't have the ability to attend these during business hours. The (pointless) offer of allowing us to stream the meetings live is not a viable option.

I also find the attitude of the RDC communications team to be incredibly unprofessional.

I would love to see the public's submissions put to use, rather than them being just a gesture to give us the illusion you guys are listening to us.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 13 April 2026 17:04

Creation Time: April 16, 2026 4:02 PM

Ingoa/Name:

Alexander Owen-Cooper

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

Please tick this box if you would like to speak to your submission at the Council Hearings on early May 2025. Someone will contact you to confirm this.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Facebook

Which statement best reflects your view?

Acceptable to maintain essential services

Why did you choose this option?

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

Look into making upgrades to infrastructure in the communities that will make the largest difference. I would like to point out that the Bulls Domain is probably the busiest in the district. It is home of the Bulls Rugby and Sport Club. They currently 3 mens rugby team, a womans rugby team, 4 womans netball teams, 1 mens netball team and 5 junior rugby team. They also host many large events over the year, including an annual under 20's heartland competition, lower north island womans 10's competition and many more. The Field is currently in a rough state. The ground need worked up and releveling to ensure playability. The ground does not have any irrigation so become too hard to play on in dry spells. This increases the probability of injuries to players and also turns away teams from wanting to play other games on the field.

The Changing rooms are also run down and unsuitable of having mens and womans teams playing at the same time.

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

Town/community (Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Keeping strong local decision-making, Better quality infrastructure and services

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

Which principle matters most to you?

Keeping rates predictable year to year

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Yes

Why/why not?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Fees should generally recover the full cost of providing a service where the service is used by an individual or identifiable group.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Yes

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 14 April 2026 14:37

Creation Time: April 16, 2026 4:02 PM

Ingoa/Name:

Adina Foley

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

How did you hear about this consultation?

Website, Poster/Flyer

Which statement best reflects your view?

Too high, even if it means delaying projects or reducing services

Why did you choose this option?

Too little progress has been made with major capital projects. What did the rates actually pay for? Were the goals actually achieved that the Council set out to be reaching since the LTP started 2024?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

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

More transparency why so much work is delayed, more transparent regular reporting what hold ups are for major projects.

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

No

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

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?

Lower long-term costs, Better quality infrastructure and services, Faster decision-making

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

Local government should amalgamate much more to a level like regional council because combining neighbouring councils can reduce duplication, lower administrative costs, and make better use of public resources. Instead of multiple councils running separate back-office functions, planning systems, and leadership structures, a single larger authority can deliver services more efficiently and make more coordinated decisions about infrastructure, transport, and long-term regional growth. Amalgamation can also strengthen strategic planning by allowing councils to address shared challenges across wider communities rather than working in fragmented ways.

Which principle matters most to you?

Costs should be shared broadly to keep services affordable

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Fees should be subsidised to keep them affordable.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Yes

RECEIVED

09 APR 2026

SUBMISSION FORM

KÖRERO MAI

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

Have your say on 'Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitīkei?'

Kei whea rā te Māhere ā-tau i tēnei wā? Me hoki whakamuri, kia anga whakamua. Tēnā, tukuna mai tō kōrero.

Submissions close at 5pm Friday 17 April 2026.



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 or by completing this submission form.

Submission forms can be delivered to:

- **Marton Head Office**
46 High Street, Marton, 4710
- **Marton Community Hub**
31 High Street, Marton, 4710
- **Bulls Community Hub**
Te Matapihi, 4 Criterion Street, Bulls, 4818
- **Taihape Community Hub**
102 Hautapu Street (SH1), Taihape, 4720

Mailed freepost to:

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

Emailed to:

submissions@rangitikei.govt.nz

YOUR DETAILS

Name/Ingoa: Sarah Hale

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation? Yes No
(If yes, this confirms you have the authority to submit on the organisation's behalf)

Organisation/ Tōpūtanga (if applicable): _____

Address/Kāinga noho: _____

Email/ Īmēra: _____

Phone/Waea: _____

- Please tick this box if you would like to speak to your submission at the Council Hearings tentatively scheduled for 6 May 2026. Someone will contact you to confirm this.

Please note:

Submissions for Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitīkei? are public information and your name, organisation and submission will be made available to the public as part of deliberations. Your contact details will remain private.

Your submission will only be used for the purpose of the 'Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitīkei?' process and will be held by Rangitīkei District Council at 46 High St, Marton 4710. You may access the information and request its correction, if required.

How did you hear about this consultation?

- Newspaper Website Facebook Other
 Mail Meeting Poster/Flyer _____

ANNUAL PLAN 2026/27

Read more on page 8 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation. document

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?

my current annual year rates figure x 6.4% ÷ the average household weekly cost for delivery of essential services. However I pay the same amount of rates as other areas of Marton and

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

my street still has big open stormwater drain running through it, no ^{kerb} curb & channel on one side of the street - No footpath, no road marking etc. So its fair, however I myself don't receive the same essential services as other households.

& CO

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

Read more on page 18 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

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?



REVENUE AND FINANCING POLICY

Read more on page 19 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

Council is proposing changes to how some services are funded (rates vs fees vs targeted rates).

Which principle matters most to you?

- People who benefit most should pay more
- Costs should be shared broadly to keep services affordable
- Keeping rates predictable year to year

Why/why not?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

- Yes
- No
- Partially



SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES

Read more on page 20 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

Council charges fees where services are used by individuals or an identifiable group rather than the wider community.

Which statement best reflects your view?

- Fees should generally recover the full cost of providing a service where the service is used by an individual or identifiable group
- Fees should be subsidised to keep them affordable.
- Depends on the service

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Please explain.



RATES REMISSION POLICY

Read more on page 20 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

- Yes
- No
- Partially

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

Why/why not?

KŌRERO MAI

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

SUBMISSION FORM

Have your say on 'Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitikei?'

Kei whea rā te Māhere ā-tau i tēnei wā? Me hoki whakamuri,
kia anga whakamua. Tēnā, tukuna mai tō kōrero.

Submissions close at 5pm Friday 17 April 2026.

**IT'S EASY TO MAKE A SUBMISSION**

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46 High Street, Marton, 4710
- **Marton Community Hub**
31 High Street, Marton, 4710
- **Bulls Community Hub**
Te Matapihi, 4 Criterion Street, Bulls, 4818
- **Taihape Community Hub**
102 Hautapu Street (SH1), Taihape, 4720

Mailed freepost to:

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

Emailed to:

submissions@rangitikei.govt.nz

YOUR DETAILS

Name/Ingoa: Ian Rae

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation? Yes No
(If yes, this confirms you have the authority to submit on the organisation's behalf)

Organisation/ Tōpūtanga (if applicable): Taihape Community Development Trust

Address/Kāinga noho: _____

Email/ Īmēra: _____

Phone/Waea: _____

- Please tick this box if you would like to speak to your submission at the Council Hearings tentatively scheduled for 6 May 2026. Someone will contact you to confirm this.

Please note:

Submissions for Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitikei? are public information and your name, organisation and submission will be made available to the public as part of deliberations. Your contact details will remain private.

Your submission will only be used for the purpose of the 'Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitikei?' process and will be held by Rangitikei District Council at 46 High St, Marton 4710. You may access the information and request its correction, if required.

How did you hear about this consultation?

- Newspaper Website Facebook Other
 Mail Meeting Poster/Flyer _____

Submission, for 2026 – 2027 Annual Plan**TAIHAPE HOUSING SUPPORT**

We request that Rangitikei District Council, ensure that staff support housing in Taihape, in line with the first priority stated in Council's 2024 Spatial Plan, and the previous three annual plans.

Currently, the township is in decline, and while there are number issues affecting the town, the main cause of its demise, is lack of housing.

This lack of housing is impeding business and natural growth.

Council's 2024 Spatial plan specifically indicated that Taihape needed another 200 houses by 2050, or seven houses per year going forward. But despite housing being further prioritised in earlier Long-Term Plans, housing in Taihape is not being supported, by council, hence the stated priority is not being achieved.

KÖRERO MAI

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

SUBMISSION FORM

Have your say on 'Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitikei?'

Kei whea rā te Māhere ā-tau i tēnei wā? Me hoki whakamuri,
kia anga whakamua. Tēnā, tukuna mai tō kōrero.

Submissions close at 5pm Friday 17 April 2026.

**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 or by completing this submission form.

Submission forms can be delivered to:

- **Marton Head Office**
46 High Street, Marton, 4710
- **Marton Community Hub**
31 High Street, Marton, 4710
- **Bulls Community Hub**
Te Matapihi, 4 Criterion Street, Bulls, 4818
- **Taihape Community Hub**
102 Hautapu Street (SH1), Taihape, 4720

Mailed freepost to:

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

Emailed to:

submissions@rangitikei.govt.nz

YOUR DETAILS

Name/Ingoa: Ian Rae

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation? Yes No
(If yes, this confirms you have the authority to submit on the organisation's behalf)

Organisation/ Tōpūtanga (if applicable): Taihape Development Trust

Address/Kāinga noho: _____

Email/ Īmēra: _____

Phone/Waea: _____

- Please tick this box if you would like to speak to your submission at the Council Hearings tentatively scheduled for 6 May 2026. Someone will contact you to confirm this.

Please note:

Submissions for 'Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitikei?' are public information and your name, organisation and submission will be made available to the public as part of deliberations. Your contact details will remain private.

Your submission will only be used for the purpose of the 'Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitikei?' process and will be held by Rangitikei District Council at 46 High St, Marton 4710. You may access the information and request its correction, if required.

How did you hear about this consultation?

- Newspaper Website Facebook Other
 Mail Meeting Poster/Flyer Councillor.

Submission, for 202~~6~~⁶ – 2027 Annual Plan

TAIHAPE WEST SLIP ZONE

We request that Rangitikei District Council budget up to \$250,000 to engage Consulting Engineers to design a suitable drainage system to mitigate the likelihood of major slipping of the “Taihape West Slip”, and to assign a member of staff, to co-ordinate all communications in respect of the Slip Zone.

This slip zone runs approximately 750 metres west of Taihape Hospital Grounds and extends from Kiwi Road, southwards, to the Otaihape Stream, and is reported to affect some 206 properties.

The slip was first identified in 1971, with the first failure occurring in 2004, with the collapse of Otaihape Valley Road.

Test bores and monitoring were duly set up, by the then Taihape Borough Council, soon after, but discontinued by this Council some 2 – 3 years ago.

In 2016, a report was subsequently prepared by Geotechnical Engineers, Tonkin & Taylor Ltd and presented to Council and to EQC (now the Natural Hazards Commission), resulting in defined risk zones.

That report detailed the technical aspects of the slip and recommended that monitoring of test bores be resumed, **and that a suitable drainage system be designed to stabilize the area.**

However, after nearly 10 years, Council have not actioned either recommendation, and aside from the obvious risk, is now impacting insurance of properties within the zones.

Consequently, there was a public meeting in August last year, arranged by Councillor Wong, after which I wrote to the CEO, on behalf of the affected property owners. This resulted in my meeting with the mayor, earlier this year on the 15th January, however nothing was achieved

It is noted that the Geotechnical report advised that further movement could be triggered by prolonged rainfall events, or an earthquake, unless recommended actions are taken.

KŌRERO MAI

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

SUBMISSION FORM

Have your say on 'Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitīkei?'

**Kei whea rā te Māhere ā-tau i tēnei wā? Me hoki whakamuri,
kia anga whakamua. Tēnā, tukuna mai tō kōrero.**

Submissions close at 5pm Friday 17 April 2026.

**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 or by completing this submission form.

Submission forms can be delivered to:

- **Marton Head Office**
46 High Street, Marton, 4710
- **Marton Community Hub**
31 High Street, Marton, 4710
- **Bulls Community Hub**
Te Matapihi, 4 Criterion Street, Bulls, 4818
- **Taihape Community Hub**
102 Hautapu Street (SH1), Taihape, 4720

Mailed freepost to:

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

Emailed to:

submissions@rangitikei.govt.nz

YOUR DETAILS

Name/Ingoa: Anna McCartin, Secretary, Omatane Domain Board

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation? Yes No
(If yes, this confirms you have the authority to submit on the organisation's behalf)

Organisation/ Tōpūtanga (if applicable): Omatane Domain Board

Address/Kāinga noho: _____

Email/ Īmēra: _____

Phone/Waea: _____

- Please tick this box if you would like to speak to your submission at the Council Hearings tentatively scheduled for 6 May 2026. Someone will contact you to confirm this.

Please note:

Submissions for Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitīkei? are public information and your name, organisation and submission will be made available to the public as part of deliberations. Your contact details will remain private.

Your submission will only be used for the purpose of the 'Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitīkei?' process and will be held by Rangitīkei District Council at 46 High St, Marton 4710. You may access the information and request its correction, if required.

How did you hear about this consultation?

- Newspaper Website Facebook Other
 Mail Meeting Poster/Flyer _____

ANNUAL PLAN 2026/27

Read more on page 8 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation. document

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?

As per the draft rates remission policy -
 To facilitate the ongoing provision of
 non-commercial community services
 and non-commercial
 recreational opportunities for the
 residents of the Rangitikei District.

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

& CO

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

Read more on page 18 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

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?



REVENUE AND FINANCING POLICY

Read more on page 19 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

Council is proposing changes to how some services are funded (rates vs fees vs targeted rates).

Which principle matters most to you?

- People who benefit most should pay more
- Costs should be shared broadly to keep services affordable
- Keeping rates predictable year to year

Why/why not?

As per the fees policy -
 Streamlining the method for hall charges across all halls in the district. The schedule of fees (draft) for hall charges is fair and the Omatane Domain Board will support charging these rates to users of the hall.

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

- Yes
- No
- Partially



SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES

Read more on page 20 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

Council charges fees where services are used by individuals or an identifiable group rather than the wider community.

Which statement best reflects your view?

- Fees should generally recover the full cost of providing a service where the service is used by an individual or identifiable group
- Fees should be subsidised to keep them affordable.
- Depends on the service

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Please explain.



RATES REMISSION POLICY

Read more on page 20 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

- Yes
- No
- Partially

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

Why/why not?

Rangitikei District Council
Annual Plan and Co
46 High St
Marton 4710

By email: submissions@rangitikei.govt.nz

13 April 2026

To the Strategy Manager,

RE: Omatane Hall - Funding Request

I write on behalf of the Omatane Domain Board, to request funding towards replacement heating and repairs and maintenance for the Omatane Hall.

Our Hall is 90 years old this year. It has been, and remains an integral part of the Omatane district, and is used and appreciated by the many as a community wide asset.

We are a strong Domain Board and work hard to maintain the Hall to a high standard with the limited resources and funding we have. Recently the Rangitikei District Council (RDC) undertook an annual review inspection of the building and ordered a more thorough review of the still in use original open fireplace. An inspection of the fireplace was carried out by DK Plumbing and the findings reported the fireplace is now condemned and any further use is at our risk. We are no longer operating the fireplace.

The fireplace is a well loved and cherished aspect of this 90 year old building. Many events have been held with the fire roaring, warming us and our guests, with the ambient glow only a fire can provide. We host winter community dinners, sports events, hire out the hall for weddings, and most famously put on the Omatane Ball - an event that brings many surrounding valleys together mid winter.

We respect the decision of the findings and conclusion of the fireplace inspection, however we are not in a strong financial position to be able to replace the heating source without some support from RDCI. We have looked at replacing the open fireplace with a woodburner or heatpumps and have concluded a woodburner is the most suitable replacement heat source. This is due to the availability of fuel we can provide as a District, non reliance on funds to pay for energy to run heatpumps, ease of administration in hireage, and to maintain the historical look and feel of the 90 year old building as much as possible.

We have received a preliminary quote from Hogan Plumbing (attached), via Mike Hart (Facilities Compliance Manager -RDC) to have a woodburner installed. The quote is \$9,594.21.

Further, we apply to the Duddings Trust for hall maintenance funding, We were successful in the 2025/26 year to receive a grant of \$14,000 (prior to the fireplace inspection by DK Plumbing taking place, and so this was not a consideration in a grant application) towards new kitchen and ladies/cloakroom vinyl flooring, remaining internal painting and towards the required fix of the ladies bathroom base floor. Unfortunately on closer inspection of the ladies bathroom base floor by two building companies (Fred Hammer and Baird Built), it appears there has been a plumbing failure and the base floor is rotten and needs replacing. The underlying plumbing / storm water drainage has been identified as the source of the rotting and also needs fixing/replacing.

We have received two quotes from the above name building companies and we are looking at a bill averaging \$20,000 to do an acceptable (not complete) fix for the ladies bathroom issues.

The Omatane Domain Board current balance of funds is \$21,561.07 - inclusive of the \$14,000 Duddings Trust funds which must be spent on the flooring project. The remaining \$7K will not cover the plumbing/storm water fixes or replacement of the fireplace, nor leave a contingency fund.

We request the Council consider contributing towards the required works for the Omatane Hall, and work with us on a funding solution to ensure our Hall meets public health and safety requirements and can be heated this coming winter.

Yours faithfully,

Anna McCartin
Secretary - Omatane Domain Board



Rangitikei District Council
High Street
Marton, 4710

Site Address

Job Number: #20680
GST Number: 111-022-380
Quote Date: 30th Mar 2026
Valid Until: 29th May 2026

Accept Quote

Quote | Install Metro Extreme Base woodfire in Omatane Hall

Thank you for the opportunity to price the work on your property.

Our mission is to make every customer a repeat customer. Customer service is everything to us and we have the systems in place so that we deliver on our promises.

