



**Te Kaunihera
o Te Hiku o te Ika**
Far North District Council

ME WHAKAWHITI KŌRERO WE NEED TO TALK

TE TUHINGA O TE
RAUTAKI AHUNGA ROA
LONG TERM PLAN
CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

2024-27



Adopted XX March 2024

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KUA REREKĒ TĒNEI MAHERE - HE AHA AI? THIS PLAN IS DIFFERENT - WHY?

In 2022 and 2023, the Far North, along with other parts of New Zealand, were battered by back-to-back severe weather events. This included Cyclone Gabrielle, which struck the North Island early in February 2023. The impact on our already vulnerable road infrastructure was significant.

Over 12 months from July 2022, 487 slips affected Far North roads. Of those, 140 were caused by Cyclone Gabrielle – the highest number of slips on record for a single event. Culverts and other drainage assets, footpaths and seawalls were also damaged. The repair bill for our local roading network has been estimated at \$29.1 million.

The government recognised that these weather events and the extra work they had created would significantly reduce the ability of affected councils to develop and engage with the public on a 10-year Long Term Plan (LTP) while also focusing on recovery and rebuilding. It gave eight councils, including ours, the option to create a shortened three-year plan spanning 2024-27.

This option will allow councils to focus on cyclone recovery. For us in the Far North, the goal will be on repairing our damaged infrastructure, particularly focused on roads, and to make the best use of funding offered by the government.

This simplified version of the plan lets us:

- Plan for the next three years instead of 10
- Concentrate on recovering from the weather events in 2022/23
- Focus on our number one priority – repair our transport network.

Repairing our transport network

With that focus on repairing our transport network we have been planning and working with our contractors to make sure when repairs can be carried out more efficiently as well as working on building more resilient roads and addressing causes such as drainage as we repair. We are planning to spend \$322.3 million on new works and renewals on our transport network over the next five years. For more information about our planned works, please see our proposed capital works programme - details can be found in the more information section on page 27.

We know as a council we are going to face more challenging weather events in the future and this will put more pressure on our infrastructure. But we need to be practical, and address the cause of some of the issues. We want to talk to you about increasing the funding we currently have for stormwater and there is more about this on page 18 of this document.

Disclaimer

This Long Term Plan (LTP) Consultation Document and supporting information has been prepared in accordance with the Severe Weather Emergency Recovery Legislation Act 2023 and the Severe Weather Emergency Recovery (Local Government Act 2002—Long-term Plan) Order 2023 issued in October 2023. The Order simplifies the process for preparation of an LTP by certain councils affected by the severe weather events of 2023 and enables the Council to prepare an LTP Consultation Document and supporting information that has not been formally audited. While this Consultation Document and supporting information is not required to include a formal audit report, all due care has been exercised in the preparation of this Consultation Document and supporting information, having regard to the information available to Council at that time.

ME WHAI KŌRERO KOE HAVE YOUR SAY

With our focus on repairing our transport network, we still have some other issues that we need to talk about these are on pages 17 to 26 of this document.

Please share your feedback by filling out the submission form, which you can do either online at www.fndc.govt.nz/ltp2024-27 or by picking up a form from one of our service centres, libraries, or an isite near you. More details can be found on page 28.

Your input is important, and our councillors will carefully consider all the feedback we receive. They will use this information to make decisions before officially approving and adopting the plan in June this year.

This is a one-in-three-year chance to influence the direction and priorities that affect you and your communities, so we encourage you to have your say.

NGĀ RĀ KEY DATES

- **14 MARCH - 15 APRIL**
Consultation with our communities
- **24, 30 APRIL, 1 MAY**
Verbal submission days
(See our website for more details)
- **15, 20 MAY**
Deliberations meeting
- **JUNE 26**
Adoption of the plan meeting
- **JULY 1**
Plan comes into effect



HE PĀNUI NĀ TE KAUNIHERA

Kia ora koutou

E ai ki tā te whārangi tuatahi, e hui ana mātou ki ngā kainoho, kaiutu tāke anōki mō te whakapoto i te Rautaki Ahunga Roa (RAR) te take. Nā te pākaha mai o Āwha Kāpireira, kua homai te whiriwhiringa e te Kāwanatanga kia mahia mai he rautaki 3 tau kē te roa, tēnā i te rautaki 10 tau te roa. E 8 nahe ngā kaunihera i whiwhi ki tēnei whiriwhiringa. Whakaae tonu atu mātou ki te tono nei, kia nui atu ai tā mātou aro ki te raruraru nui kei te kāinga nei, arā, ki ō tātou rori.

Nā te kaha pāngia tātou e te āwha kino, kua ara mai he nama nui hei utu mā te kaunihera. Ā, e kake haere nei te nui o tērā nama, nā te āhua tonu o te ao e noho nei. Kua piki ngā rēti ki tōna tino ikeikeitanga o te 30 tau kua pahure. Nā tēnā kua pau iho te pūtea hei whakatika i ngā rori, ā, me te pūtea kua whakaaetia kētia ki ētahi atu mahi i roto i te RAR 2021-31.