We have provided you with our best value price based on the information we have, we are always open to a conversation on our quoted amount, please call or email the office if you have any queries about this price.

	Quantity	Total
Install woodfire in Omatane Hall		
To supply & install Metro Extreme Rad Base woodfire.		
To supply & fit new Masport Parallel floor protector.		
To install soaker flashings and dektite as necessary.		
To remove old fire front and put ply on wall to cover opening.		
Metro Extreme Rad Base Woodfire	1.00	\$2,955.65
Noise proof cowl	1.00	\$228.00
Freestanding flue kit - less cowl	1.00	\$680.00
FSUDB 150mm Universal Double Shield	1.00	\$135.56
Flue stays	2.00	\$90.00
Fire Permit - Freestanding	1.00	\$870.00
Labour Tradesman -Includes permit time & site visit.	12.00	\$1,320.00
Labour Apprentice	11.00	\$935.00
Soaker Flashing - colour steel Pioneer Red	3.00	\$585.66
Rivets	20.00	\$6.40
Tek Screws - long washer	38.00	\$26.60
Tek Screws - big washer	5.00	\$4.50
Tek screws short	32.00	\$19.20
DFE107B Dektite No7 150-300mm Pipe Flashing Black	1.00	\$68.69
Dyna bolts	2.00	\$4.00
Black Paint	1.00	\$5.00
Timber	1.00	\$8.00
Sundries	1.00	\$15.00
Stainless Steel Flue 150mm x 1200mm	1.00	\$64.00

Silicon	1.00	SUB No. 22	\$16.10
Masport Parallel Floor Protector - 998905	1.00		\$0.00
PAN60WST 60mm Stainless Steel Square Drive Pan Screw Set Wh	1.00		\$20.43
Travel & Admin - Taihape	2.00		\$170.00
Sundries	1.00		\$15.00
Ply - 1 sheet	1.00		\$100.00
			\$8,342.79

Subtotal	\$8,342.79
GST Amount	\$1,251.42
Total	\$9,594.21

Materials supplied by us have a manufacturer guarantee of not less than one year.

We look forward to working with you on your project. Please let us know if you have questions or comments.

The Huntermville Community Committee thanks the Rangitikei District Council for the opportunity to make a submission on the Annual Plan 2026/2027.

The Huntermville Community Committee wishes to express concern that the Huntermville Communities ability to absorb rates increases are becoming increasingly more difficult. The Committee notes that in the Annual Plan 2026/2027 supplementary notes on page 62 (found here <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/files/meetings/council-meetings/2026-03-12/Annual-Plan-2026-27-Supporting-Information-under-separate-cover.pdf>) (Also as Appendix A) it shows for both commercial and non-commercial ratepayers in Huntermville will receive double-digit rates increases between 11% and 12.5%. The highest blanket increases listed for an individual township in the district.

The Committee has attached our submission to last year's annual plan (Appendix B) , and notes that it could resubmit that submission again this year as there is no change from the previous annual plan focused for Huntermville.

In fact, Huntermville is mentioned twice in this year's Annual Plan Consultation Document. Once on a map and once mentioning the Wastewater treatment plant upgrade .

The Huntermville Community Committee suggests for future Annual Plans more focus is placed on Huntermville such as inclusion the tables showing the average rates increases on the main Annual Plan Consultation document as opposed to the supplementary information only available on the council website.

The Huntermville Community Committee is disappointed in the extremely short notice provided to the community for the "Huntermville Public Meeting" for the Annual Plan. At best residents had between 24-48 hours' notice of the meeting to make arrangements to attend, which resulted in a poor turnout.

The Huntermville Community Committee notes that the Annual Plan shows Capital Expenditure for the Huntermville Community is as follows:

Wastewater

Treatment plant upgrades

The Huntermville Community Committee is pleased to see spending on vital infrastructure for Huntermville and asks that the committee is kept up to date on these works as they progress during the Annual Plan Year.

Appendix A

Annual Plan 2026 27 Supporting Information

Examples of Impact of Rating Proposals Pages 62 to 65

Location		CV 26/27	CV 25/26	Proposed 26/27	Actual 25/26	% increase
KOITIATA						
Koitiata	RAPAKI STREET	\$430,000	\$430,000	\$2,419	\$2,330	3.80%
Koitiata	OMANU STREET	\$370,000	\$370,000	\$2,259	\$2,183	3.46%
Koitiata	WAINUI STREET	\$320,000	\$320,000	\$2,126	\$2,061	3.14%
Koitiata	WAINUI STREET	\$650,000	\$650,000	\$3,005	\$2,869	4.75%
Koitiata	RAPAKI STREET	\$510,000	\$510,000	\$2,632	\$2,526	4.20%
TAIHAPE COMMERCIAL						
Taihape	HAUTAPU STREET	\$96,000	\$96,000	\$3,499	\$3,489	0.27%
Taihape	HAUTAPU STREET	\$220,000	\$220,000	\$3,862	\$3,815	1.24%
Taihape	HUIA STREET	\$330,000	\$330,000	\$4,566	\$4,424	3.19%
Taihape	HAUTAPU STREET	\$435,000	\$435,000	\$4,874	\$4,700	3.69%
Taihape	HUIA STREET	\$540,000	\$540,000	\$4,801	\$4,655	3.13%
Taihape	TUI STREET	\$720,000	\$720,000	\$7,657	\$7,496	2.14%
TAIHAPE NON COMMERCIAL						
Taihape	ALDRIDGE TERRACE	\$105,000	\$105,000	\$3,145	\$3,296	-4.58%
Taihape	LARK STREET	\$133,000	\$133,000	\$1,979	\$1,801	9.87%
Taihape	ACHILLES DRIVE	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$3,817	\$3,788	0.76%
Taihape	KAKAPO PLACE	\$320,000	\$320,000	\$4,070	\$4,021	1.23%
Taihape	TITI STREET	\$510,000	\$510,000	\$4,577	\$4,486	2.02%
Taihape	KIWI ROAD	\$610,000	\$610,000	\$4,843	\$4,731	2.38%
Taihape	KOKAKO STREET	\$730,000	\$730,000	\$5,163	\$5,025	2.76%
Taihape	HOSPITAL ROAD	\$730,000	\$960,000	\$5,163	\$5,588	-7.60%
Taihape	KOKAKO STREET	\$1,090,000	\$1,090,000	\$6,123	\$5,907	3.67%
HUNTERVILLE COMMERCIAL						
Huntermville	BRUCE STREET	\$130,000	\$130,000	\$2,767	\$2,459	12.55%
Huntermville	MILNE STREET	\$260,000	\$260,000	\$3,148	\$2,800	12.45%
Huntermville	MILNE STREET	\$360,000	\$360,000	\$3,442	\$3,063	12.38%
HUNTERVILLE NON COMMERCIAL						
Huntermville	KOTUKUTUKU ROAD	\$230,000	\$230,000	\$1,886	\$1,840	2.45%
Huntermville	WILSON ROAD	\$330,000	\$330,000	\$3,266	\$2,925	11.64%
Huntermville	PARAEKARETU STREET	\$425,000	\$425,000	\$3,519	\$3,158	11.43%
Huntermville	PARAEKARETU STREET	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$3,986	\$3,587	11.13%

Location		CV 26/27	CV 25/26	Proposed 26/27	Actual 25/26	% increase
MARTON COMMERCIAL						
Marton	HAIR STREET	\$325,000	\$325,000	\$4,144	\$4,056	2.18%
Marton	WELLINGTON ROAD	\$455,000	\$455,000	\$4,526	\$4,397	2.92%
Marton	WELLINGTON ROAD	\$1,500,000	\$540,000	\$7,590	\$4,620	64.28%
Marton	MORRIS STREET	\$680,000	\$680,000	\$5,185	\$4,988	3.96%
Marton	HIGH STREET	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$6,680	\$6,266	6.61%
MARTON INDUSTRIAL						
Marton	WELLINGTON ROAD	\$230,000	\$230,000	\$3,866	\$3,806	1.56%
Marton	WELLINGTON ROAD	\$680,000	\$680,000	\$5,185	\$4,988	3.96%
Marton	BROADWAY	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$5,918	\$5,624	5.23%
MARTON NON COMMERCIAL						
Marton	KERERU COURT	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$2,051	\$1,867	9.83%
Marton	ALEXANDRA STREET	\$265,000	\$265,000	\$3,898	\$3,851	1.20%
Marton	FRENCH STREET	\$365,000	\$365,000	\$4,164	\$4,096	1.66%
Marton	OXFORD STREET	\$465,000	\$465,000	\$4,431	\$4,341	2.07%
Marton	PUKEPAPA ROAD	\$565,000	\$565,000	\$4,698	\$4,586	2.43%
Marton	KERERU COURT	\$665,000	\$665,000	\$4,964	\$4,831	2.76%
BULLS COMMERCIAL						
Bulls	HIGH STREET	\$240,000	\$240,000	\$3,895	\$3,833	1.63%
Bulls	BRIDGE STREET	\$355,000	\$355,000	\$4,232	\$4,135	2.36%
Bulls	BRIDGE STREET	\$460,000	\$460,000	\$4,540	\$4,410	2.94%
Bulls	BRIDGE STREET	\$780,000	\$780,000	\$5,859	\$5,572	5.17%
Bulls	BRIDGE STREET	\$1,690,000	\$1,690,000	\$8,528	\$7,961	7.12%
BULLS NON COMMERCIAL						
Bulls	CRITERION STREET	\$285,000	\$285,000	\$3,951	\$3,900	1.30%
Bulls	TAUMAIHI STREET	\$385,000	\$385,000	\$4,218	\$4,145	1.75%
Bulls	WATSON STREET	\$480,000	\$480,000	\$4,471	\$4,378	2.13%
Bulls	BRIDGE STREET	\$590,000	\$590,000	\$4,764	\$4,647	2.52%
Bulls	BRIDGE STREET	\$680,000	\$680,000	\$5,004	\$4,868	2.80%
Bulls	GEORGE STREET	\$770,000	\$770,000	\$5,244	\$5,088	3.07%
Bulls	DANIELL STREET	\$1,420,000	\$1,420,000	\$6,977	\$6,680	4.45%

Hunterville Community Committee Annual Plan Submission 2026/2027

Location		CV 26/27	CV 25/26	Proposed 26/27	Actual 25/26	% increase
TURAKINA						
Turakina	STATE HIGHWAY 3	\$265,000	\$265,000	\$1,979	\$1,926	2.74%
Turakina	STATE HIGHWAY 3	\$360,000	\$360,000	\$2,232	\$2,159	3.40%
Turakina	RATANA ROAD	\$460,000	\$460,000	\$2,499	\$2,404	3.96%
Turakina	HAUNUI ROAD	\$550,000	\$550,000	\$2,739	\$2,624	4.37%
RATANA						
Ratana	SEAMER STREET	\$85,000	\$140,000	\$1,988	\$3,723	-46.60%
Ratana	TAMARIKI LANE	\$238,000	\$238,000	\$3,963	\$3,963	0.00%
Ratana	IHIPERA-KORIA STREET	\$365,000	\$365,000	\$4,302	\$4,274	0.64%
RURAL NORTH						
Rural North	MOAWHANGO VALLEY ROAD	\$525,000	\$525,000	\$2,698	\$2,598	3.86%
Rural North	MANUI ROAD	\$1,430,000	\$1,430,000	\$5,111	\$4,814	6.17%
Rural North	STATE HIGHWAY 1	\$1,630,000	\$1,630,000	\$5,644	\$5,304	6.42%
Rural North	PUKENAUA ROAD	\$1,710,000	\$1,710,000	\$5,858	\$5,500	6.51%
Rural North	OTAIHAPE VALLEY ROAD	\$2,100,000	\$2,100,000	\$6,897	\$6,455	6.86%
Rural North	TUHOE ROAD	\$2,300,000	\$2,300,000	\$7,431	\$6,945	7.00%
Rural North	RIDGE ROAD SOUTH	\$2,475,000	\$2,475,000	\$7,897	\$7,373	7.11%
Rural North	SPOONERS HILL ROAD	\$2,700,000	\$2,700,000	\$8,497	\$7,924	7.23%
Rural North	STATE HIGHWAY 1	\$2,930,000	\$2,930,000	\$9,110	\$8,487	7.34%
Rural North	KAKARIKI ROAD	\$3,020,000	\$3,020,000	\$9,350	\$8,708	7.38%
Rural North	KOEKE ROAD	\$3,420,000	\$3,420,000	\$10,417	\$9,687	7.53%
Rural North	STATE HIGHWAY 1	\$3,520,000	\$3,520,000	\$10,683	\$9,932	7.56%
Rural North	TAIHAPE-NAPIER ROAD	\$3,880,000	\$3,880,000	\$11,618	\$10,779	7.78%
MANGAWEKA						
Mangaweka	BROADWAY	\$175,000	\$175,000	\$2,117	\$1,939	9.18%
Mangaweka	TE KAPUA ROAD	\$215,000	\$215,000	\$2,677	\$2,924	-8.45%
Mangaweka	STATE HIGHWAY 1	\$285,000	\$285,000	\$3,977	\$3,935	1.06%
Mangaweka	KAWAKAWA STREET	\$340,000	\$340,000	\$4,124	\$4,070	1.32%
Mangaweka	STATE HIGHWAY 1	\$340,000	\$340,000	\$3,010	\$3,230	-6.81%

Huntermville Community Committee Annual Plan Submission 2026/2027

Location		CV 26/27	CV 25/26	Proposed 26/27	Actual 25/26	% increase
RURAL SOUTH						
Rural South	COLEMANS ROAD	\$900,000	\$900,000	\$3,672	\$3,481	5.48%
Rural South	MCHARDIE ROAD	\$900,000	\$900,000	\$3,672	\$3,481	5.48%
Rural South	SOMERSAL LANE	\$1,210,000	\$1,210,000	\$4,499	\$4,240	6.09%
Rural South	MAKIRIKIRI ROAD	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$5,272	\$4,951	6.49%
Rural South	SANTOFT ROAD	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$5,272	\$4,951	6.49%
Rural South	MILNE STREET	\$1,530,000	\$1,530,000	\$6,157	\$6,109	0.78%
Rural South	KAKARIKI ROAD	\$1,750,000	\$1,750,000	\$5,938	\$5,563	6.75%
Rural South	PAREWANUI ROAD	\$1,750,000	\$1,750,000	\$5,938	\$5,563	6.75%
Rural South	MAKIRIKIRI ROAD	\$1,860,000	\$1,860,000	\$6,232	\$5,832	6.85%
Rural South	FERN FLATS ROAD	\$2,070,000	\$2,070,000	\$6,792	\$6,347	7.01%
Rural South	JEFFERSONS LINE	\$2,300,000	\$2,300,000	\$7,405	\$6,910	7.16%
Rural South	MAKIRIKIRI ROAD	\$2,400,000	\$2,400,000	\$7,671	\$7,155	7.22%
Rural South	WHALES LINE	\$2,620,000	\$2,620,000	\$8,258	\$7,694	7.34%
Rural South	WANGANUI ROAD	\$2,701,000	\$2,701,000	\$8,474	\$7,892	7.37%
Rural South	MT CURL ROAD	\$2,720,000	\$2,720,000	\$8,525	\$7,938	7.38%
Rural South	STATE HIGHWAY 1	\$3,220,000	\$3,220,000	\$9,858	\$9,163	7.58%
RURAL LARGE DAIRY/PASTORAL						
Rural North	STATE HIGHWAY 1	\$10,700,000	\$10,700,000	\$31,100	\$28,793	8.01%
Rural North	TE MOEHAU ROAD	\$19,900,000	\$19,900,000	\$56,902	\$52,601	8.18%
Rural North	TAIHAPE-NAPIER ROAD	\$40,000,000	\$40,000,000	\$116,856	\$108,212	7.99%
Rural North	TAIHAPE-NAPIER ROAD	\$46,070,000	\$46,070,000	\$127,950	\$117,969	8.46%
Rural North	TAIHAPE-NAPIER ROAD	\$52,034,000	\$52,034,000	\$143,852	\$132,575	8.51%
RURAL SOUTH INDUSTRIAL						
Rural South	WANGANUI ROAD	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$1,507	\$1,487	1.33%
Rural South	CALICO LINE	\$370,000	\$370,000	\$3,163	\$3,334	-5.14%
Rural South	TUTAENUI ROAD	\$560,000	\$560,000	\$4,834	\$4,673	3.44%
Rural South	BRIDGE STREET	\$670,000	\$670,000	\$4,804	\$4,763	0.85%
Rural South	BRIDGE STREET	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$6,065	\$5,893	2.93%

Appendix B

Huntermville Community Committee Annual Plan Submission 2025/2026

The Huntermville Community Committee thanks the Rangitikei District Council for the opportunity to make a submission on the Annual Plan 2025/2026.

The Huntermville Community Committee notes that proactive Council spending for the Huntermville Community in this annual plan is as follows:

- 1. Wastewater and Sewage Disposal Group of Activities**
Treatment plant upgrades for Huntermville
- 2. Stormwater Drainage Group of Activities**
Huntermville Stormwater Upgrade

The Huntermville Community Committee is pleased to see spending on vital infrastructure for Huntermville and asks that the committee is kept up to date on these works as they progress during the Annual Plan Year.

The Huntermville Community Committee requests that as part of this Annual Plan that Council explores the cost for providing disabled access to the Huntermville Swimming Pool, more specifically cutting the roadside curb down giving access to the Pool and rugby clubrooms. The images below outline the area we are discussing. Further information is available if required.



The Huntermville Community Committee looks forward to future Annual Plans in which Huntermville is the focus of larger capital expenditure.

SUBMISSION FORM

KŌRERO MAI

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

Have your say on 'Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitīkei?'

Kei whea rā te Māhere ā-tau i tēnei wā? Me hoki whakamuri, kia anga whakamua. Tēnā, tukuna mai tō kōrero.

Submissions close at 5pm Friday 17 April 2026.



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 or by completing this submission form.

Submission forms can be delivered to:

- **Marton Head Office**
46 High Street, Marton, 4710
- **Marton Community Hub**
31 High Street, Marton, 4710
- **Bulls Community Hub**
Te Matapihi, 4 Criterion Street, Bulls, 4818
- **Taihape Community Hub**
102 Hautapu Street (SH1), Taihape, 4720

Mailed freepost to:

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

Emailed to:

submissions@rangitikei.govt.nz

RECEIVED

16 APR 2026

To: *[Signature]*
File:
Doc:

YOUR DETAILS

Name/Ingoa: To Rangooni

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation? Yes No
(If yes, this confirms you have the authority to submit on the organisation's behalf)

Organisation/ Tōpūtanga (if applicable): _____

Address/Kāinga noho: _____

Email/ Īmēra: _____

Phone/Waea: _____

- Please tick this box if you would like to speak to your submission at the Council Hearings tentatively scheduled for 6 May 2026. Someone will contact you to confirm this.

Please note:

Submissions for Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitīkei? are public information and your name, organisation and submission will be made available to the public as part of deliberations. Your contact details will remain private.

Your submission will only be used for the purpose of the 'Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitīkei?' process and will be held by Rangitīkei District Council at 46 High St, Marton 4710. You may access the information and request its correction, if required.

How did you hear about this consultation?

- Newspaper Website Facebook
 Mail Meeting Poster/Flyer

Other

*picked up at
Te Matapihi*

ANNUAL PLAN 2026/27

Read more on page 8 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation. document

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?

Important

but with people unemployed/not fed difficult?

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

You need to balance needs of 'your' community against the needs of the whole community plus demands from central Govt. Effective succession plans for younger councillors. difficult

& CO

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

Read more on page 18 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

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?

Govt making demands without consultation - maybe demand from lobbyists.



REVENUE AND FINANCING POLICY

Read more on page 19 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

Council is proposing changes to how some services are funded (rates vs fees vs targeted rates).

Which principle matters most to you?

- People who benefit most should pay more
- Costs should be shared broadly to keep services affordable
- Keeping rates predictable year to year

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

- Yes
- No
- Partially

Why/why not?

It helps to think of whole community rural / town rich / poor healthy / unhealthy old / young



SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES

Read more on page 20 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

Council charges fees where services are used by individuals or an identifiable group rather than the wider community.

Which statement best reflects your view?

- Fees should generally recover the full cost of providing a service where the service is used by an individual or identifiable group
- Fees should be subsidised to keep them affordable.
- Depends on the service

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Please explain.

Proposed changes appear reasonable



RATES REMISSION POLICY

Read more on page 20 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

- Yes
- No
- Partially

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

proposed changes look reasonable

Why/why not?

SUBMISSION FORM

KÖRERO MAI

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

Have your say on 'Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitikei?'

Kei whea rā te Māhere ā-tau i tēnei wā? Me hoki whakamuri, kia anga whakamua. Tēnā, tukuna mai tō kōrero.

Submissions close at 5pm Friday 17 April 2026.



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 or by completing this submission form.

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31 High Street, Marton, 4710
- **Bulls Community Hub**
Te Matapihi, 4 Criterion Street, Bulls, 4818
- **Taihape Community Hub**
102 Hautapu Street (SH1), Taihape, 4720

Mailed freepost to:

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

Emailed to:

submissions@rangitikei.govt.nz

RECEIVED

16 APR 2026

To:

File:

Doc:

YOUR DETAILS

Name/Ingoa: _____

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation? Yes No
(If yes, this confirms you have the authority to submit on the organisation's behalf)

Organisation/ Tōpūtanga (if applicable): _____

Address/Kāinga nohc _____

Email/ Īmēra: _____

Phone/Waea: _____

- Please tick this box if you would like to speak to your submission at the Council Hearings tentatively scheduled for 6 May 2026. Someone will contact you to confirm this.

Please note:

Submissions for Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitikei? are public information and your name, organisation and submission will be made available to the public as part of deliberations. Your contact details will remain private.

Your submission will only be used for the purpose of the 'Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitikei?' process and will be held by Rangitikei District Council at 46 High St, Marton 4710. You may access the information and request its correction, if required.

How did you hear about this consultation?

- Newspaper Website Facebook Other
 Mail Meeting Poster/Flyer

Went to Te matapihi Learning Hub

ANNUAL PLAN 2026/27

Read more on page 8 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation. document

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?

I accept that rates will increase all the time. There are differences where you live, what town Price of your house.

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

I can see that buildings in Bulls and Marton are not rentable because of costs, condition of buildings, rentals skyrocketed before Covid. I can see local businesses not able to have a viable business, liquidations, empty buildings
What is a solution?

& CO

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

Read more on page 18 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

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?

Can you please calculate costs properly not put a figure down and then it actually costs millions.

& GO

REVENUE AND FINANCING POLICY

Read more on page 19 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

Council is proposing changes to how some services are funded (rates vs fees vs targeted rates).

Which principle matters most to you?

- People who benefit most should pay more
- Costs should be shared broadly to keep services affordable
- Keeping rates predictable year to year

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

- Yes
- No
- Partially

Why/why not?

Specific Events This shouldn't be taken out of our rates if they are a business like markets, Harvest Festivals - fees for sellers - increase. businesses should be charged more users. You say a small fee what about market rate what they should be charged.

& GO

SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES

Read more on page 20 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

Council charges fees where services are used by individuals or an identifiable group rather than the wider community.

Which statement best reflects your view?

- Fees should generally recover the full cost of providing a service where the service is used by an individual or identifiable group
- Fees should be subsidised to keep them affordable.
- Depends on the service

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Please explain.
Building Consents are expensive compared to other Councils. My experience with Tararua and Horowhenua Rangitikei too expensive.

& GO

RATES REMISSION POLICY

Read more on page 20 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

- Yes
- No
- Partially

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

Im feeling for Pensioners whose homes have increased and their rates skyrocketed. I hope they get a good sizeable Rate Rebate

Why/why not?

Ridiculous how homes increased in Price theres alot in Marton & Bulls they don't look like what they are RV

14 April 2026

Erewhon Rural Water Scheme
Rangitikei District Council
Chairperson: Jock Stratton

To the Rangitikei District Council - info@rangitikei.govt.nz

RE: Submission to the Rangitikei District Council Annual Plan.

Erewhon Rural Water Scheme is seeking an amendment to their draft 2026/27 Annual Plan budget, as they require an increase to their capital programme of work from \$406,525 to \$5,000,000 in order to carry out capital work, pipeline replacement initiatives. The three projects of highest priority are as follows;

1. Mangaohane stage two, 1300 meters, PE-Steel, 150mm, 32 bar, Est, \$ 692,500
2. Mangaohane Stage three, 600 meters, steel, 100mm 25-40 bar, est \$ 334,328
3. Pipe Bridge to Gilberts cattleyards including 1100 meters on Matawhero Road,
Steel, 25-40 bar, est \$ 1,963,866

The committee have been working with Mr Andrew van Bussel (Water Supply Specialist) of Rangitikei District Council to confirm the requirements of the programme over the last twelve plus months. They have also met with the Chief Executive, and members of the Finance team to confirm the impact on their budgets and the best way forward.

The committee now has a clear understanding of the programme of work and is planning to go to tender to confirm the cost of this programme of work (anticipated to be around \$5million), subject to Council approving this submission.

The committee realise the timing may span a number of years, however, in order to go to market, the committee requires their scheme capital budget to have an approved budget by Council to the total value of \$5,000,000 in order to maximise the best procurement and timing opportunities. Currently the capital programme of work for the 2026/27 year is \$406,525 (excluding GST) and including a CPI adjustment, this level of

planned expenditure is reflected for each year of the current long term plan through to 2033/34.

The scheme holders are seeking Council approval to amend the 2026/27 budget to a total value of \$5,000,000 for the 2026/27 to meet their procurement goals. This will remove the need to budget the current \$406,525 per annum in the next long term plan by essentially bringing this expenditure forward relative to the current long term plan.

Assuming Council approve this budget for the 2026/27 year the committee will go to market to seek the best price and most efficient/effective way of carrying out this work. Once the timing of the programme if work is understood, the committee plan to work with the Finance team of Rangitikei District Council to phase this work across the year or years as per the accepted tenders' recommendations, recognising this may require carry forward of un-spent funds into future years.

The request to increase the 2026/27 capital programme of work will not increase the revenue required in the 2026/27 year, therefore no increase to the rates being sought by Council, however the committee recognises that in the 2027/28 year they will need to increase their water supply charges to cover the cost of debt repayment, interest costs, and increased insurance. Some of these operational costs will be covered by reduced maintenance costs.

The committee welcomes the opportunity to come and speak on this submission, currently scheduled for 6 May 2026.

Yours sincerely

Jock Stratton and the committee members.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 16 April 2026 14:48

Creation Time: April 17, 2026 9:29 AM

Ingoa/Name:

Peter Kipling Arthur

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

Yes

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Taihape Heritage Grandstand Sub Committee

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

Please tick this box if you would like to speak to your submission at the Council Hearings on early May 2025. Someone will contact you to confirm this.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Meeting

Which statement best reflects your view?

Acceptable to maintain essential services

Why did you choose this option?

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

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

Town/community (Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Keeping strong local decision-making, Better quality infrastructure and services, Greater resilience in emergencies

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

Which principle matters most to you?

Costs should be shared broadly to keep services affordable

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Yes

Why/why not?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Depends on the service.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Yes

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

TOILET UPGRADE.docx, 0.02MB

Anything else?

The Heritage Trust Grandstand Sub-Committee request that funding be allocated in the 2026 Annual Plan budget for the installation of new toilet facilities at the Taihape Grandstand. This upgrade is essential to enable full use of the green space, as approved by the Council, supporting the development of the new Taihape Playground.

SEE attached file

Request for Funding Allocation for Taihape Grandstand Toilet Facilities Upgrade

That funding be allocated in the 2026 Annual Plan budget for the installation of new toilet facilities at the Taihape Grandstand. This upgrade is essential to enable full use of the green space, as approved by the Council, supporting the development of the new Taihape Playground.

Justification for Upgrade

The existing toilet block is currently unsafe for children, does not adequately serve individuals with mobility challenges, and the stalls are too small for general use. Setting aside budget funds for this necessary service renewal at the Park's end is vital for the Playground project's success and aligns with the Community-wide goals of the Grandstand upgrade.

Reference to Annual Plan Consultation Document

This request is supported by the Annual Plan Consultation document (p.16), which emphasizes the importance of:

- Parks and Reserves
- Replacing old parks and reserves equipment
- Investing in parks, open spaces, and play parks in accordance with the Parks, Open Spaces, and Sporting Facilities Strategy
- Upgrading existing playground equipment

Community and Collaborative Approach

The document also highlights the need to implement renovations and improvements as outlined in the Property Review and Maintenance Schedule 2023. It encourages the creation, facilitation, and contribution to collaborative and community-led partnerships. Additionally, it underscores the importance of celebrating and developing our cultural identity, heritage, and history by promoting and showcasing the district's history and culture.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 16 April 2026 19:45

Creation Time: April 17, 2026 9:29 AM

Ingoa/Name:

Marc Cunningham

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Facebook

Which statement best reflects your view?

Too high, even if it means delaying projects or reducing services

Why did you choose this option?

RDCs over spending and waste of money on projects (see wasting money on undrinkable water etc) is ridiculous, your options here are written with a passive aggressive tone, as if there isn't a way to reduce spending and keep rates low at the same time

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

tighten your belt. stop wasting money , you don't need a new building, and most of us don't work for a council or the government and we don't all get yearly pay rises

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

Town/community (Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Better quality infrastructure and services, Greater resilience in emergencies

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

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

What does the above statement actually mean? and how does it relate to government reform> ? what are you reforming? are you indicating that your local council is working with other councils? are you asking about change withing a local council>? so very vague.

Which principle matters most to you?

People who benefit most should pay more

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

your information is very convoluted and messy without much explanation.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Depends on the service.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Water charges for dirty stinky water that is undrinkable. There's more but I know you dont care

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

some is fair and understandable and some have nothing to do with me nor will affect me in the slightest

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

After purchasing a home 5years ago I have come the realization that this was possibly the biggest financial mistake of my life. Rates for my home started at \$2700 for a tiny home and small section, those rates are now \$4000....., the water is undrinkable, it stinks, I have never had a problem with my skin in my life, since bathing in Marton water.... well we will just say that's changed. My Clothes washing stinks even with fabric conditioner etc etc,

The roads and foot paths are terrible, potholes and large undulations in the road, the drains flood after every heavy rain, on some of the streetsthe lights are on the side of the road without a footpath

Every time I go to into the RDC building I am treated rudely like I am an inconvenience the the teams current conversation, Ben from comms also appears to believe he is some kind of comedian when replying to people on your facebook page, unprofessional to say the least.

If I could afford to sell my home I would

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 16 April 2026 21:05

Creation Time: April 17, 2026 9:29 AM

Ingoa/Name:

GP Duncan

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

How did you hear about this consultation?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Acceptable to maintain essential services

Why did you choose this option?

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

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

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

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

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

Which principle matters most to you?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Why/why not?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

I would like to submit the following:

that funding is allocated in the 2026 Annual Plan budget for the new toilet facilities in the Taihape Grandstand as part of its upgrade to allow for use of the full green- space approved

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

by Council for the new Taihape Playground.
Thank you.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 17 April 2026 08:46

Creation Time: April 17, 2026 9:29 AM

Ingoa/Name:

Libby Rayner

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

How did you hear about this consultation?

Facebook

Which statement best reflects your view?

Too high, even if it means delaying projects or reducing services

Why did you choose this option?

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

Free use of places and spaces (specifically parks) for rate payers

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

The wider district (Decisions are made by people representing the whole Rangitikei District, covering several towns and communities)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Better quality infrastructure and services, Faster decision-making

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

Which principle matters most to you?

Keeping rates predictable year to year

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Fees should be subsidised to keep them affordable.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

The use of parks should not come at a cost to local rate payers when we are already paying for parks in our rates. The cost for parks (& halls) is prohibitive to non-profit sport & recreation groups - particularly when trying to grow local opportunities for tamariki/rangatahi in our rohe so they don't have to travel outside of our region.

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

TIM MATTHEWS
SUBMISSION on 2026-27 ANNUAL PLAN
RANGITIKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL

DATE: 16 April 2026

ADDRESS for SERVICE:

SUBMISSION

1. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this year's Annual Plan document. This is my personal submission and may not represent the views of other organisations I may represent from time to time.
2. This submission is a response to the increased rates I am likely to face if the proposed Annual Plan and Amended Revenue and Financing Policy are not changed to make the General rate fairer for all ratepayers. The current proposal will see my rates increase by \$1 540.69 or 9.51% for one property and \$1 256.52 or 11.36% for the other property that does not have houses on it. These increases are out of line for both the Council's rates comparison (P 64 and 65 of Supporting Documents section of the Plan) and with Council's estimates of inflation anticipated over the next 14 months.
3. When the proposed rates calculations are combined with a particularly optimistic Capital Value assessment from Quotable Value in August 2023, when 2 neighbouring forestry properties were purchased by some of NZ's largest Corporates ostensibly for Carbon offsets, the effects on my annual rates bills have been substantial. Along with on-farm cost inflation and high interest rates, the viability of steep hill country farming is not guaranteed, and with regular climatic events causing expensive damage, making a profit is not easy.
4. Trying to make sense of this year's Annual Plan has not been easy, because information that should be there and historically has been there, is not there. For example, there is no breakdown of expenditure for each group of activities. How much does RDC spend on Civil Defence? There is no information that I can find that gives that detail, yet we are being asked to agree to a Targeted rate specifically for Civil Defence, in addition to a General Rate that includes Civil Defence, and which may form part of the UAGC calculation too!

5. Once upon a time, the Valuation Department would give a break down of values between sectors, be they dairy farms, cropping farms, forests, orchards, industrial , commercial or residential, when they completed a 3-yearly revaluations. This was then available in the Rating Information Database that could be inspected by the public. Presumably that information is still available, as it must be essential for compiling the rates spreadsheet that determines every property's rate impost. Why is it not publicly available each year? Its publication would help the public understand who pays what rates, and who actually funds the services they want.
6. Roothing is not divided between sealed, unsealed, bridge repairs, street furniture or unsubsidised rooding expenditure. We don't know how much is spent on maintenance of halls, parks, cemeteries, or public toilets. Published Council minutes or order papers, or the Annual Report give no clues unless there is a specific request or variation, and one hopes that Councillors are not operating in the vacuum that the public and ratepayers are subject to. Is this because managers are afraid to be tied to budgets, or is it just easier to run a Council when the public don't know what is in each category of expenditure.
7. Page 21 of the Supporting Documents does not show or record what income will be received from rooding rates but a process of deduction suggests that it is \$9.117 million. Presumably that line dropped out of the spreadsheet, or did it? Can we blame A. I.? How much expenditure is unsubsidised by the FAR rate, being footpaths or street furniture, or lighting? Last year we failed to meet our target for metaling unsealed roads – was that the fault of the contractor, the rooding managers or poor budgeting? The poor residents of those affected roads, who have no satisfactory measure of roughness, safety or satisfaction with Council's management of their road must live with the consequences, as the metal disappears under mud, the watertables become higher than the road and the overhanging vegetation is trimmed by their stock trucks.
8. Once upon a time the Council overheads that appear in each "Activity" could amalgamated together in a separate section so that we could see what the cost of running the Council actually is. Such information could be quite important if we ratepayers and residents were to consider amalgamation with a neighbour or two.
9. It is difficult to make an informed appraisal of what the Council is doing when the information is not in plain sight. If I cannot easily determine why my rates are increasing by 10 % per annum, then the Council is not doing its job, even if the Auditor General is happy to put his or her signature to a Draft Plan. I have an advantage in that I have been looking at this and other Council's Plans for at least 36 years now, but if the relevant information is not in plain sight, do I have to make an Official Information request to understand my rates bill?