Ko tā mātou he whakatupu i te pūtea, i te wairua o te haporī, me te taiao anōki hei painga mō ngā uri whakatupu. Ko ngā hua ka puāwai i te rohe nei, kei te āhua tonu o te tuku i ngā ratonga. Nā, he mea nui anō ki te āta whiriwhiri i ngā whakataunga, me tōna pānga ki ngā uri whakatupu.

He mahi pakeke rā hoki ki te whakatakoto rautaki mō tō tātou rohe. He whānui nō te whenua ka tahi, he maha hoki nō ngā kāinga iti, ka rua. Kātahi ka huri atu ki te whakarite, hanga, whakahou, me te utu i ngā rori, wai para, wai ua, me ētahi atu kaupapa tūāhanga, ka pakeke kē atu. Ka mutu, kia tū kaha anō te rohe nei mō te tūpono pā mai o te āwhā ā ngā tau tata nei, haramai te uaua. Ahakoa e ū tonu ana ā mātou ratonga, me te tiaki i tō tātou rohe, me te whakatutuki i ngā mahi e ai ki te ture, he utu nui kei konā. Hoi, e mātau ana mātou, ehara i te mea mā te whakapiki i ngā utu rēti ka aha ai, e taumaha kē ana ētahi whānau o Te Hiku i te utu nama.

Nā, hei huarahi putanga oratanga, kua tātari ngā kaimahi me ngā mema kaunihera i te pūtea, kia nui atu ai te tiaki pūtea mai me te rere tonu o ngā ratonga ki ngā iwi. Kia oti ēnei mea e rua nei, me whakatau uaua hoki.

Kua mahi tahi hoki mātou ki ngā poari haporī. He rautaki ā rātou e whakatakoto ana i ngā mahi e tika ana kia oti. Hoi, tērā ētahi o ā rātou kaupapa ka whai kikokiko anō. Tērā ētahi ka tārewa, kia whakahou rānō i te rautaki. I pēnei ai kia aro mātou ki ngā rori i pākarukarungia ai.

Kia ahatia. Ko te whakataunga hukihuki kei a mātou, ko te wāhi whakapiki i ngā utu rēti mō te tau 2024/2025, ka 16.5% te nui o te pikinga. Ina

whakatatūngia ētahi whakaaro kei te tuhinga nei, ka piki te utu rēti.

E whakairo ana tēnei Tuhinga Hukihuki i ētahi kaupapa matua, ngā whiriwhiringa, te utu, me pēhea e utua ai, me te pānga o aua utu ki te tangata.

Kei te Rautaki Whairawa e rārangi mai ana te huarahi e whai pūtea ai kia rere tonu ai ngā ratonga ā ngā tau kei te heke mai. Hei āpiti ki tēnei, kua oti i a mātou tētahi Rautaki Tūāhanga hei whakatatū i ngā raruraru hanganga rori, wai ua, wai para, me te ū tonu o te whai wai anōki.

Tirohia te whārangi 12 o tēnei tuhinga nei mō te whakarāpopototanga.

Mō te roanga atu, me te homai i ō whakaaro, haere ki te whārangi 27, whārangi 28 anōki.

Hoinō rā, ko te wā tēnei e pānui ai koe i ngā kōrero. Me mātua mōhio mātou e tika ana tēnei huarahi i mua i te whakatatūtanga iho.

Hena koa, āta panui i ngā tono nei. Mutu, me whakaaro ake, he aha te pākaha o ā tātou whakataunga ki ngā uri whakatupu, he aha hoki tōna whaitake ki te whainga nui, kia puāwai tonu te nohotahi a tēnā, a tēnā, i roto i tō tātou rohe.

Ka tāria ō kōrero.

Ngā manaakitanga.

Te Kaunihera o Te Hiku o te Ika

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR COUNCIL

Kia ora koutou

As outlined on page 1, we are consulting with residents and ratepayers on a reduced Long Term Plan (LTP). Due to the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle, we were one of eight councils given the option by government to create a three-year LTP instead of the normal 10-year plan. We grabbed that opportunity so we can more effectively focus on our residents' number one priority – repairing our seriously battered road network.

Back-to-back severe weather events have left the council with a considerable repair bill. This has been compounded by spiralling inflation – the highest rates experienced in New Zealand in more than 30 years. This reduces our ability to pay for urgent road repairs and seriously impacts budgets for other projects already committed to in our 2021-31 LTP.

Our role is to promote economic, social, cultural, and environmental wellbeing for current and future generations. How we deliver services across the district can significantly impact these outcomes, so it's crucial to get it right and to consider how decisions today will affect future generations.

Planning for this district is challenging due to its huge geographic spread and many small communities. That makes it tough to plan, build, maintain and pay for our roading, water, wastewater and stormwater and other infrastructure. Building in resilience against future weather events is also tricky. While we remain committed to maintaining service levels and enhancing community wellbeing, delivering what we are legally bound to do and everything we want to do doesn't come cheap. However, we know that many Far North residents are already struggling to pay their bills. Simply raising council rates to cover increased costs isn't an option.