SPECIFIC SUBMISSION POINT

10. Amending the Revenue and Financing Policy

Council needs to review the General Rate and the Uniform Annual General Charge to achieve a fair and equitable basis for apportioning rates between the various types of public expenditure and private benefit. There is not sufficient rigour in the existing or amended Policy that sees the intent of Section 101 (3) of the Local Government Act being carried through as rating policy. The distinction between private and public benefit is not clear enough, and it leads to questions about affordability between ratepayer groups, or assumptions that some groups can afford to fund activities that are more closely described as private goods or benefits to others.

Council needs to be careful not to predetermine an outcome of the statutory process in order to achieve a desired outcome, and all decisions must be transparent and defensible. Decisions on modifying rating outcomes to achieve affordability for particular sections of the community need particular rigour, and rating differentials can be used more often than they have in the past. Council needs to have policies that can deal with large swings in valuation of different sectors creating perverse differences between years, particularly with new revaluations.

The legislation has been in use long enough now that there are models that can cope with the variations thrown at Councils. Council should be mindful that apportionment of benefits should stand up to scrutiny so that policies are transparent and appear fair. It may help to include wider members of the community than just staff and councillors in the development of these policies to help develop a robust and better understood Revenue and Financing Policy.

11. Attached is a worksheet showing the effect of the current proposed policy, and the way in which unloading the UAGC to “maintain affordability”, can cause disproportionate effects on the General Rate impost on higher valued properties. While the Council can have regard for affordability amongst groups, it is not its job to redress perceived inequalities in the way it apportions rating liability.

END of SUBMISSION

RANGITIKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL

DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2026/27

General Rate Examples

PROPERTY	CAPITAL VALUATION at 1 Aug 2023	2025/26 GENERAL RATE	2025/26 UAGC RATE	TOTAL GENERAL RATES	2026/27 GENERAL RATE	2026/27 UAGC RATE	TOTAL GENERAL RATES	GENERAL RATE INCREASE	PERCENT INCREASE
		0.0008830	\$719.67	2025/26	0.001330	\$765.73	2026/27		
Low House Value	\$250 000	\$220.75	\$719.67	\$940.42	\$332.50	\$765.73	\$1098.23	\$157.81	16.78%
Average House Value	\$428 000	\$377.92	\$719.67	\$1097.59	\$569.24	\$765.73	\$1334.97	\$237.38	21.63%
High House Value	\$600 000	\$529.80	\$719.67	\$1249.47	\$798.00	\$765.73	\$1563.73	\$314.26	25.15%
Average Lifestyle Value	\$754 000	\$665.78	\$719.67	\$1385.45	\$1002.82	\$765.73	\$1768.55	\$383.10	27.65%
Low Farm Value	\$3 000 000	\$2649.00	\$719.67	\$3368.67	\$3990.00	\$765.73	\$4755.73	\$1387.06	41.18%
Medium Farm Value	\$6 000 000	\$5298.00	\$719.67	\$6017.67	\$7980.00	\$765.73	\$8745.73	\$2728.06	45.33%
High Farm Value	\$9 000 000	\$7947.00	\$719.67	\$8666.67	\$11970.00	\$765.73	\$12735.73	\$4069.06	46.95%

This table shows how the Council's choice of low Uniform Annual General Charge can be tough on higher value properties, even though they may be only supporting a single family.

The use of a Targeted Rate for services such as Community Leadership, Civil Defence, Non-subsidised Roothing, Cemeteries, Halls, Health, Public Toilets, Dog and Stock Control, and Refuse Collection, is much fairer where those services are used by individuals or families, and largely independent of the size of the property being rated.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 17 April 2026 09:33

Creation Time: April 28, 2026 9:13 AM

Ingoa/Name:

Chad Mckelvie

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Website, Facebook

Which statement best reflects your view?

Too high, even if it means delaying projects or reducing services

Why did you choose this option?

I do not support 6.4% rate increase, and RDC MUST look into reducing spending on unnecessary capital projects to a) reduce the future rates to payback borrowing, and b) improve performance on the necessary projects in hand already.

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

Essential services are the basis of any community. If these are not done properly or maintained properly no one will be happy!

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

Town/community (Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Better quality infrastructure and services

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

Which principle matters most to you?

Keeping rates predictable year to year

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Depends on the service.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

<u>Rangitikei District Council Annual Plan 2026-27 (and other documents)</u>	Submitter; Lynne Sheridan
	Email; - -
	Phone;
	I do not wish to speak to my submission

Annual Plan 2026/27,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on the 2026/27 Annual Plan.

There is no indication of what **Roading projects** are ahead. Roothing is the most expensive annual item on this shopping list. The supporting documents do not provide any details. How can the community be consulted on something so important, with no specific details. We don't know where/when/ if any of this work will take place.

Again, little information on the **new Marton Offices** - no communication with the community of what it will look like, when compared to the flash plans for Cobbler building site that were consulted on many years ago.

Likewise with regards to **the Marton Swim Pool**, this \$6 million project was not identified in the 2025/26 AP or the LTP24/34, however it received 2 and ¼ lines of information in the 2025 Annual Report and it was not identified as a variation to the LTP. In this Consultation document it is barely mentioned; no expected cost or whether the community will be consulted on what is being proposed or whether it will be open all year round. Maybe it is time for a modern facility that meets the 'desire of the community **to have an open swimming season!**

There is no feedback to our community on the **Marton CBD upgrade**, what exactly is planned.

The **Marton - Bulls Wastewater**; It says Council is investigating? This project has been around for so many years now; Council will have spent a huge amount of money on it already (\$?) and yet Council has not confirmed a preferred option yet. This feels like a design as you go project, not an efficient way to build something and the costs seem not to matter.

Additional comments.

*Given the continued failure of sections of Williamson Line due higher heavy vehicle volumes traveling to Bonny Glen Land fill (12 March Roothing Funding report, p 108) the Land fill business could be **charged through their rates as an exacerbator** of the problems on Williamson Line. Maybe something to consider for the next LTP consultation.*

*Williamsons Line and Taihape- Napier Rd are causing delays for other roading sites in need of repair. Council should consider letting the site failures on **Taihape -Napeir Rd revert back to a metal surface**. The rest of the district's roads, should not be penalised because of the Taihape- Napier R. Maybe the logging trucks should be paying for the repairs if they are the exacerbators.*

Communication; *Council's newspaper page, continues to fail to inform the community about what Council is spending ratepayer money on –no details of projects, cost to date, budget and the progress.*

*What will Council really be doing (other than writing a report) to save costs due to the **fuel price** increases?*

*The **Consultation document** contains random questions (answers below) throughout, which makes the whole document a disjointed read. Projects never seem to get completed at RDC. Plenty of reports but no action and the debt continues growing.*

HAVE YOUR SAY- One piece of advice to Council

Ratepayers have a limited budget.

They do not have the privilege to dictate to whoever pays them – how much they want – as Council does.

HAVE YOUR SAY- Proposed average rates increase of 6.4%

Too high = Council needs to determine what is essential to take care of our district, just as the ratepayer must do when caring for their families and their property based on their income. Suggest 3%.

Rates Remission Policy 2026.

I agree with the changes. Could Council please ensure that the closing off dates for applications that are in 2026, are made known to the relevant people and publicly advertised as well, before the close off date.

Revenue and Financing Policy 2026

I do not agree with this. The instances described should be budgeted as part of the regular work cycles of the department as they are regular and predictable activities.

“Activities where the benefit spans multiple years but is not deemed a capital item (for example the removal of sludge or the renewal of a district/regional plan). This helps mitigate swings in rate increases across the years”.

Local Government Reform

HAVE YOUR SAY- Does retain local decision-making matter to you? = Yes

HAVE YOUR SAY- What does local decision-making mean to you? = *The wider District*

HAVE YOUR SAY- When Councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you? *The options are conjecture, no one can say that these options will be outcomes, it will all depend on the people involved.*

Kindess regards

Lynne Sheridan

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 17 April 2026 11:20

Creation Time: April 28, 2026 9:13 AM

Ingoa/Name:

Gill Duncan

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

Yes

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Taihape Grandstand Restoration Committee

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

Please tick this box if you would like to speak to your submission at the Council Hearings on early May 2025. Someone will contact you to confirm this.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Website, Meeting

Which statement best reflects your view?

Acceptable to maintain essential services

Why did you choose this option?

We acknowledge that Council has an obligation to rate for it's services and the reduction of the forecast average rate increase from 10.75% to 6.4%.

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

Communication is key to good governance.

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

Town/community (Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Keeping strong local decision-making, Better quality infrastructure and services, Faster decision-making

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

Which principle matters most to you?

Costs should be shared broadly to keep services affordable

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Why/why not?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

BQH10144 - Memorial Park - Granstand Refurbishment, New Amenities & Structural Upgrade
- Bud 01.pdf, 0.91MB

Anything else?

Separate document sent to Kezia Spence for submission as I could not attach here.

Thanks, Gill Duncan

Submission 034 Annual Plan Gill Duncan – Taihape Grandstand Restoration Committee
Additional submission information received via email to staff:

RDC Annual Plan Submission 2026/27
Taihape Grandstand Restoration Committee

Dear Councillors,

We request \$256,000.00 be put into the 2026/27 budget to build the required new Public Toilet facility in the Taihape Grandstand footprint.

Taihape Grandstand Restoration Committee (TGRC), formed in 2025, is a sub-committee of Taihape Memorial Park (the Park), User Group.

We are a targeted group addressing the scheduled Grandstand restoration with LTP 2021-2031 allocated \$1Mil funds and using a “Community Led, Council Owned Facility Upgrade Agreement”. As a community group and subgroup of the Taihape Community Development Trust, we can access external funding, complementing Council's.

TGRC supports RDC's, Parks, Open Spaces, and Sporting Facilities Strategy, welcoming the opportunity to partner in restoring the Heritage listed, category 2, Grandstand. This multi-code sports and Area School outdoor sporting gallery is still the loved home of Rugby, their “Marae”, that needs future proofing to fulfil its purpose on the Park, from practical, cultural and Heritage perspectives.

To re-establish the Grandstand's multi-use purpose, the TGRC request RDC budget put against essential replacement toilets, for Playground and general public, situated within the Grandstand footprint; allowing for the entire RDC allocated green space for the new proposed playground equipment.

With the Grandstand scope being prepared for plans and costing, we ask that a provisional figure of \$256,000.00 is allocated for new Public Toilets, as in the BQH QS updated 5-Oct-25 (attached), until quotes for this work can be obtained.

Thank you,

TGRC Membership: Crs Piki Te Ora Hiroa – Council representative, Cr Wong, Taihape Rugby – Kurt Ball, Utiku Rugby – Taine Knight, Taihape Playground – Charity Davis & Charlotte Oswald, Taihape Heritage – Peter Kipling-Arthur, NWRU representative and Financial Advisor – Alan Thomas; Chair/“project manager” - Gill Duncan.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 17 April 2026 11:32

Creation Time: April 28, 2026 9:13 AM

Ingoa/Name:

Gill Duncan

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

Yes

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Taihape Community Board

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

Please tick this box if you would like to speak to your submission at the Council Hearings on early May 2025. Someone will contact you to confirm this.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Website, Meeting, Facebook

Which statement best reflects your view?

Acceptable to maintain essential services

Why did you choose this option?

Council has a responsibility to set a rate that covers its daily services. TCB supports a good level of service at a reasonable cost.

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

As we progress through Local Government changes, changes to water providers and services and projects within communities there has to be a reliable, clear and transparent conversation with Communities.

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

Town/community (Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Keeping strong local decision-making

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

Water CCOs must be protected from eventual privatization.

Which principle matters most to you?

Costs should be shared broadly to keep services affordable

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Why/why not?

Which statement best reflects your view?

Fees should generally recover the full cost of providing a service where the service is used by an individual or identifiable group.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Charging more for Kokako Street Hall, when maintenance is not done and the facility continues to decline, is unfair and unreasonable.

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

TCB Submission to AP.pdf, 0.06MB

Anything else?

Document also sent to Kezia Spence for inclusion if unsuccessful here.

Thank you, Gill Duncan

Taihape Community Board Annual Plan Submission 2026/27

15th April 2026

The Taihape Community Board (TCB), thanks the Rangitikei District Council for the opportunity to submit on the 2026/27 Annual Plan.

TCB values democracy through local voice, representing our community and advocating to Rangitikei District Council (RDC), about local issues, including environment, land use, water use, roading and infrastructure, business support and grants and facilities such as libraries and parks. Civil Defense must also be a focus.

We support fair Rates increases that reflect rising costs on essential services and acknowledge the lower than forecast rate of 6.4% vs 10.75%

TCB Request from Rangitikei District Council:

1. Maintenance of Kokako Street Hall kitchen, reglazing and toilet facilities;
2. Urban growth measures include Taihape;
3. TCB is kept up to date with Communication around Taihape Wastewater remediation for property owners and Council look to break down costs on CDW when known to share with the Community.
4. Continue to support community events and creative works through grant funding;
5. that RDC allocate AP 2026/27 budget against the need for replacement toilets for the Playground and general public, that are situated within the Grandstand footprint;
6. use Community Boards to reach local voice and further Council understanding.
7. Locate CD Trailer in Taihape.

Community -The Taihape Town Hall project is long awaited. This building is the civic heart of Taihape; provides social connection, shelter and cultural expression. With the project being pushed out to 2027, the Kokako Street Hall continues to take up the slack and needs upgrades to deliver well, such as an adequate kitchen for users, reglazing of broken windows and hygienic toilet facilities. (1)

TCB supports our Youth Council, welcoming attendance at our meetings and looking to stimulate governance-curiosity and skills in our Youth.

Environment -The TCB supports the diversion of 1,200 tonnes of waste away from landfill and more sustainable waste management. More efficiency vs expansion is desirable.

Land use -The successful ‘plan stop’ exemption from Government is a positive that allows for progress of urban growth. Taihape would like to see more housing for businesses looking to expand that are held back by insufficient accommodation. (2)

Water use - Taihape wastewater network improvements for efficiency are important to the town. The TCB are keen to support the communications around how households, who are directly affected, are enabled to address remediation on private property. That the new and separate charges for water from Central Districts Water are broken down and communicated with communities as soon as possible. (3)

The TCB supports the new WDW CCO water entity “Central Districts Water”. However, with water Boards and governance moving further away from local delivery, we expect Boards, such as TCB, to be enabled to provide that much needed link to communities and lived experience. (6)

Roading -Thanks must go to Downers NZ for the delivery of service that has seen local improvements already. The maintenance of the Gentle Annie Road has high importance for Taihape with many of our youth travelling away to schools, stock movements, fuel and everyday goods taking this route. TCB thanks RDC for the installation of the Flagtraks that will add to travelers’ and local experience of our town and activities.

Business -BA5 events are welcome and well attended in Taihape. The new maps and revitalization plans are important to enable our towns to be positive in harder times.

Grants -Funding for our events, creative endeavours and vital communications, such as ‘Talk up Taihape’, are essential tools of encouragement. Taihape has no periodical, is limited by isolation and has a wide demographic within a smaller population. We need all the support we can get to connect and boost our people. Re-gifting this small percentage of rates is important. (4)

Libraries -Taihape Library is an everyday tiny jewel poked into Taihape’s current RDC office. It particularly shone when the Valentines weekend weather event took out our power, cellphone connections and closed our roads. Thank you to all Customer Experience staff and supporters!

Parks -Memorial Park (the Park) has been rated only second in the North Island for Equestrian events. The consistently great condition of the grounds for sporting events is also of great importance: thanks to RDC Parks and Reserves Team for your expertise and hard work in maintaining this facility.

TCB supports the Community/Council collaborative projects that matter so much to Taihape; The Hautapu River Parks Project that is delivering an outstanding natural asset so

close to our CBD and SH1, creating a recreational destination and opportunity for fun, cultural heritage and learning; The Taihape Grandstand Restoration project that will see our Heritage listed and much loved home of Rugby, that they call their “Marae”, Memorial Park sport and Taihape Area School outdoor sporting gallery, future proofed and fulfilling its purpose on the Park.