In response, staff and elected members have assessed budgets line by line to reduce what we spend while continuing to deliver our core services. Achieving that balance will require some tough decisions.

We've collaborated with our community boards, who have outlined strategic plans and priorities. Some projects included in these plans will proceed, but our focus on repairing our transport network means some will be delayed until the next planning cycle.

What we've landed on is a proposed rates increase for 2024/25 of 16.5%. If we proceed with some of the proposals in this document, that total rates take will increase.

This Consultation Document outlines our key proposal, what options we have, how much they will cost, how it will be funded and what the financial impact to ratepayers will be.

Our Financial Strategy summary lays out our plans to remain financially sustainable in the future so we can continue providing quality services. We've also developed a five-year Infrastructure Strategy to address significant issues facing our infrastructure as roads, stormwater, wastewater, and water supply, and how we plan to tackle these challenges. A summary of this is on page 12 of this document.

You can find more information on how to access the full versions of these strategies and other supporting information, as well as how to submit your feedback, on pages 27 and 28.

Now it's time for you to read through this document and tell us what you think. We want to ensure we've made the right decisions before finalising and adopting the plan in June 2024.

Please read our proposals carefully. Consider how the decisions we make today will affect future generations and impact our long-term goal of creating a district of sustainable prosperity and wellbeing.

We look forward to hearing your views.

Thank you very much.

Far North District Council

NGĀ HONONGA RAUTAKI STRATEGIC LINKAGES

NGĀ WĀHANGA E WHĀ O TE HAUORA • THE FOUR ASPECTS OF WELLBEING



Ā iwi
Social



Ōhanga
Economic



Taiao
Environmental



Ahurea
Cultural

TIROHANGA • OUR VISION

HE WHENUA RANGATIRA
A DISTRICT OF SUSTAINABLE PROSPERITY & WELL-BEING

ARONGA • OUR MISSION

HE ARA TĀMATA
CREATING GREAT PLACES
Supporting our people

HE RAUTAKI WHAKAAROTAU • OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Repair our transport network



Address
affordability



Better asset
management



Enable
sustainable
economic
development



Adapt to
climate
change



Protect our
water
supply



Deepen our
sense of
place and
connection

NGĀ HUA KI TE HAPORI • OUR COMMUNITY OUTCOMES



Proud,
vibrant
communities



Communities
that are
healthy, safe,
connected and
sustainable



Resilient
communities
that are
prepared for
the unexpected



Prosperous
communities
supported by
a sustainable
economy



A wisely
managed
environment that
recognises the
role of tangata
whenua as
kaitiaki



We celebrate
our unique
culture and
history

KEI HEA TĀTOU IĀIANEI NĀ WHERE WE ARE NOW

Rates increase

You may know that the council is dealing with higher costs for our projects and services. This is mostly due to the aftereffects caused by COVID-19, global issues, and high inflation and now roading repairs and three waters reintroduced.

Before we decide on the rates, collaboration across a number of groups are held to capture priorities, projects, and operational spend over the next three years.

These numbers are then worked through with council and further refinements are made to those initial budgets. We look at lots of things to decide what we must do now - because it is required and what projects can wait a while.

We go through several iterations of budgets to ensure these align with the strategic priorities, community outcomes and the four aspects of wellbeing.

This year, we've had more challenges, like higher costs to fix roads because of the severe weather events, taking back control of managing water services, and a big increase in contract expenses, as well as the higher costs of goods and services. Because of these challenges, we need to increase our rates to ensure we deliver what we say we are going to, while still maintaining what we have. We currently have a projected rates increase of 16.5% for 2024/25.

Roading

The most common and emphatic feedback we receive is about the need to improve our roads. However, it's important to note that our district doesn't have a substantial ratepayer base like some of our neighbours. Despite this, we strive to make the best use of the resources available to us. As you are all aware, the weather events in 2022/23 caused significant damage to our transport network, and that is why this LTP is 'all about roading'.

We've secured \$105 million in funding to aid us in repairing the damage and we have planned and budgeted for \$165 million in total (including the funding) over the next three years to improve and maintain our transport infrastructure and network.

We have a robust work plan in place and are actively exploring ways to construct more resilient roads. Additionally, we are ensuring that our contractors consistently maintain these roads to keep them fit for their intended purposes.

Three waters

The previous governments water reform policy legislated a shift in responsibility for handling stormwater, drinking water, and wastewater from local councils to publicly owned regional entities. The idea was to make things more efficient and save money on managing water in smaller areas and their communities.

The new Coalition Government is in the process of repealing this legislation. The new policy will give communities and councils the freedom to decide how they want their water services to be managed in the future. At the same time, ensuring focus remains on providing safe water quality, whilst making long-term investments in infrastructure.

But, here's the issue for our district. Because our communities are spread out with some areas only having a few ratepayers to 'pay' the entire cost of the infrastructure, which costs a lot of money. In some cases it will become unaffordable to fund these services for the community and council.