And the Taihape Playground Group’s proposed new facility that perfectly aligns with RDC’s Parks, Open Spaces, and Sporting Facilities Strategy. To further this project, in step with the Grandstand project, the TCB request that there is RDC budget put against the need for replacement toilets for the Playground and general public that are situated within the Grandstand footprint to allow for the entire RDC allocated green space to be used for the new proposed playground equipment. (5)

Civil Defense (CD) - CD responsiveness has been a focus for the District, and now with the recent Valentines Weekend weather event reminding us of our shortfalls. TCB requests that RDC support a stronger Taihape response plan, addressing such things as storage for the CD Trailer to be located in Taihape for such events. (7)

If we could give one piece of advice to RDC, as it finalizes the 2026/27 Annual Plan, it would be for greater use of Community Boards to reach local voice and further Council understanding. Communication is the key that unlocks good governance. We have the key. (6)

SUBMISSION



TELEPHONE

| WEBSITE WWW.FEDFARM.ORG.NZ

To: Rangitikei District Council

Submission on: Draft Annual Plan 2026-27

Date: 17 April 2026

From: Federated Farmers of New Zealand

Ian Strahan
PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT
Manawatu -Rangitikei Federated Farmers

Laura Morrison
ACTING PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT
Whanganui Federated Farmers

Address for Service: **Peter Matich**
REGIONAL POLICY TEAM
Federated Farmers of New Zealand
P
E

SUBMISSION ON RANGITIKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2026-27

1. Introduction

1.1 Federated Farmers welcome the opportunity to submit on the Rangitikei District Council's Draft Annual Plan 2026-27. Rates and other local government fees and costs make up a significant portion of farm business expenses. As a result, Federated Farmers are very concerned with the transparency of rate setting and the overall cost of local government to agriculture.

1.2 Our submission covers the following points:

- Rate increases for farms
- Revenue and Financing Policy
- Roothing
- Funding for *Community Leadership* activities
- Fees and charges for working dogs

2. Key submission requests

- The Council should reduce expenditure to avoid the need for rates increases above the national rate of inflation. (3.1% in December 2025, projected to rise to 4.1% by July 2026). Rapid increases in the price of crude oil globally since the start of March 2026 are now expected to increase inflation rapidly. This will impact on the Council previous budget assumptions, and it is vitally important for the Council to reduce any unnecessary expenditure moving forward.
- The Council should adopt the maximum amount of 30% of total rate revenue allowed to be allocated to the UAGC under section 21 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, where rateable properties get an equal benefit from Council services. This includes community leadership activities and the district's road network.
- The Council should make use of differentials less than 1.0 for rural farm properties to more equitably collect rates from high value rural properties which do not receive a proportionately higher rate of service from the general rates collected.
- The Council should clearly identify funding sources for rural road maintenance in the Annual Plan and Revenue and Financing Policy. More transparency is required to show the road funding split where NZTA's Funding Assistance Rate and cash reserves will be applied alongside targeted rates and general rates. Farmers are seeing a higher rate increase than many other ratepayers, and it is not clear how this money is being spent.
- The Council should fund *community leadership* activities related to Urban growth (Plan Change 3), and implementation of actions from the *Climate Change Strategy* and from *Rangitikei Tomorrow – Economic Strategy and Action Plan*, including *community leadership* costs for economic, social and cultural wellbeing associated with these activities - from a targeted rate on urban and 'future urban' properties that receive benefits from those services, and not from any general rate.
- The Council should set a discounted dog registration fee somewhere between \$35 to \$45 per working dog. This should be discounted to a flat fee for 5 or more working dogs, because farmers do not get a rising benefit if they pay for each subsequent dog.

3. INAPPROPRIATE RATES INCREASES

- 3.1 Federated Farmers understand the Council is endeavouring to reduce rate increases. Nevertheless, whilst the proposed average rates increase of 6.4%¹ for 2026/27 is lower than the 10.75% increase set out in the Council's 2024-34 Long Term Plan, significant economic headwinds are developing this year, including rapid increases in the price of crude oil globally since the start of March 2026. This means the Council need to eliminate expense and only do the bare minimum.
- 3.2 It is disconcerting that the Council's proposed rate increases for farm properties are higher than the 6.4% district-wide average. Many farms are in the 7-8% bracket. One of our members who runs a 493ha sheep and beef farm located within half an hour from Marton can expect a rates increase of 11.36%. Bigger hill country sheep and beef farms would see in the order of a staggering \$11,277 higher than last year's rates for large farms². This is blatantly unfair. In dollar terms, farmer's rates increases are a lot more than urban rates increases, even though for many Council services, the benefits that farmers get are less than the benefits urban ratepayers get.
- 3.3 As recently as March 2026, BLNZ's economic service has reported "a high degree of uncertainty with geopolitical risks on many farmers' minds, including the US tariffs situation and the ongoing conflict in the Middle East"³. This is significant here because sheep and beef farms make up 77% of farms in Rangitikei District.
- 3.4 Against this backdrop, the Council's proposed rate increases for farms look more like one step forward and two steps backwards. Rating increases eat into farm earnings. Farmers cannot simply raise taxes to solve inflationary woes. Instead, farmers must make sacrifices, cut expenses and find innovative solutions to survive. The Council should do likewise instead of resorting to rates increases.
- 3.5 We accept that monetary inflation may mean the Council has to increase rates somewhat to cover existing debt servicing and essential operating costs. Our expectation is that this would be indexed to NZ's forecast CPI inflation rate (3.1% in December 2025⁴ and predicted to rise to 4.1% by July 2026) and certainly be no higher than this, and lower if possible.
- 3.6 This may involve postponing or abandoning expenditure on nice-to-have projects or activities", such as upgrades or new facilities for public transport infrastructure, libraries, swimming pools, public urban development, arenas, reserves and community centres. In these economically challenging times, we prefer that the Council focus only on core services, sharpen its pencils and reduce expenditure, rather than choosing to increase rates.

Recommendation

- **That the Council reduce expenditure to avoid the need for rates increases above the rate of inflation.**

¹ P8 Rangitikei District Council Draft Annual Plan 2026-27 consultation document

² P65 [Rangitikei District Council Draft Annual Plan 2026-27](#)

³ <https://beeflambnz.com/news/farm-profitability-continues-rebound-uncertainty-horizon>

⁴ <https://www.stats.govt.nz/information-releases/consumers-price-index-december-2025-quarter/> accessed 17 March 2026

4. REVENUE AND FINANCING POLICY

Uniform Annual General Charge ('UAGC')

- 4.1 Federated Farmers strongly supports councils that make full use of the 30% UAGC allowable under section 21 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 where rateable properties get an equal benefit from Council services. A uniform per-property charge ensures that all property owners make a reasonable contribution toward the cost of these services.
- 4.2 Where a Council is aware that they have not reached their maximum 30% UAGC allowance and choose not to rectify the situation then they are actively choosing to disadvantage groups such as the farming community.

Targeted Rates

- 4.3 Where rates cannot be apportioned to a UAGC, or where services are only supplied to particular properties (for example: connections to sewerage disposal or public water supply) Federated Farmers supports targeted rates.
- 4.4 The cost of particular services can be targeted to those that benefit – for example hospitality businesses can pay a targeted rate for tourism promotion, or a farmer can pay a targeted rate for pest management in rural areas. Rates collected on a targeted rate should be used for that particular purpose.
- 4.5 The Council's Revenue and Financing Policy⁵ describes Urban water and Wastewater as having a *General* distribution of benefit. This is incorrect. The distribution of benefit for these services is specific to those properties which receive connections to urban water supply and wastewater disposal. The rates for these services should be targeted rates on those properties. Rural properties with no connection to these services receive no benefit from them and should not be contributing to the funding for these services. In fact, many farmers pay for their own wastewater disposal and water supply, with no subsidy from the Council.

Need to establish rural rate differential less than 1.0

- 4.6 Federated Farmers has previously expressed concern that there are no rural rate differentials being applied within Rangitikei District. A change to the Council's Revenue and Financing Policy is required to achieve this. The Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 allows modifications to property value through use of differentials.
- 4.7 A differential is a ratio that adjusts the rateable value of property and can be used to balance the relative contributions of urban and rural properties, or to increase the contribution from the commercial and industrial sector.
- 4.8 Differentials can be read as a percentage applied to the general rate, or targeted rates, within a rating system. For example, a 0.7 (70%) differential on rural land would mean a \$5m (CV) farm would only pay on \$3.5m of the property value, a differential of 1.0 (100%) for urban properties means a \$750,000 section would pay on the full \$750,000, and a 1.2 (120%) differential for commercial properties would see that a \$5m supermarket would pay on \$6m.

⁵ P9 [Rangitikei District Council Revenue and Financing Policy 2026/27 Annual Plan](#)

- 4.9 Relying more on the General Rate can exacerbate affordability concerns, because this rating tool is vulnerable to fluctuations in property value. This could leave all ratepayers with higher bills when their property value increases. This increased property value is unrealised unless the owner sells, meaning that ratepayers are not seeing the extra value in their bank accounts, but only on paper.
- 4.10 The Council has focused on rates affordability for residential and small commercial ratepayers, but their solution is shifting more costs onto rural ratepayers instead. This means that farms with high capital value will pay more towards activities like libraries, the community centre and visitor information, even though these are equal benefit for all ratepayers.
- 4.11 Farming requires extensive landholdings but farmer ability to pay rates is based on income from farm produce (and not property value). A farm owner should not be forced to sell off their farmland to pay rates that are higher than they can afford from farmer income – that would defeat the aim of setting a sustainable rate.
- 4.12 Furthermore, rural land that is *highly productive* cannot be subdivided under the *National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land* (unless the Council identifies it as necessary for urban development under the *National Policy Statement for Urban Development*⁶). As such, most farmland in New Zealand cannot be used for anything else but farming.
- 4.13 We note that the Council has a rates remission policy for considering instances of Financial Hardship. We think that setting a differential for rural properties will be far more efficient than having to consider endless applications for rates remissions arising from financial hardship. We strongly implore Rangitikei District Council to make use of differentials to more equitably levy rates from rural properties.

Recommendations:

- **That the Council adopt the maximum amount of 30% of total rate revenue allowed to be allocated to the UAGC under section 21 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 where rateable properties get an equal benefit from Council services.**
- **That the Council make use of differentials less than 1.0 for rural farm properties to more equitably collect rates from high value rural properties which do not receive a higher rate of service from the general rates collected.**

5 Funding of rural roads

- 5.1 Of all the Council's services and activities, maintenance and improvement of the rural road network is the most important activity for farmers and is virtually the only Council activity that farmers get a direct benefit from. The economic significance of farming in Rangitikei District makes road maintenance vitally important. Federated Farmers are concerned about the proportion of rates farmers are being asked to pay for roading compared to the general rate. Our membership has confirmed that their burden for general rates is almost equal to the burden for roading, yet farmers only derive benefit from the roading component.

⁶ See clauses 3.4, 3.7 and 3.8 of the [National Policy Statement for High Productive Land 2022](#).

- 5.2 Further, Federated Farmers note that 'roading and footpaths' are expected to make up 38.56% of the Council's operating expenditure in 2026/27 yet account for only 24.1% of the Council's rates.⁷ The Council's draft annual plan supporting documentation is somewhat unclear on Council rate funding sources for roading, although it mentions a combination of a roading reserve budget and 'existing cash reserves'. The 'greater-than/less-than percentages in the funding split guidelines for roading in the Council's Revenue and Financing Policy seem to us to be indicative of a 'slush fund' approach to managing roading revenue and expenditure. This probably is not the most appropriate way of managing what is a significant cost activity.
- 5.3 Federated Farmers further note that the Council's road maintenance and upgrading targets for the previous year have not been met, with only 4% of sealed road network resealed in 25/26 (compared to a target of 6%) and only 9,113 cubic metres re-metalling of unsealed roads achieved in 25/26 (against a target of 12,000 cubic metres). And that was on the back of a previous rates increase in the 2025/26 Annual Plan of 7.9%.
- 5.4 While Federated Farmers applaud the Council reducing rates increases in the coming year (compared to what was initially planned for the same period in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan), we are aware that most farmers will see higher rates increases than 6.4%. We are reluctant to endorse proposed rates increases for farmers when road maintenance and upgrading targets have not been met for the last lot of rates raises farmers had.

Recommendation:

- **The Council should clearly identify funding sources for rural road maintenance in the Annual Plan and Revenue and Financing Policy. More transparency is required to clearly show the road funding split where NZTA's Funding Assistance Rate and cash reserves will be applied alongside targeted rates and general rates, with the maximum of 30% allocable to a UACG under section 21 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 where all ratepayers get an equal benefit from roading.**

6. Funding for Community Leadership Activities

- 6.1 The Council's Funding Impact Statement in the Draft Annual Plan for this activity shows both an absolute increase in, and an increasing reliance on, the general rate for funding this activity.⁸
- 6.2 Federated Farmers understand this increase in funding is intended to improve Council performance in several aspects related to community leadership, including improving customer satisfaction ratings, implementing actions from the Council's Climate Change Strategy, and implementing the Economic Strategy and Action Plan.
- 6.3 There is no indication of the split between these funding sources for this activity, yet there is an apparent decrease in sourcing this activity from targeted rates.
- 6.4 Federated Farmers encourages the Council to use a UAGC to the maximum allowable 30% for funding community leadership activities, with the balance of funding sources being a combination of targeted rates and the general rate. This is because community

⁷ Page 9 [Draft Annual Plan 2026-27 Supporting Information](#)

⁸ Page 12 [Draft Annual Plan 2026-27 Supporting Information](#)

leadership benefits everyone equally, and therefore the fairest way of allocating the cost of this is if every property owner pays the maximum allowable UAGC.

- 6.5 As to the funding split between targeted rates and general rates, where there is a specific benefit, such as 'economic development', this aspect of community leadership should be funded by those property owners who derive a benefit from such activity, such as commercial property owners and visitor accommodation operators. Farmers get no benefit from the likes of visitor information centres and studies of vacant commercial and office space land, nor from the Council studying climate change implications for urban growth planning in urban areas. Therefore, farmers should not have to pay for these services through the general rate. Rather, such activities should be funded from a targeted rate on commercial and tourist oriented businesses and affected urban property owners.
- 6.6 Where farmers need to study the economic development implications or climate change implications for agriculture, farmers pay separately for research services related to this through Government mandated farming industry levies (the likes of Beef & Lamb NZ and Dairy NZ). Funding of these activities is not a burden on the ratepayer at all. This is fair and just because ratepayers who are not farmers derive no benefit from these activities.
- 6.7 In a similar vein, we would expect any ratepayers (including farmers) not to be burdened with Council's service costs where ratepayers derive no benefit. Farmers certainly derive no benefit from commercial or office building refurbishment in urban areas nor from tourism nor figuring out the climate change implications of urban growth planning.
- 6.8 Moreover, if the various community groups that the Council deals with are not satisfied with the Council's customer services, then those services need to continually strive lift their game and improve their customer interaction. Federated Farmers does not support simply throwing more money at community leadership in an attempt to solve these problems. In fact, increasing rates to try and solve this may be tantamount to throwing good money after bad, which we suggest would have the opposite effect on the Council's customer satisfaction ratings.

Recommendations:

- **That the Council adopt the maximum amount of 30% of total rate revenue allowed to be allocated to the UAGC under section 21 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 to fund Community Leadership Activities with the balance of funding sources being a combination of targeted rates and the general rate.**
- **That the Council use a targeted rate to fund community leadership activities related to Urban growth (Plan Change 3), and implementation of actions from the Climate change Strategy and from Rangitikei tomorrow – Economic Strategy and Action Plan, including community leadership costs for economic, social and cultural wellbeing associated with these activities.**

7. Proposed Changes to Fees and Charges for working dogs

- 7.1 Federated Farmers note the Council's intention to increase registration fees for working dogs. We support user pays and we support having a lower fees schedule for working dogs (compared to pet dogs). Farm working dogs are highly trained, obedient and always well-cared for and well-supervised. As such, farm dogs generally do not present any sort of 'animal control' problem for councils that require impoundment.
- 7.2 Nevertheless, we say that dog registration fees in Rangitikei District should be comparable with registration fees for working dogs in nearby districts to be considered fair and reasonable. In this regard, registration fees for working dogs in nearby districts are set out in the table below:

District	Fee per working dog	Late payment	Team of 5 (early payment)
Manawatu	\$45	\$61	\$225
Ruapehu	\$35	\$52.50	\$175
Taupo	\$42		\$210
Rangitikei	\$55	\$80	\$275

- 7.3 Based on the above, we cannot see how the Council can justify \$55 per dog and recommend reducing working dog registration fees somewhat so that Rangitikei farmers are not at a disadvantage compared to farmers in nearby districts.

Recommendations:

- **That the Council set a dog registration fee somewhere between \$35 to \$45 per working dog, with a flat fee for a team of 5 or more working dogs, (because farmers do not get a rising benefit if they pay for each subsequent dog).**

8. FEDERATED FARMERS OF NEW ZEALAND

- 8.1 Federated Farmers of New Zealand is a primary sector membership organisation representing farming families and rural businesses throughout New Zealand. The economic importance of the agricultural sector to New Zealand's economy is well recognised. Its direct and indirect contribution to New Zealand's economy is about 15% and land-based primary sector exports comprise about 70% of New Zealand's total exports. Any regulation or additional cost which affects farm businesses also has the potential to impact on the New Zealand economy.

Submission Ends

Federated Farmers wishes to be heard in support of this submission

Thank you

Submission 037 Annual Plan Katie – Deere Rangitikei Netball

Submission received via email to staff:

Happy Friday team,

Sorry, I couldn't find the park charges in the consultation documents so I thought I'd send an email instead. Please let me know if this needs to be addressed elsewhere.