We also don't want to lump the cost of infrastructure on our future Far North generations and need to try and provide an affordable and equitable basis to fund infrastructure now and in the future, with a very blunt tool called 'rating'. As a council to do this, we have minimal options and when we 'pull one lever' another one moves as well.

Last year, we asked for input on switching our rating system to become district-wide rating for water supply and wastewater. This would have meant that smaller communities wouldn't be as impacted when upgrades or new infrastructure projects were needed. However, the council rejected this proposal because of the introduction of Three Waters legislation and the potential changes it might bring.

But now we are back to square one and again, we are asking the question - should we change the way we rate for those who access or could access water supply and wastewater services. See page XX to have your say.

At this stage, we are in a 'wait and see' situation with the Coalition Government as to how infrastructure will be funded. We will continue to where practical and necessary lobby for funding and assistance to ensure we can continue to deliver these vital services to our communities.

Capital programme delivery

With no end in sight to increased costs just to get stuff done, council faces that same fact. Increases in inflation, contractor costs and supplies as well as shortage of contractors to complete the work required.

We have applied strict criteria to capital projects and have landed on a deliverable programme. This will allow the council to be able to complete projects in a timely and efficient manner. For more information on the capital programme, please see page 27.

As this can have a flow on effect to the services that is provided to the district, we are looking at how we can provide community services. In this document, we are asking the question – how do we continue to provide community services in the future. See page 28 for details on how to have your say.

Decommission of Kauri Dam

Council resolved several years ago to exit from the Kauri Dam, instead utilising both the Awanui and Sweetwater sources to service the Kaitiā township. The recent appointment of a Project Manager has significantly progressed the decommissioning of the dam. Remedial works will continue over the coming months with Council intending to surrender the consents for the take and structures at this site.

Kerikeri Wastewater Treatment Plant

With the new Kerikeri Wastewater Treatment Plant operational, it allows us to progress the decommissioning of the original plant. Council is looking to retain some of the site to ensure a strategic approach to wastewater in the Kerikeri township but will ensure the decommissioning leaves the site in a tidy condition. Any assets able to be repurposed will be utilised at other plants within the district.

Housing for the Elderly divestment

In the last LTP, we talked about divesting our 147 Housing for the Elderly units.

A decision was made to start the process of identifying one or more providers that would enable the best option for partially or fully divesting the assets.

Throughout this process it is important that the existing tenant arrangements are maintained and protected. This means ensuring that current tenants are taken care of and that the number of housing units and level of service in the area either stays the same or improves over time.

Council is continuing to explore opportunities to divest some or all of its Housing for the Elderly portfolio.



Possible change to kerbside recycling/ refuse collection

The Ministry for the Environment has announced that all councils must provide kerbside recycling collections to households in urban areas by 1 January 2027. However, the legislation to support this has not been introduced yet. Council does not currently provide kerbside recycling services so this would be a new service for some of our communities. Though a kerbside refuse service is not becoming mandatory for councils to provide, there are advantages to providing both services at the same time so provision of kerbside refuse services will be a decision for us to make.

Council is nearing the end of negotiations to replace their existing Solid Waste Contracts and as part of the process, pricing has been sought for future kerbside services on a provisional basis.

As there are still some details to be confirmed including the introduction of the legislation, once we have all the information, we'll be talking to our communities and ask for feedback from those affected about the proposed service and cost associated with them.

Kaikohe Library

Council committed to a new civic hub for Kaikohe in 2018, when Long Term Plan consultation told us very clearly there was strong support for a new facility and that this should include the current public library function. We've had some changes along the way but are steadily progressing towards breaking ground in full partnership with hapū, iwi and community representatives.

Council have purchased the land needed for the build to be completed on Broadway, initial draft designs have shown the current budgets allocated for the project are sufficient, and outcomes of recent community engagement about what services the library/hub needs is being analysed to inform the detailed design brief.

The next steps are to confirm and gain consents for a detailed design and demolishing the current unfit for purposes structures off the land acquired for this project.

The project is expected to be completed during this Long Term Plan 2024-27.



TE RAUTAKI TŪĀHANGA

OUR INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY SUMMARY

Strategy purpose

Our Infrastructure Strategy aims to ensure responsible management of Council's infrastructure assets and services. It has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of section 101B of the Local Government Act 2002, modified as part of the Severe Weather Emergency Recovery Order 2023, for a weather events affected council.

This strategy has a five-year planning horizon (greater than minimum of three years under the shortened Long Term Plan regime). This is a temporary change to support local authorities during the recovery phase from the recent extreme weather events.

However, we wish to prepare for the future and put the right building blocks for the 2027 Infrastructure Strategy particularly growth planning, climate adaptation and improving the asset management

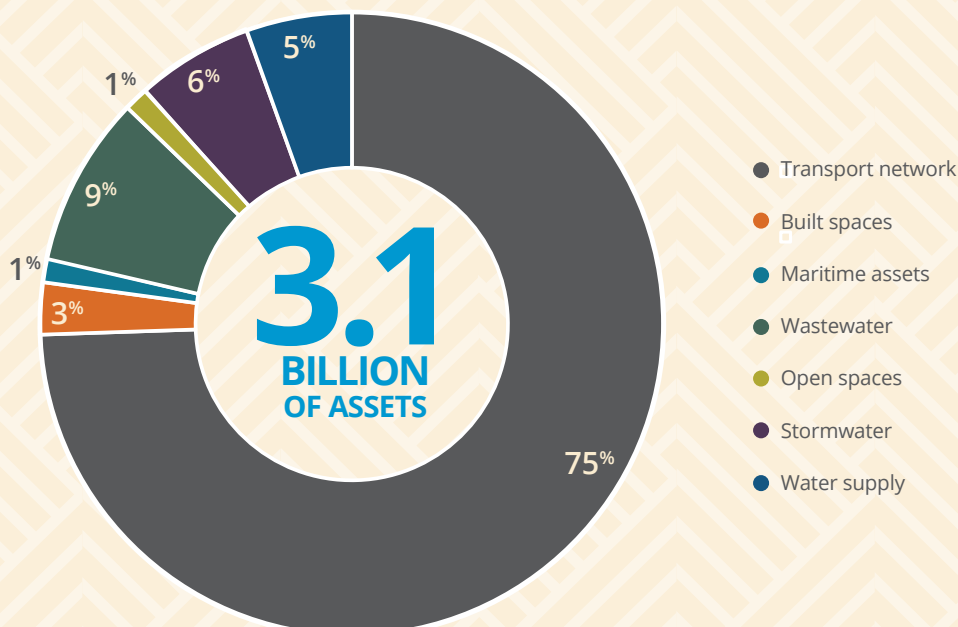
practices. The approach adopted for the 2024 strategy is setting up the right upfront strategic planning (top down) and with supporting underlying data (bottom up). It will take a few planning cycles to achieve an evidence-based strategy.

Strategy scope

Our Infrastructure Strategy covers the core infrastructure assets - our transport network, water supply, wastewater and stormwater. Our strategy also covers non-core assets at a high level – built spaces (community buildings and halls, and libraries), maritime assets, open spaces (parks and reserves, playgrounds, cemeteries etc), and solid waste.

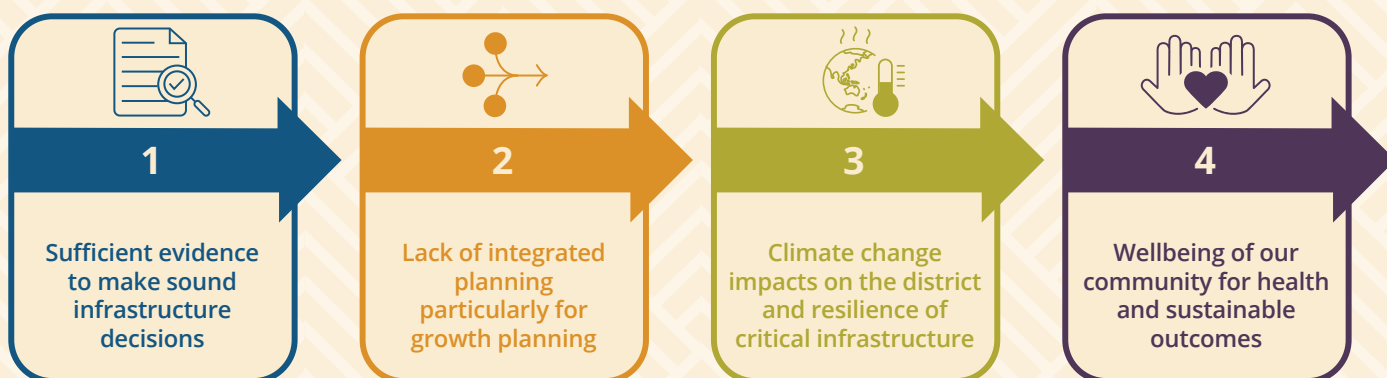
Assets at a glance

We own and manage \$3.1 billion (replacement value) of infrastructure assets which can be summarised as follows.



Our significant challenges

In preparing this strategy, four strategic district infrastructure issues have been identified that are at the forefront of infrastructure planning and decision-making.