Link from Gaylene below on the proposed charges for 26/27

<https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/files/general/Consultation-Documents/Schedule-of-Fees-and-Charges-2026-27-Draft.pdf>

We have previously mentioned how confusing the 'discounts' part of the schedule was. To make the fee's as transparent and easy to understand my suggestion would be to remove them all together. Sports that are not played get more of a discount than those active in the community and you may run into issues where it specifies 'contact' & 'non contact' sports and their discounts as they are both very different amounts. For example i would argue netball is contact although officially known as non-contact which would give us a better discount in the future if we are to be charged.

We also noted that the 'ground lease' for having a building on council land has risen 25% in the last couple of years from \$200 to \$250. Will we see this kind of staggering increase in the coming years, or will it be something we need to monitor annually when these consultations occur?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 17 April 2026 13:53

Creation Time: April 28, 2026 9:13 AM

Ingoa/Name:

Ko Gregory Smith Aha

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

other: Internet, I went looking

Which statement best reflects your view?

Too high, even if it means delaying projects or reducing services

Why did you choose this option?

Overall, I reject the premise that a 6.4% rate increase is necessary and refer council to the current hardships being felt in the community presently

Council is not meeting its capital build program and as a consequence, monies should NOT be borrowed to further work that is not proceeding.

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

Do the basics right. Move away from demands from interest groups, and stick to your knitting.

Get rid of "Wellness" rubbish that muddies the waters and allows for unnecessary council input.

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

Town/community (Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Keeping strong local decision-making, Lower long-term costs

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

While I agree there is too much government, local councils, with effective decision-making is important.

Unfortunately, councils have created a situation where people hate them due to their wokeness and unnecessary expenditure on things that do not benefit the community.

Get back to basics. Do the infrastructure and community assets well, and walk away from ideology.

Which principle matters most to you?

Keeping rates predictable year to year

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

No

Why/why not?

Refer to my attached discussions.

Basically in summary. Do not change to single year thinking. Stick to Terms and the LTP.

Only emergency changes should be made annually, and debt should not increase beyond the LTP plans. E.V.E.R

Which statement best reflects your view?

Depends on the service.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Proposed increase in the percentage of Domains charges.

While Domains are public spaces, and maintained, this has always been from general rate and should remain so, regardless of the specific use, unless there is some use case that causes extra costs.

The addition of increases to Domains in User Fees means that there will be less capability for the community to pay increased fees.

Leave domains alone.

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

Secrecy in who receives remissions is disingenuous and increases suspicions that not all the community is equally contributing their fair share.

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

Some land that is entitled to application for remission has too many exemptions that the rest of the community is being expected to pay more for.

E.g., Marae with Kaumatua housing gains relief, but community housing is expected to be funded more so by ratepayers.

*Please include more pages if required:

Annual Plan consultation.txt, 0.01MB

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Anything else?

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute.

However, please stop saying things like "nothing major has changed from the LTP".

This is clearly propaganda, incorrect and does not do justice to the rest of the council who are trying to do right by the ratepayer.

Overall, I reject the premise that a 6.4% rate increase is necessary and refer council to the current hardships being felt in the community presently
 Council is not meeting its capital build program and as a consequence, monies should NOT be borrowed to further work that is not proceeding.
 This is seen as a not so smart way to get around any future rates capping plan the present government may impose later this year.
 Stop using the ratepayer as a bank account, to be drawn upon at whim.
 Your job as council is to limit costs, and support infrastructure install, maintenance and disposal/replacement.
 That's it.
 No vanity projects like the council buildings.
 This is not required under the EQ changes, and now represents a waste that the public can no longer afford.
 Considering the council may not even exist in 3 years time, means council needs to be cognisant that the current membership will be held to account for all unnecessary expenditure.

Do the basics right. Move away from demands from interest groups, and stick to your knitting.
 Get rid of "Wellness" rubbish that muddies the waters and allows for unnecessary council input.

While I agree there is too much government, local councils, with effective decision-making is important.
 Unfortunately, councils have created a situation where people hate them due to their wokeness and unnecessary expenditure on things that do not benefit the community.
 Get back to basics. Do the infrastructure and community assets well, and walk away from ideology.

Examples of Impact of Rating Proposals

What is the justification for the massive CV and hence rates reductions in Seamer ST Ratana?
 The public is not aware of any event or purpose change in the street?
 What triggered such a massive revaluation?
 Whereas comparison with Bridge ST Bulls has had zero change in value, and their rates proposed to increase 7.12%
 Hardly seems fair on the face of it.

Prospective Statement of Cashflows

What is the reason for a massive increase in losses to purchases from investing activities? From LTP 39840000 to 53239000 A 33% increase

Prospective Statement of Financial Position

Borrowings are through the roof compared to LTP.
 From 16000 to 10016000. An increase of 10 million.
 For what?
 When net assets are down.
 Our accumulated funds and reserves are adequate to spend as cash instead of borrowing.

Projects in the LTP can be deferred and delayed with no negative effects.

Such projects include but not limited to, the land based wastewater projects at Taihape, Ratana, and Bulls.

The government has reduced the ridiculous previous government's requirements and a public review of the need for continuing should occur.

There is insufficient information being provided to the public to make this a simple councillor vote.

We note iwi are donkey deep in the discussions, and appear to be privy to special meetings and information the general public is not readily provided with.

Standards improvements have not been proven and are opinions only with zero performance requirements in the documents so far released.

Simply stating "the lake water will improve" or "Iwi disapprove of treated sewerage water entering the river" for examples are insufficient justification for millions being spent.

Putting in a system that goes far and beyond minimum requirements is also not good governance, and council may find themselves culpable in a challenge to these decisions that are not technically feasible or required.

The whole "trusted partner" model is racist and disgusts the community.

Iwi shall NOT be the only party that has input into the expenditure on stormwater, and public need more engagement along the lines of Iwi engagement to be fair.

This line goes far beyond the legal requirements for "a local authority should provide opportunities for Māori to contribute to its decision-making processes:".

It seems ratepayers, as "Key Stakeholders" are teh ignored party when council considers who to communicate with.

Do better in this area.

I suggest a closer relationship with Community Committees whereby exactly the same information provided to TRAK, is also provided immediately and without delay.

Additionally, it has been a long time suspicion that postal voting has not achieved the original aims, i.e., to increase the voting turnout.

While turnout initially increased, the postal voting turnout has now dropped far below the previous turnout when in-person voting occurred.

I suggest a return to in-person voting on a single day for the Rangitikei, with limited number of polling booths maintained in 100% public spaces only.

I also propose that limited extra expenditure be recommended by council prior to hand over of assets to CD Water.

This appears to be being used as a sly method to increase borrowings in the short term, then transfer the cost of said borrowing to the CCO, in order to justify increased projects in this area.

The ratepayer is aware of this rort, and decries its purpose.

Also

<https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/files/meetings/council-meetings/2026-03-12/Amended-Revenue-and-Financing-Policy-under-separate-cover.pdf>
Amendments to Revenue and Finance Policy

Borrowing

Considered appropriate to fund new capital projects that deliver benefits over a number of years. Sometimes required to fund operating expenses/activities where the benefit spans multiple years but is not deemed a capital item (for example the removal of sludge or the renewal of a district/regional plan). This helps mitigate swings in rate increases across the years. , typically where Council has an operating deficit.

Response:

I would think that "multiple years" should read "multiple terms". Annual plans typically create projects that span multiple years, but seldom multiple terms. This is the job of the 10 year plan. Funding for annual plan projects should rest on the project's ability to meet the criteria for that year, and a little beyond only. This proposed change opens up AP projects to funding that should NOT be permitted if the project is not already in the long term plan. Council are making a mockery of the long term plan and manipulating funds allocated for long term benefits into projects of dubious value. If the project has value long term, then get it into the long term plan with ratepayer consultation. Not flicked into Annual plans which you already stated you were not going to consult on because "there was little changed". I propose this one item is actually a major change to the AP, and because of argument above, shall not be passed.

FUNDING OF OPERATING EXPENDITURE

Subsidies and Grants

Such funding is often received for a specific purpose and Council has no discretion regarding the use of such income. Generally, these funds reduce the need for Council to raise income through General rates, targeted rates or Levies, fees and charges or debt.

FUNDING OF CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

General

Revenue that is collected to cover Council's depreciation charge (which forms part of Council's operating expenditure) is used to finance the replacement of capital assets. In addition to the sources of income for operating expenditure listed above Council may use the following to fund capital expenses:

- Borrowings
- Reserves
- Proceeds from the disposal of assets
- Subsidies, grants or donations specifically identified for a capital item.

Response:

The addition of grants donations et al, allows the council to raise further debt from the addition of one-off sources of funds.

This is not really a permitted use of "income" to raise debt from because it is so intermittent and unlikely to be repeated.

Allowing 250% (or whatever the ratio) of debt to be raised against a non-repeatable source of income is ruinous to ratepayer's ability to repay.

There is ZERO guarantee that the monies will be repeated and we are left paying out of rates.

I do not support this amendment.

PART B.

Summary of Funding Used in Activities

The reduction of Targeted Rate to Community and Council Boards is anti democratic.

And is TRAK included in this or are they funded elsewhere?

The reduction of Libraries in Subsidies and Grants links in to the Funding of Operating Expenditure which I have already objected to.

The addition of increases to Domains in User Fees means that there will be less capability for the community to pay increased fees.

Leave domains alone.

Proposed increase in the percentage of Domains charges.

While Domains are public spaces, and maintained, this has always been from general rate and should remain so, regardless of the specific use, unless there is some use case that causes extra costs.

Increasing Community Housing funding from General Rate seems laudable on the surface, but opens the council up to accusations of living beyond their means and supporting non-Core business.

Community housing would be tier 2 council activity at best., and as such funding from general rates should NOT be a major contributor.

Similarly with Resource Consents, Civil Defence, . Those requiring consent should be paying the vast majority of costs associated with RC applications.

The addition of Grants as a source of funding for solid waste is very suspect and will lead to solid waste operators being in a position to "buy" council agreement on major changes they propose.

Overall.

The introduction of changes to sources of funds and the wide bands allow for perceived corruption in council and accusation so covering up mismanagement of costs.

APPENDIX 1 – FUNDING SOURCE ANALYSIS

Community Housing

Funded by user pays (rent) and General Rate where rental income does not cover all costs.

General Rates SHOULD NEVER be used for tier 2 services from council.

I do not support. Please remove this amendment.

In general, all comments should be corrected to reflect the Summary table comments.

Draft-Rates-Remission-Policy-under-separate-cover.pdf

Changing Rates Remission and including the term "Rates Relief" is disingenuous way to allow more remissions that are secreted.

Remission of water rates will become a community discussion once the CD Water authority gets its hooks into our funds.

Secrecy in who receives remissions is disingenuous and increases suspicions that not all the community is equally contributing their fair share.

Some land that is entitled to application for remission has too many exemptions that the rest of the community is being expected to pay more for.

E.g., Marae with Kaumatua housing gains relief, but community housing is expected to be funded more so by ratepayers.

Proposed remission of water rates

I support council acknowledging their culpability in not alerting users of potential leaks. While it is the user's responsibility, some training in what to do MUST be provided, otherwise council must take some responsibility.

7.3 Conditions and Criteria

I do fail to see how an application can be made BEFORE the repairs are completed AND require invoice submitted within 60 days of due date.

These two situations appear to be at odds with another.

Considering the timing of detection of a leak, and the delays getting a plumber in and invoiced, 60 days may have passed the due date by.

I suggest council goes back and looks at the wordig to make it simpler and eliminate the potential for a cath 22 situation.

The continued review and application of this remission will be passed on to the CDWater authority when they take over?

Ratepayers require a specific clause stating this.

11. Incentivising residential development

Rates remission on new or relocated dwellings

11.2. Conditions and criteria

The clauses in this section effectively mean no new incentives will be paid out because the window of opportunity is ridiculously small.

2)

By the time this AP is ratified, the deadline of 30 June 2026 will have passed.

Only applies to Building consents received BEFORE 30 June 2023

And CoC issued prior to 31 Dec 2024.

How many properties could possibly meet that tight criteria?

Makes a mockery of the Mayor's announcement that the Incentive has been reactivated.

Please reconsider the dates.

12. Rates Remission on Subdivisions for Residential Purposes

Change from "will" to "may" without specifying reason for rejection if all the criteria are otherwise met, allows for corrupt processes (favouring one application over another).

Either return to "will" or specify which reasons may be used if all the criteria are otherwise met.

Fees and Charges

Other than where mentioned above, I support reviewing costs to the ratepayer and residents, as well as outside users of our facilities.

Submission on the Rangitikei District Council Annual Plan 2026/2027



Justin Adams

Submission on Annual Plan 2026/2027 Consultation

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Submission on Annual Plan 2026/2027 Consultation

Average rates increase of 6.4%?

The proposed average rates increase statement is misleading at best. The rates impact in the examples given in the supplementary notes (Found Here on pages 62-65 <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/files/meetings/council-meetings/2026-03-12/Annual-Plan-2026-27-Supporting-Information-under-separate-cover.pdf>) shows the real impact is significantly disproportionate and varies wildly among the townships. The examples show an average of, Marton 7.90%, Taihape 1.61% , Bulls 3.10% whereas Hunterville shows an average increase of 10.53%. For the majority of the township of Hunterville to receive an over 10% increase in rates whilst having no major capital expenditure projects either planned/under development or completed, places a significant burden on Hunterville residents that is questionable at best.

It is particularly concerning that this information was not included in the main consultation document. It appears to have been hidden in the Supplementary notes which has to be proactively searched for.

Rates Increase Recommendations

I strongly recommend that before the adoption of this Annual Plan the township disproportionality is reviewed and rectified.

I also strongly recommend for future Annual Plan Consultations It would be transparent for Council to state average rates increases by township to reflect an accurate expectation to ratepayers and adherence to the transparency requirements in the Local Government Act.

Targeted Rate for Civil Defence

A targeted rate for Civil Defence should be a fixed amount for all ratepayers. Your proposal to make it a percentage of the capital value simply shifts the burden to the rural sector who ultimately receive the least benefit from it. Using the most recent event "Valentines Weekend 2026" it was Rural ratepayers who partially cleared the roads so they could be traversed at their own cost with no reimbursement. The only Civil Defence spending planned is for an Emergency Operations Centre in Marton. The spending needs to be more proportional to each township rather than focusing on a single town and punishing rural ratepayers for being proactive.

Civil Defence Rate Recommendation

I very strongly recommend this rate is a fixed amount for each ratepayer.

Hunterville a low priority?

Hunterville is mentioned only twice in the Annual Plan. Once on a map. Once mentioning the Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade. There was less than 48 hours' notice of a public meeting in Hunterville on the Annual Plan. It appears that in the last five annual plans and now this one, Hunterville has had nothing more than standard repairs and maintenance or "upgrades" to its basic infrastructure. Every other Township (Taihape, Marton, Bulls, Ratana) either has had or currently has major council facility projects and/or government funding.

Considering the average rates increase for Hunterville in this Annual Plan is 10.53% it is beginning to appear that the Rangitikei District Council believes Hunterville is a low priority.

Key Projects

It was disappointing to see no proactive plan or focus to get the key projects back on track or in some cases on budget. Does council have any sense of urgency for actually completing these projects on time and on budget? There needs to be some accountability for results in the public interest.

Also of concern, this is the second annual plan where important details, updates and costs for the Marton Swim Centre are released after consultation for the annual plan begins meaning the Swim Centre is avoided in annual

Submission on Annual Plan 2026/2027 Consultation

Plan deliberations. It is of sufficient “public interest” that it would need to have been included. Action like this breed public sentiment of “what are they hiding” whether it is true or not.

Delivering projects well, is to deliver projects, On time, On Budget and as advertised to the ratepayer. At this point Council cannot make that claim.

Marton Water Strategy

There must be an independent review of this project. After six years and \$3,800,000 dollars spent (One third of the \$11m budget), effectively nothing has been achieved. Council must show the ratepayers that there will be accountability on this issue which is one of the highest priorities for Marton Residents. Council must adhere to the Local Government Act and show transparency to the public on this issue.

Marton Swim Centre

Council must act transparently and advise the public what costs are being funded by the “private funder” and what costs the ratepayers are bearing. It is of concern that each time this project is updated the budget seems to double (Originally \$1m then \$2.7m now its \$6m)

Project Budget Concerns

It is extremely concerning that the below projects are all over the original budget and all have not actually started construction.

Ratana Wastewater – Budget \$8m – Spent \$1.5m – Expected Final Cost \$9m **\$1 million over**

Marton EOC – Originally presented to Council as \$1m last year, now in April 2026 it sits at \$2m **\$1 million over**

Marton Swim Centre – Budget \$2.7m – Spent \$642,000 – Expected Final Cost \$6m **\$3.3 million over**

Key Projects Recommendation

A thorough review of all projects needs to be undertaken with the view of establishing if Council is capable of delivering the projects well, On time, On Budget and as advertised to the ratepayer.

Korero Mai – Have Your Say Question Responses

The proposed average rates increase for 2026/27 is 6.4%, Which statement best reflects your view?

This statement is misleading as the rates increases vary wildly throughout the district. There is also no detailed definitive explanation on how the “average” has dropped substantially compared to the Long Term Plan. That is not transparency.

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

It would be prudent to reassess the rural and Hunterville rates increases as they exceed the average increase substantially.

The rate of the **NEW** Civil Defence Rate should be fixed not based on capital value.

The Major Projects require far better cost disclosure to the public to maintain the transparency requirements in the local government act.