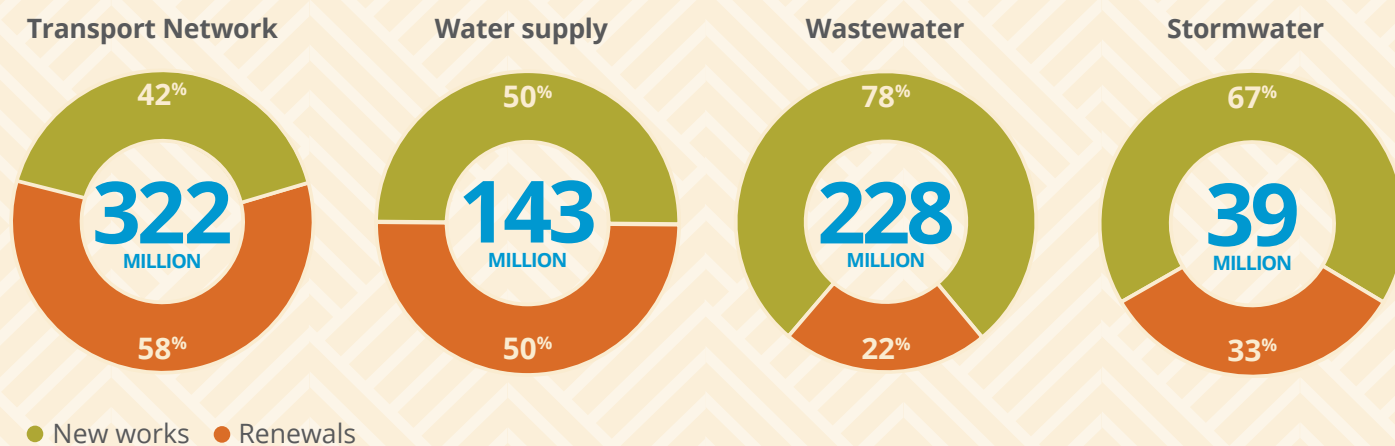
Financial forecasts





The total expected capital and operational expenditure (inflated) for each infrastructure activity over the five-year period is shown in the table below. A combined capital expenditure of \$732 million comprises of 44% renewals and 56% levels of service.

Activity	Capital expenditure (\$000's)		Operational expenditure (\$000's)	Total (\$000's)
	New works	Renewals		
Roading and Footpaths	135,460	186,870	347,619	669,949
Water supply	70,810	72,043	87,619	230,472
Wastewater	177,288	50,945	144,891	373,124
Stormwater	26,146	12,941	22,887	61,974
Sub Total 1	409,704	322,799	603,016	1,335,519
Sub Total 2	732,503		603,016	
Total	1,335,519			

The following figures shows the capital forecast for renewals and levels of service (inflated) 2024-29 for each activity.

Capital work forecasts



Activity	Projects	Timings	Cost estimates (\$m)
 Transport Network	Unsealed remetalling	Year 1-5	48.2
	Sealed pavement rehabilitation	Year 1-5	39.7
	Resurfacing	Year 1-5	28.3
	Ferry replacement	Year 3	4.2
 Water Supply	Paihia water treatment plant relocation	Year 1-4	18.7
	Kerikeri water network upgrade (to Heritage Bypass)	Year 2-3	12.1
	Kaikohe water network reticulation renewals	Year 3-5	10.7
	Kawakawa water network planned renewals	Year 3-5	15.0
	Waipapa water treatment plant development	Year 4-5	10.9
 Wastewater	Kaikohe wastewater treatment plant upgrades	Year 1-4	32.8
	Kaikohe wastewater network scheduled renewals	Year 3-5	9.2
	Kaitiāia wastewater network renewals	Year 3-5	9.5
	Kerikeri wastewater treatment and network scheme expansion (stages 2 and 3)	Year 4-5	68.0
 Stormwater	Moerewa stormwater improvements	Year 1	3.4
	Kaitiāia stormwater network pipe renewal (Lake Road)	Year 3-4	5.3
	Kaikohe stormwater network improvements (Station Road)	Year 3-5	5.4
	District-wide stormwater network renewals	Year 4-5	5.5

Key decisions we expect to make

We will need to make key decisions over the duration of our strategy. Some of these decisions will be significant to the district and some will not. Key decisions and actions that will need to be made by council over the next five years include:

Activity	Key decisions
All	Continuing to gather evidence, particularly the condition of the critical three water assets, in the next three to ten years to help develop robust and risk-based renewal programmes. Council must make a decision on the most appropriate mechanism to fund growth related infrastructure, and gather the evidence required to support any future development or financial contributions policy. This may include implementing development contributions, financial contributions through the district plan, or some combination of both.
Transport network	Prioritisation of resilience, funding for resurfacing and rehabilitation works. Strengthening / replacement of aging structures. Replacement of the Hokianga Ferry within five years.
Three waters	Moving from reactive to proactive renewals for three water assets to ensure these assets are managed sustainably long term. Rebuilding sound practices for managing the three water assets including capable people, data, processes, and systems so these assets are managed wisely going forward.

TE RAUTAKI AHUMONI

OUR FINANCIAL STRATEGY SUMMARY

This summary of our Financial Strategy outlines our approach to funding our activities in a way that is both sustainable and affordable for our communities. It determines the budgets we need for delivering projects and services in the LTP and Infrastructure Strategy.

We use tools like debt and rates limits to secure the necessary financial resources for projects and services while also ensuring that costs are managed responsibly. To achieve our strategy, prioritisation is essential to make sure our communities receive the services it needs in a way that is both affordable and balanced.

This strategy aims to:

- Achieve a balanced budget each year, ensuring that projected operating revenues are set at a level sufficient to meet that year’s projected operating expenses
- Continue to moderate the impact of funding depreciation on strategic assets
- Ensure that no more than 90% of revenue will come from rates, with the balance coming from other sources such as subsidies from Government agencies including Waka Kotahi, and user fees and charges
- Limit annual overall rates increases to inflation (Local Government Cost Index) plus a declining addition of 16.5% in year 1, 7.1% in year 2, and 3.8% in year 3. This declining addition reflects higher upfront investment in repairing our transport network post the severe weather events (years 1 & 2), after which the addition reduces to more historical norms.
- Ensure that net debt does not exceed 280% of revenue
- Maintain interest costs at less than 10% of rates revenue.

The approach for the Financial Strategy is:

- Support the focus on recovery post severe weather events in repairing and building resilience into our transport infrastructure
- Recognise the financial implications of climate change and sea level rise in planning decisions, and provide sufficient funding to local and regional adaptation initiatives
- Continue to engage with the government on of local government reforms

- Adequately fund the infrastructure strategy to enable the achievement of its key focus areas
- Maintain the core services we currently provide as cost-effectively and efficiently as possible, ensuring that finding operational efficiencies remains of paramount importance
- Continue to use the method of funding the net depreciation value to provide for renewals. Once condition and capacity data is reliably available, Council will consider the future funding of renewals using rates, borrowing, and other contributions in place of funding depreciation
- Use borrowing to spread the cost of new capital expenditure over time to ensure that the cost of infrastructure today is spread equitably between the ratepayers of today and tomorrow.

Financial Strategy highlights

Year ended 30 June	2025	2026	2027
Proposed rates \$m ¹	\$124	\$133	\$138
Budgeted rates increase ²	16.5%	7.1%	3.8%
Rates limit (Inflation + 2.9%) ³	17.9%	10.2%	8.3%
Det ceiling \$m	\$477	\$511	\$526
Debt \$m ⁴	\$217	\$262	\$322
Debt/revenue ratio ⁵	109.2%	118.1%	141.8%

¹ Proposed rates are the rates requirement based on the prospective revenue and expenditure for the three years. Revenue and expenditure projections are based on BERL forecast Local Government Cost Index (LGCI).

² Proposed rates increase is the movement in budgeted rates year on year.

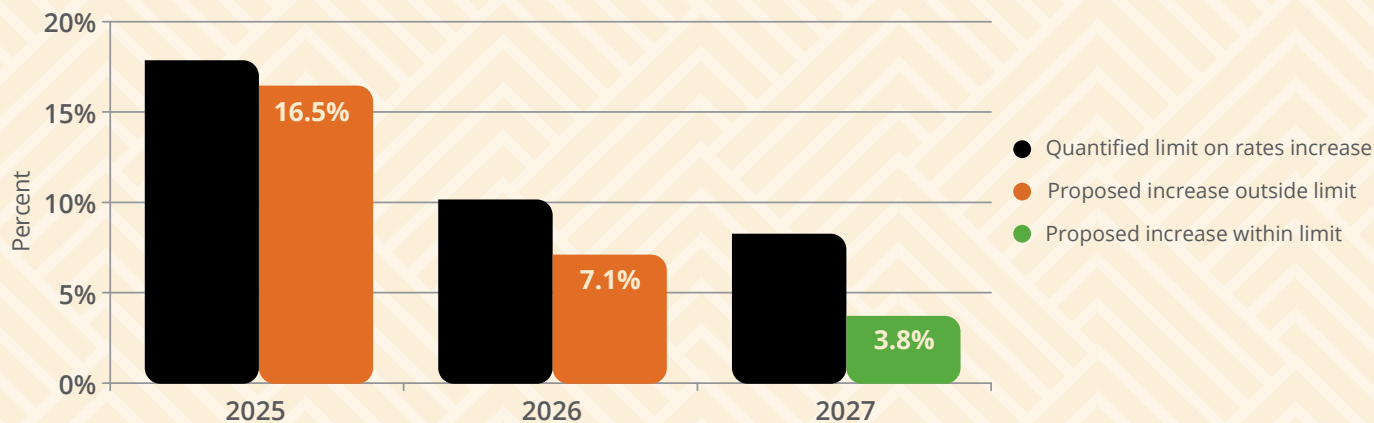
³ The rates limit is the maximum rates increase per annum, which consists of inflation (Local Government Cost Index) plus a declining addition of 15.0% in year 1, 8.0% in year 2, and 6.0% in year 3. This declining addition reflects higher upfront investment in repairing our transport network post the severe weather events (years 1 & 2), after which the addition reduces to more historical norms. The inflation estimates are based on BERL forecast Local Government Cost Index (LGCI).

⁴ Debt is calculated as total borrowings.

⁵ Debt to revenue ratio is calculated as debt divided by operating revenue plus subsidies capital work.