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

Submission on Annual Plan 2026/2027 Consultation

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

Town/community (Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Keeping strong local decision-making

Lower long-term costs

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

Where do I begin.



**Submission on
Rangitīkei District Council
Draft Fees and Charges 2026-2027
Alcohol Licensing Fees
17 April 2026**

Tēnā koutou

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed fees and charges for 2026-2027. We are submitting specifically on alcohol licensing fees.

We would like the opportunity to speak to our submission.

If you have any questions on the comments we have included in our submission, please contact:

Jennifer Lamm
Policy Advisor
Alcohol Healthwatch

About Alcohol Healthwatch

Alcohol Healthwatch is an independent national charity working to reduce alcohol-related harm and inequities. We provide a range of regional and national health promotion services such as providing evidence-based information and advice on policy and planning matters, supporting community action projects and coordinating networks to address alcohol-related harm such as the Cross-council Local Alcohol Policy Network.

Specific Comments

1. The alcohol licensing fees listed on the Council's website¹ are those set by the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013². However, while full cost recovery was envisaged by the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012³, the nationally fixed fees set under the 2013 Regulations have not kept pace with the costs incurred by councils, and it is anticipated that these fees will not adequately reflect costs till at least 2027.⁴
2. We are aware that the inadequacy of current fees in the 2013 Regulations was raised at the 2025 Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting,⁵ and we are also

aware that the overall shortfall in revenue for administering alcohol licensing will be exacerbated if the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Improving Alcohol Regulation) Amendment Bill⁶ is passed.

3. If the Bill is enacted, it is anticipated that the existing risk-cost formulas in the 2013 Regulations would change for clubs and restaurants⁷, and additional administrative requirements, such as matters relating to the standing of objectors, certification requirements, and related processes, will likely increase costs for councils and place additional pressure on staff resources, particularly licensing inspectors. Further costs, as yet unknown, may also arise as the Bill has left much to future Regulations made on the recommendation of the Minister.
4. The Council's *Summary of Information for the Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/27* states that "fees set by legislation (for example liquor licensing fees) have not changed, unless they were changed by central government".⁸ However, rather than adhere to the 2013 fees and subsidise the costs associated with alcohol licensing, an increasing number of councils⁹ have instead utilised their bylaw-making powers under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fee-setting Bylaws) Order 2013.¹⁰ Through this process, councils can set realistic fees (usually 100% cost recovery) as a licensing authority, and in respect of inspection and enforcement functions.
5. **We strongly encourage the Council to also make a bylaw** that reflects the costs of licensing activities and recommend that the Council consider opting for 100% cost recovery, increasing fees incrementally until the bylaw is reviewed.
6. We further recommend that the Council conduct a comprehensive review of all the costs incurred with licensing, which includes costs associated with administration, monitoring and enforcement to ensure that these are met by the sector.
7. Reviewing fees in a timely manner would, we believe, meet the policy objectives of the licensing fees regime, namely:
 - (a) To recover the total reasonable costs incurred by the Council in administering the alcohol licensing system
 - (b) To ensure that those who create the greatest need for regulatory effort bear the commensurate costs
 - (c) To allow local circumstances to be reflected in the fees paid by operators and income received by the Council
 - (d) To minimise alcohol-related harm, to the extent that this can be achieved through a cost recovery regime.¹¹

Summary

8. The alcohol licensing regime and fee-setting is part of a package of measures which, when used comprehensively, can create safer environments and significantly minimise rates of hazardous drinking and subsequently alcohol-related harm. This includes Alcohol Control Bylaws, Local Alcohol Policies¹², and other related plans and policies.
9. An alcohol licensing bylaw that sets fees that reflects the costs incurred with alcohol licencing is not only a harm reduction strategy, but it also supports community outcomes.

REFERENCES

- 1 Rangitīkei District Council. Schedule of Fees and Charges - Ngā Utu Kaunihera. <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/files/general/Fees-Charges/Schedule-of-Fees-and-Charges-2025-26-Adopted-1.pdf>.
- 2 Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013. <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/secondary-legislation/pco-drafted/2013/452/en/latest/#DLM5708106>.
- 3 Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012. <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2012/120/en/latest/#DLM3339333>.
- 4 Ministry of Justice. Fee system for alcohol control. <https://www.justice.govt.nz/justice-sector-policy/key-initiatives/key-initiatives-archive/sale-and-supply-of-alcohol/licensing/fee-system-for-alcohol/licensing/>.
- 5 Local Government New Zealand. 2025 Annual General Meeting. Remit 3: *That LGNZ advocates for the government to update the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 18 December 2013 to account for inflation and include a mechanism for automatic annual inflation adjustments.*
- 6 Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Improving Alcohol Regulation) Amendment Bill. <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2026/262/en/latest/>.
- 7 The Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Improving Alcohol Regulation) Amendment Bill, if passed, will enable clubs to alternatively hold an on-licence (and an off-licence if held prior to 2012, pursuant to s28(4) of the SSAA), and restaurants will be permitted to also hold an off-licence.
- 8 Rangitīkei District Council. Summary of Information for the Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/27. <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/files/meetings/council-meetings/2026-03-12/Proposed-Schedule-of-Fees-and-Charges-and-Statement-of-Proposal-under-separate-cover.pdf>.
- 9 For example:
 - Hamilton City Council Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 <https://storage.googleapis.com/hccproduction-web-assets/public/Uploads/Documents/Bylaws/Hamilton-City-Alcohol-Fees-Bylaw-2025-final.pdf>.
 - Hastings District Council Alcohol Licensing Fees Bylaw 2024 <https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/assets/Document-Library/Alcohol-Licensing-Fee-Bylaw/Alcohol-Licensing-Fee-Bylaw.pdf>.
 - Hutt City Council Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2024 https://hccpublicdocs.azurewebsites.net/api/download/83c4c58dfb9a4cb0a0d6a833cfa250f9/_policies/7afd8fe8245227494d4c9fe8a961a16d2063.
 - Kapiti Coast District Council Alcohol Licensing Fees Bylaw 2024 <https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/media/amgnzzqb/alcohol-fees-licensing-bylaw-2024.pdf>
 - Matamata-Piako District Council Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 <https://mpdc.govt.nz/filelink/fileman-files/CouncilDocuments/Bylaws/Alcohol%20Licensing%20Fees%20Bylaw%202025.pdf>
 - Porirua City Council Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2024 https://storage.googleapis.com/pcc-wagtail-media/documents/Alcohol_Fees_Bylaw_2024.pdf
 - Tauranga City Council Alcohol Fees Bylaw <https://www.tauranga.govt.nz/Portals/0/data/council/bylaws/files/alcohol-licensing-fees-bylaw-2025.pdf>
 - Waipā District Council Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2024 <https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/our-council/bylawsandpolicies/bylaws>
 - Waitomo District Council Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 <https://www.waitomo.govt.nz/media/sv2lbgmn/waitomo-district-alcohol-fees-bylaw-2025.pdf>
 - Wellington City Council Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2024 <https://wellington.govt.nz/-/media/your-council/plans-policies-and-bylaws/bylaws/files/alcohol-fees-bylaw-2024.pdf?la=en&hash=E740BA23791C8CA8F55A230467299BE4F33FF9C0>.
 - Whangārei District Council Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2016 <https://www.wdc.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/4/documents/council/bylaws/alcohol-fees-bylaw.pdf>
- 10 Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fee-setting Bylaws) Order 2013. <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/secondary-legislation/pco-drafted/2013/453/en/latest/>.

- 11 Ministry of Justice. Regulatory Impact Statement for the Alcohol Licensing System. 2013, paragraph 4. <https://www.regulation.govt.nz/assets/RIS-Documents/ris-justice-frf-nov13.pdf>.
- 12 While approximately 80% of the New Zealand population is covered by a Local Alcohol Policy, Rangitikei District does not have a Local Alcohol Policy in force. See for example, [Horowhenua District Council Local Alcohol Policy](#), [Ruapehu District Council Local Alcohol Policy](#), [Stratford-New Plymouth District Councils Local Alcohol Policy](#), [Waitomo District Council Local Alcohol Policy](#), [Whanganui District Council Local Alcohol Policy](#).

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 17 April 2026 16:04

Creation Time: April 28, 2026 9:13 AM

Ingoa/Name:

Felicity Wallace

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

Yes

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Interested Residents of Marton and Rangitīkei

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

Please tick this box if you would like to speak to your submission at the Council Hearings on early May 2025. Someone will contact you to confirm this.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

other: from a friend

Which statement best reflects your view?

Unsure / need more information

Why did you choose this option?

refer attached submission

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

refer attached submission

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

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

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

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

Which principle matters most to you?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

No

Why/why not?

Refer submission

Which statement best reflects your view?

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

IRO-MAR Submission RDC AP 2026 FINAL.pdf, 0.05MB

Anything else?

Submission on the Rangitikei District Council Annual Plan 2026-2027**Year 3 of the Long Term Plan 2024-2024**

To: Rangitikei District Council
info@rangitikei.govt.nz

Submitter: Interested Residents of Marton and Rangitikei
c/- Felicity Wallace

Introduction

- 1 Interested Residents of Marton and Rangitikei (**IRO-MAR**) wish to be heard in support of its submission.
- 2 IRO-MAR advocates for a group of residents living in Marton and the wider Rangitikei district who hold a strong affinity and commitment to the land and people of Rangitikei district, it's health and well-being.
- 3 We wish to see our district grow and flourish but not at the cost of the amenity and environment that make this area a special place to live.
- 4 We support environmentally-best practice development and protection of Rangitikei District , including its rural environment and communities, its flora, fauna, endangered species and soils.
- 5 We appreciate this opportunity to take part in the Annual Plan 2026/2027 process.

General comments:

1. IRO-MAR notes that the 2026-2027 Annual Plan Consultation Document " Where's Annual Plan & Co Rangitikei? has well designed graphics with a positive aspect; however this document is lacking in substance or any responsible information to residents and rate payers.
 - (i) The title is flippant and *where is* the Annual Plan?
 - (ii) The key consultation topics are not clearly set out in the Annual Plan: IRO-MAR responds to the following:

- i) **Proposed rates increase:** IRO-MAR is UNSURE as insufficient information is provided.
- ii) **Proposed Changes to funding: Revenue & Finance Policy**
IRO-MAR does NOT SUPPORT the proposed changes to the Revenue & Finance Policy as the reasons for the proposed changes are not clear and transparent.
- (iii) There is no clear information in the Consultation document about how the Annual Plan is progressing items in the LTP or previous AP.
 - There are no figures for projects
 - There are no real and valued updates on projects
 - There are no Budget adjustments or debt comparisons to work programmes
 - Work programmes are not compared to the LTP, there are no milestones and no projects of significance completed.
 - There is no alignment of the forecast programmes compared to actual delivery; and hence alignment to debt forecasting.
- (iv) Last year the 2025/2026 RDC Annual Plan published the following description about what constitutes an Annual Plan, yet this is not provided:

What is an Annual Plan?

The Annual Plan is Council's plan for the up-coming financial year. Council produces an Annual Plan in the years in which a Long Term Plan is not produced. The Annual Plan is prepared according to section 95 of the Local Government Act 2002. Its purpose is to:

- *Contain the proposed annual budget and funding impact statement for the year to which the Annual plan relates; and*
 - *Identifying any variation from the financial statements and funding impact statement included in the local authority's long-term plan in respect of the year; and*
 - *Provide integrated decision making and co-ordination of the resources of the local authority;*
- and*
- *Contribute to the accountability of the local authority to the community.*

This submission wishes to comment specifically on the following items:

1. IRO-MAR requests clear information regarding Council's plan for the upcoming financial year, specifically:
 - (i)
 - What roading projects are forecast for the year? This is highlighted as the most costly item on Council's rates breakdown.
 - The AP suggests that 16,000 vehicles move through the district on average per day using local roads, ie at ratepayers expense. In fact State Highways take the bulk of that traffic and at no direct cost to ratepayers/RDC.
 - (ii) What Budgets have been spent & are available for the Marton to Bulls wastewater centralisation project?

- (iii) What Budgets have been spent & are available for the Marton Water Strategy project?
 - i) The Annual Report for 2023/24 states that “ Construction of the new plant will start in the new financial year” ie 2024/2025. An article in the Manawatu Standard dated 17 April 2026 now states this work will not go ahead and that Council has other options. What funds have been spent on this project that hasn't gone ahead?
- (iv) What is Council's plan for re-organisation and restructuring when Water Done Locally comes into effect?
- (v) Asset management/development should be aligned with recent Consultant prepared models: 3 Waters Strategy Growth Assessments (1-4) for each of the Rangitīkei urban centres and also the associated flood modelling scenarios prepared for Council.
- (vi) Council commissioned a comprehensive report on the Marton Swim Centre yet selected the least preferred option and ignored the report findings that capex over a number of years would be required to bring the centre up to the required standard. What progress has been made on this project?
- (vii) What is the status of the proposed Council Building modernisation project taking into account Central Government intent and directives?
- (viii) What progress has been made on the Marton Streetscape proposal and what costs have been spent to date?

Conclusion:

2. IRO-MAR requests Council provide transparency to residents and ratepayers and clearly outlines progress and work programmes aligned to budgets, with reference to the Long Term Plan and previous Annual Plans.
3. The diagram of the Planning Cycle on p3 of the Annual Plan Consultation document 2026/27 shows a circle going round and round and never achieving anything: it is time for the Rangitīkei District Council to get in line with its obligations, be transparent and accountable to the community.

Felicity Wallace

On behalf of IRO-MAR

Dated: 17 April 2026

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 17 April 2026 16:21

Creation Time: April 28, 2026 9:13 AM

Ingoa/Name:

David Yates

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

Newspaper, Meeting, Facebook

Which statement best reflects your view?

Too high, even if it means delaying projects or reducing services

Why did you choose this option?

It is up to the Council to live within a budget not going back to the rate payer every year for more and more when they least afford it

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

Rein in spending

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

The wider district (Decisions are made by people representing the whole Rangitikei District, covering several towns and communities)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

Better quality infrastructure and services

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

Which principle matters most to you?

Keeping rates predictable year to year

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

No

Why/why not?

Far to much

Is these raises forcing People to sell up and move out ?

there is a lot of empty houses in our district

Which statement best reflects your view?

Fees should generally recover the full cost of providing a service where the service is used by an individual or identifiable group.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Partially

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN RANGITIKEI?

Submitted By: Anonymous user

Submitted Time: 19 April 2026 15:15

Creation Time: April 28, 2026 8:21 AM

Ingoa/Name:

Peter & Darryl Cousins

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation?

No

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

N/A

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Would you like to speak to your submission:

Please tick this box if you would like to speak to your submission at the Council Hearings on early May 2025. Someone will contact you to confirm this.

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

How did you hear about this consultation?

other: Council Staff

Which statement best reflects your view?

Unsure / need more information

Why did you choose this option?

I'm not aware of how fees & charges are calculated

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

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

Yes

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

Town/community (Decisions are made by people representing my town or community)

When councils work more closely at a regional level, what matters most to you?

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

Focus on Council's core business

Which principle matters most to you?

People who benefit most should pay more

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

Why/why not?

Don't know

Which statement best reflects your view?

Fees should generally recover the full cost of providing a service where the service is used by an individual or identifiable group.

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Yes, swimming Pool Inspection fees. These need to relate to the time taken to complete the inspection + admin to file required reports. There may be room for

WHERE'S ANNUAL PLAN & CO @ RANGITIKEI?

some vehicle travel costs but not staff costs as these are covered by rates. My pool inspection took 5 minutes but I am being asked to pay \$1000 / hr for this inspection

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

Why/why not?

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

*Please include more pages if required:

Anything else?

Submission 043 Annual Plan Peter & Darryl Cousins

Additional submission information received via email to submissions@rangitikei.govt.nz:

Good morning

I wish to add some additional comments to my original submission for oral hearing

Wednesday 6 May 2026

1:30 pm – 1:40 pm

Council Chambers

46 High Street, Marton

These comments relate to how Council Staff interact with us

I attach letter dated December 03 2025 – please circulate

The points I wish to raise are –

- Letter is not helpful to a pool owner making them aware of NZS8500 (the compliance standard)
- Maybe a link to NZS8500 so pool owners could download
- Doesn't advise of critical sections of NZS8500 requiring attention

3 December 2025

Mr PW & Mrs BD Cousins

Dear Peter & Barbara

Swimming pool audit at :

As of 1 January 2017, an amendment to The Building (Pools) Act (Act) was passed to strengthen pool safety compliance and reduce accidental drowning. To ensure that residential pools are safe, the Rangitikei District Council (Council) must inspect a residential pool at least once every three years to determine whether the pool barriers comply with the Act.

There are two options as to how you can have your pool inspected; you can opt to:

- Engage an IQPI (Independent Qualified Pool Inspector) that must be registered with MBIE (Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment)
 - If an IQPI inspects a pool to determine its compliance status with the Act, the inspector must, within 3 working days of the date of inspection, give written notice to the relevant territorial authority of the decision.
- If you choose to have an IQPI carry out the inspection, Council requires your pool to be inspected by **Friday 30th January 2026**.

OR

- have the Council carryout the pool inspection. A pool inspection fee of \$255.00 will be charged; this inspection will include:
 1. one pool inspection
 2. pool inspection report (property owner's copy and Council property file copy)

If you opt to have Council carry out your inspection, this will occur between **Monday, 9 February to Friday, 13 February 2026**, as per Section 222 of the Act.

Upon completion of the initial pool inspection, you will receive:

- a copy of this audit report and whether any concerns where identified.
- if concerns are identified, a re-inspection will be required within 12 months or as stated on the report, to confirm remediation of issues has occurred.

Please note: if your swimming pool is non-compliant at the first inspection, further inspections will incur fees. Please visit Council's website www.rangitikei.govt.nz to view the current Schedule of Fees and Charges.

If you have any queries regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me on 06 327 0099 or 0800 422 522.

Yours sincerely

Building Compliance Officer



Bulls and District Community Trust
c/- Te Matapihi
4 Criterion Street
Bulls 4818

17/04/2026

To Rangitikei District Council,

On behalf of Bulls & District Community Trust, I am writing to formally present two requests relating to our current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Council.

1. Request for Review, Increase, and Annual Adjustment of MOU Funding

We would like to request a review and increase of our current MOU funding agreement. As our services and community initiatives continue to grow, so too do the demands on our resources. An increase in funding would allow us to better support our community, expand our programmes, and continue delivering positive and meaningful outcomes across the district.

In addition, we respectfully request that the MOU be assessed and inflation adjusted annually in line with each financial year. This approach would ensure the agreement remains responsive to rising costs, evolving community needs, and the scale of our operations, while supporting a sustainable and forward-focused partnership.

2. Request for Additional Funding for Bulls Statue Maintenance

We also seek an additional \$2,000 per year within the MOU to support the ongoing maintenance of the Bulls statues located throughout the town, which the Trust care takes. These Bulls are a well-recognised and much-loved feature of the town, contributing significantly to Bulls' identity, community pride, and visitor appeal. As they are exposed to the elements and photo opportunities year-round, they require regular upkeep to remain safe and visually presentable. Currently, there is no consistent maintenance approach across Bulls on public and private land, creating a risk of gradual deterioration.

We propose that this funding supports:

- Regular cleaning to maintain appearance
- Repainting to preserve visual quality and consistency
- Structural repairs to ensure safety and longevity
- Maintenance of Bulls on both public and private land (with owner approval)

We also request that this funding be inflation adjusted annually in line with economic conditions and rising costs.

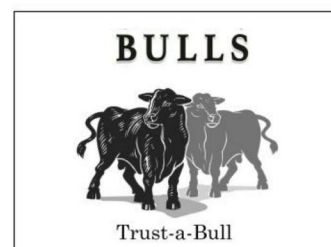
We greatly value our relationship with Council and sincerely appreciate your ongoing support of our work. We would welcome the opportunity to meet and discuss these requests further at a time that suits you.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nga mihi nui

Heidi Macaulay
Community Co-Ordinator

Me Mahi tahi tātou mō te oranga o te katoa
We should work together for the wellbeing of everyone



KŌRERO MAI

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

SUBMISSION FORM

Have your say on 'Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitīkei?'

**Kei whea rā te Māhere ā-tau i tēnei wā? Me hoki whakamuri,
kia anga whakamua. Tēnā, tukuna mai tō kōrero.**

Submissions close at 5pm Friday 17 April 2026.

**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 or by completing this submission form.

Submission forms can be delivered to:

- **Marton Head Office**
46 High Street, Marton, 4710
- **Marton Community Hub**
31 High Street, Marton, 4710
- **Bulls Community Hub**
Te Matapihi, 4 Criterion Street, Bulls, 4818
- **Taihape Community Hub**
102 Hautapu Street (SH1), Taihape, 4720

Mailed freepost to:

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

Emailed to:

submissions@rangitikei.govt.nz

YOUR DETAILS

Name/Ingōa: Charlotte Oswald

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation? Yes No
(If yes, this confirms you have the authority to submit on the organisation's behalf)

Organisation/ Tōpūtanga (if applicable): Taihape Playground

Address/Kāinga noho: Group

Email/ Īmēra: _____

Phone/Waea: _____

- Please tick this box if you would like to speak to your submission at the Council Hearings tentatively scheduled for 6 May 2026. Someone will contact you to confirm this.

Please note:

Submissions for Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitīkei? are public information and your name, organisation and submission will be made available to the public as part of deliberations. Your contact details will remain private.

Your submission will only be used for the purpose of the 'Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitīkei?' process and will be held by Rangitīkei District Council at 46 High St, Marton 4710. You may access the information and request its correction, if required.

How did you hear about this consultation?

- Newspaper Website Facebook
 Mail Meeting Poster/Flyer

Other
word of mouth

I am writing to express the need for a new toilet block to be included in the funding for the next Annual Plan.

The Taihape Playground Group believes that the existing block at the Rec is not fit for purpose & needs to be destroyed - with a new block to be installed under the Grandstand.

Our new playground plans have been aligned with having the toilets nearby the younger children's play area & the picnic table for easy access.

We believe the toilets are a council expense & would greatly appreciate the inclusion in the next Annual Plan.

Thanks

Chalotte Oswald.
Taihape Playground Group.

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:

- **Marlon Head Office**
- **Marlon Community Hub**
- **Te Matapihi - Bulls Community Hub**
- **Taihape Community Hub**

Freepost to: Rangitikei District Council - 172050
Private Bag 1102, Marlon, 4741

Email: submissions@rangitikei.govt.nz

Use this QR code to make a submission online, 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 form.



KÖRERO MAI

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



SUBMISSION FORM

Have your say on 'Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitikei?'

Kei whea rā te Māhere ā-tau i tēnei wā? Me hoki whakamuri, kia anga whakamua. Tēnā, tukuna mai tō kōrero.

Submissions close at 5pm Friday 17 April 2026.

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 or by completing this submission form.

Submission forms can be delivered to:

- **Marlon Head Office**
46 High Street, Marlon, 4710
- **Marlon Community Hub**
31 High Street, Marlon, 4710
- **Bulls Community Hub**
Te Matapihi, 4 Criterion Street, Bulls, 4818
- **Taihape Community Hub**
102 Hautapu Street (SH1), Taihape, 4720

Mailed freepost to:

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

Emailed to:

submissions@rangitikei.govt.nz

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
- Contact our Council staff by calling **0800 422 522**
- Email us at info@rangitikei.govt.nz
- Attend one of our community engagements



KÖRERO MAI

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



YOUR DETAILS

Name/Ingoa: Daniel Duxfield

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation? Yes No
(If yes, this confirms you have the authority to submit on the organisation's behalf)

Organisation/ Tōpūtanga (if applicable): _____

Address/Kāinga noho: _____

Email/ Īmēra: _____

Phone/Waea: _____

Please tick this box if you would like to speak to your submission at the Council Hearings tentatively scheduled for 6 May 2026. Someone will contact you to confirm this.

How did you hear about this consultation?

- Newspaper Website Facebook Other
 Mail Meeting Poster/Flyer

Please note:

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FOLD HERE

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Rangitikei District Council
Annual Plan & Co
Att: Strategy Manager
Private Bag 1102
Marlon 4741



ReplyPaid Authority Number 172050



ANNUAL PLAN 2026/27

Read more on page 8 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

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?

Council should be making cuts to spending, including layoffs, delays to community projects to get spending under control.

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

Encourage people and businesses to move to the region to increase the rate payer base.

Decisions need to be made faster, delays cost money. The bureaucracy needs to have a "can-do" attitude. Not hide behind policy & process.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

Read more on page 18 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

Does retaining local decision-making matter to you?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

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

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)

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

Stop being so risk-averse.

The "back office" needs to be customer focused not job preservation focused.

& CO

REVENUE AND FINANCING POLICY

Read more on page 19 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

Council is proposing changes to how some services are funded (rates vs fees vs targeted rates).

Which principle matters most to you?

- People who benefit most should pay more
- Costs should be shared broadly to keep services affordable
- Keeping rates predictable year to year

Why/why not?

People who live rurally - outside of town - should not be paying for in-town services like sewage and water.

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Revenue & Financing Policy?

- Yes
- No
- Partially

& CO

SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES

Read more on page 20 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

Council charges fees where services are used by individuals or an identifiable group rather than the wider community.

Which statement best reflects your view?

- Fees should generally recover the full cost of providing a service where the service is used by an individual or identifiable group
- Fees should be subsidised to keep them affordable.
- Depends on the service

Are there any specific fees or charges you think are unfair or unreasonable?

Please explain. Building consent fees need to be removed.

& CO

RATES REMISSION POLICY

Read more on page 20 of 'Where's Annual Plan and Co @ Rangitikei' consultation document.

Do you agree with the proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy?

- Yes
- No
- Partially

Is there any situation you think should qualify for remission but currently does not?

Submission 047 Annual Plan Sarah McCartney – Marton School
Submission received via email to info@rangitikei.govt.nz:

Good Morning

I would like you to please consider my late annual plan submission.

I am emailing on behalf of the Marton School Board of Trustees and Marton School as a member of the Board.

The Marton School Playground has not been updated for 25 years and it is very much old, outdated and in need of an upgrade.

Marton School is in the process of upgrading the foundations under the playground.

This process involves upgrading the current flooring around the current equipment from bark to rubber for the children's safety. However, we have recently been made aware that once this is complete we are not able to upgrade the equipment hence the School is now reaching out to the community and council for support.

The current equipment being used by the children of our school and the community originally came from the old Marton School site and was relocated for use when the intermediate was changed into Marton School and included year 7 and 8 (being originally Forms 1 and 2 at intermediate)

These are now very old and outdated.

Our school is open to the community outside of normal school hours and during all holidays, hence this is a huge community resource. Many children, young people and their whanau come to Marton school to utilise the basketball courts, hockey turf, bike pump track and playground throughout the year.

Please find attached a letter that details the playground the School is looking at installing (funding dependant) and some details about our school.

We are requesting financial support from the Rangitikei District Council to enable us to progress with this project and your considerations and contribution would be greatly appreciated.

We also understand and appreciate your time and consideration during this time of economical pressure and would like to submit our apologies for the lateness of our submissions to the Council. We were unable of this process and appreciate your understanding in this matter.

The Board of Trustees and the Principal are more than happy to speak to this application at a time that is convenient to the Council.

We request that you look favourably on this submission at this time and look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

Sara McCartney
on behalf of the Board of Trustees
Marton School



Marton School

LEARNING FOR LIFE

31 March 2026

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re Request for Community Support: New Playground Equipment for Our School

I am writing on behalf of our school community to request your support in funding a fantastic new playground for our students.

Our school caters to approximately 220 children from Year 0 to Year 8. We are proud to provide an inclusive environment that supports a wide range of learning, social, and physical needs. Safe, engaging, and modern playground equipment plays a vital role in helping our students develop essential physical skills, build confidence, and foster positive social interactions.

Our current playground equipment is over 25 years old and is increasingly limited in its ability to meet the needs of our students. Upgrading our playground will create opportunities for all students to strengthen coordination, balance, and overall wellbeing, while also encouraging inclusive play in a safe and stimulating environment. Included in this project is a carousel, which will be installed in our inclusive playground, specifically to support a child in a wheelchair to be able to engage in playground activities with her friends.

Importantly, our school grounds and playground are open to the wider community outside of school hours, meaning this project will benefit not only our students but also local families.

The total price of this project is \$150,000. We are in the process of applying for grants and our Board will contribute to this project, however, we are seeking financial contributions to help bring this project to life. Any level of support would be greatly appreciated and will directly contribute to creating a safe, stimulating, and inclusive play environment for our children and community. If your business prefers to donate items that may be used in a raffle or sold that would also be a wonderful support.

We are committed to supporting local and have sourced a competitive quote from a local business within the Rangitikei district to supply and install this playground project.

In recognition of your support, we would be proud to acknowledge your business as a valued partner through our school newsletters, social media platforms and any other advertising. We would also include your business on a permanent plaque displayed at the playground site, celebrating your contribution to this important community space.

Hereford Street
MARTON 4710

Thank you for considering supporting this important initiative. We truly value the role local businesses play in strengthening our community and would be grateful for your partnership. If you are willing and able to contribute financially, our bank account is 03 0683 0144002 00. Please reference your full business name and that this donation is for the playground. A receipt will be issued for all donations.

If you would like to discuss this opportunity further, please feel free to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Brya Dixon
Principal



For Donations

Hereford Street
MARTON 4710

Formal Proposal to Council

To: The Mayor and all Elected Members of all New Zealand Councils

From: TE AROHA HIRA TAPUI LIMITED (hira Community Group)

Date: May 7, 2026

Subject: Formal Submission for a Rates-Funded "Base-Service" Waste Collection Model

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I am writing to formally propose a strategic shift in our district's waste management framework. To better align with national environmental targets and ensure equitable public health outcomes, I propose that the Council implement a **Rates-Funded Standard Service** consisting of one **80-litre rubbish bin** per rateable property, with the cost incorporated into a Targeted Rate.

1. The Problem with the Current "User-Pays" Bag System

While intended to incentivize waste reduction, the current system of purchasing individual bags creates several unintended consequences:

- **Public Health Risks:** High waste costs lead to waste hoarding and illegal dumping in our rural landscapes and public bins, creating "nuisances" under the **Health Act 1956**.
- **Inequity:** Low-income households face a disproportionate financial barrier to basic sanitary services.
- **Inconsistency:** Without a standardized bin, we lack a streamlined, automated collection process that could lower long-term operational costs.

2. The Legal Pathway for the "80L Base Service"

This proposal is legally supported by the following New Zealand legislation:

- **Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (Section 42):** Council has a statutory duty to "promote effective and efficient waste management." An 80L bin provides a "base" level of service that ensures all residents participate in the waste system.
- **Local Government Act 2002 (Section 11A):** Solid waste collection is a "core service." By moving this to a **Targeted Rate** (under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002), the Council ensures a stable, predictable revenue stream for waste infrastructure.
- **Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (Section 46):** This allows Council to use its share of the **National Waste Disposal Levy** to subsidize this 80L service, making it "free" at the kerbside for the resident while remaining fiscally responsible.

3. Proposed Model: The "80L Cap"

We propose the Council adopts a "Hybrid-Incentive" model:

1. **The Base Service:** Every urban rateable property receives one 80L wheelie bin. Collection is funded by a targeted rate, meaning no tags or bags are required for this bin.
2. **The Incentive to Minimise:** 80 litres is a strict limit. Households that produce more waste than this must either:
 - Pay a premium for a larger bin (140L/240L) via an increased targeted rate.
 - Contract a **private waste provider** for any surplus.
3. **Bylaw Enforcement:** Use the **Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw** to prohibit the placement of non-council bags on the kerb, ensuring the 80L cap is respected.

4. Recommendation and Required Legal Steps

I request that the Council formally investigate the feasibility of this "80L Base Service" and initiate the following mandatory legal procedures to put it into practice:

- **Review of the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP):** Under **Section 44 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008**, the Council must first amend its WMMP to reflect this new service level. This requires the Council to follow the **Special Consultative Procedure** outlined in Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002, ensuring the public can weigh in on the shift from bags to bins.
- **Section 17A Service Review:** Under **Section 17A of the Local Government Act 2002**, the Council is legally required to review the "cost-effectiveness" of its current waste services. I recommend this review specifically compare the long-term health and environmental costs of the current bag system against the proposed 80L rates-funded model.
- **Amendment of the Long-Term Plan (LTP):** To move the funding from "user-pays" to "rates-funded," the Council must include the new **Targeted Rate** in its Long-Term Plan (or an Annual Plan amendment). This ensures the funding is transparent and complies with the **Local Government (Rating) Act 2002**.
- **Update of Solid Waste Bylaws:** Finally, the Council must update its local bylaws to define the "80L bin" as the only authorized receptacle for the rates-funded collection, effectively setting the cap and providing the legal basis to refuse collection of excess or non-standard waste.

I look forward to the opportunity to speak to this submission during the public hearings for the next Annual Plan.

Sincerely,

hira % Jared Warren Gardner

Hira Public Marae

Written Statement for the Public Record

To: The Mayor and Councillors of all Councils of New Zealand

In Matter of: Base-Service Waste Collection Model

Date: May 13, 2026

Introduction

This statement is submitted in support of my written submission regarding 'Base-Service Waste Collection Model'. I formally request that the deliberations of this Council be guided by the procedural and substantive legal requirements inherent in the matters raised herein.

The Notice of Significance

It is a matter of record that a formal Notice of Significance has been issued and served upon this Council. This notice was not a mere correspondence but a procedural trigger that legally necessitates a higher degree of scrutiny and investigation into a 'Base-Service Waste Collection Model' currently under review.

The service of this notice confirms that the issues at hand meet the threshold of "significance" as defined under the Council's own Significance and Engagement Policy and the broader framework of the Local Government Act 2002. Consequently, the Council is now under an affirmative obligation to:

1. Demonstrate full compliance with statutory decision-making processes.
2. Acknowledge the specific impacts identified within the Notice.
3. Ensure that the depth of the Council's inquiry is proportionate to the importance of the matter to the district and its ratepayers.

Legal Standing and Expectations

From a legal standing, the triggering of this investigation via the Notice of Significance places a burden of transparency upon the Council. It is expected that the Council's final report and subsequent decisions will explicitly address how the issues raised in said Notice have been mitigated, resolved, or balanced against the Council's long-term strategic objectives.

Failure to give due weight to a triggered matter of significance may result in a procedural deficiency. I submit this statement to ensure that the Council remains mindful of its duty to act with the degree of diligence required when such a threshold has been met.

Conclusion

I trust that the Council will weigh these points with the seriousness that the statutory framework demands. I request that this statement be recorded in the minutes as the formal representation of my views in support of my submission.

Signed,

Hira Community Group % Jared Warren Gardner
13 May 2026