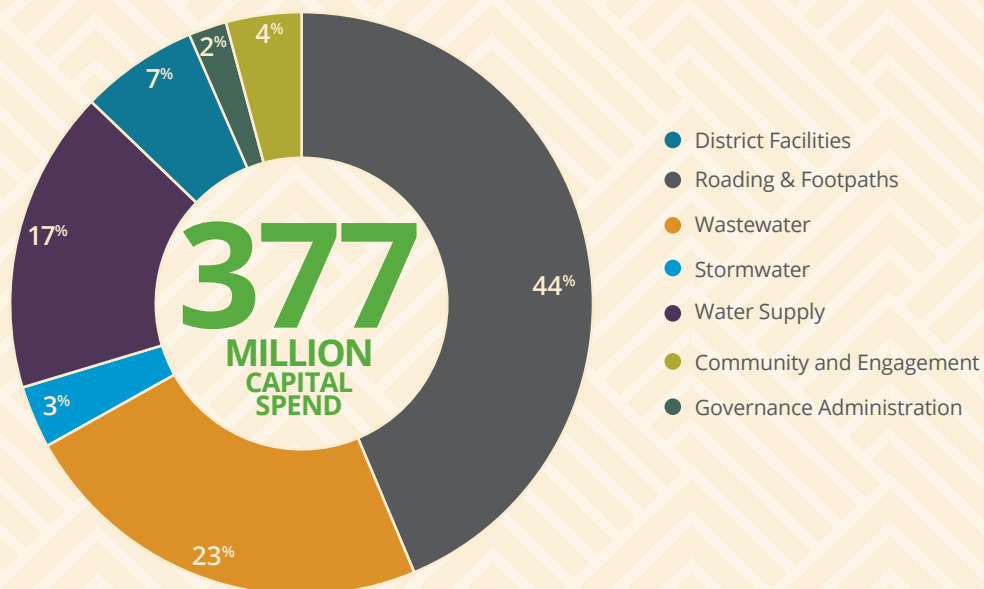
Total rates increase per year

Rate (increase) affordability (Whole of council)

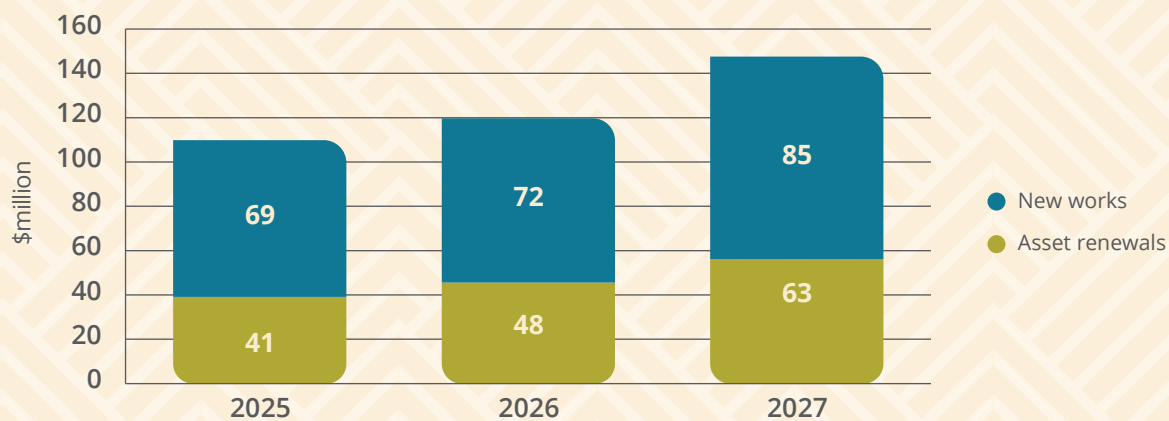


What will our debt pay for?

Capital spend (\$ million over three years)



Capital expenditure per year



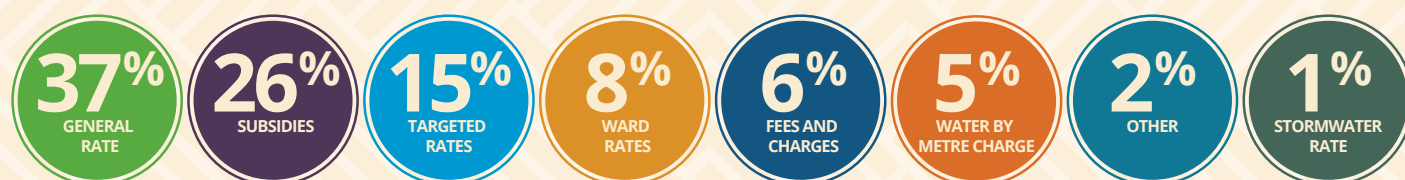
Council has a number of assets which have a long useful life and are not due for replacement within the three-year period covered by this plan. Investment identified as “Level of Service” does not always result in an increase to existing levels of service, but it ensures Council can respond to resilience needs and required standards. Council has undertaken a comprehensive review of all funding mechanisms (including rates). We have committed to developing an Asset Management System to ensure that asset information will allow for improved planning for asset replacement. Until the work required to implement the system has been completed, Council is planning a business-as-usual approach which includes funding depreciation rather than renewals.

Impact on rates

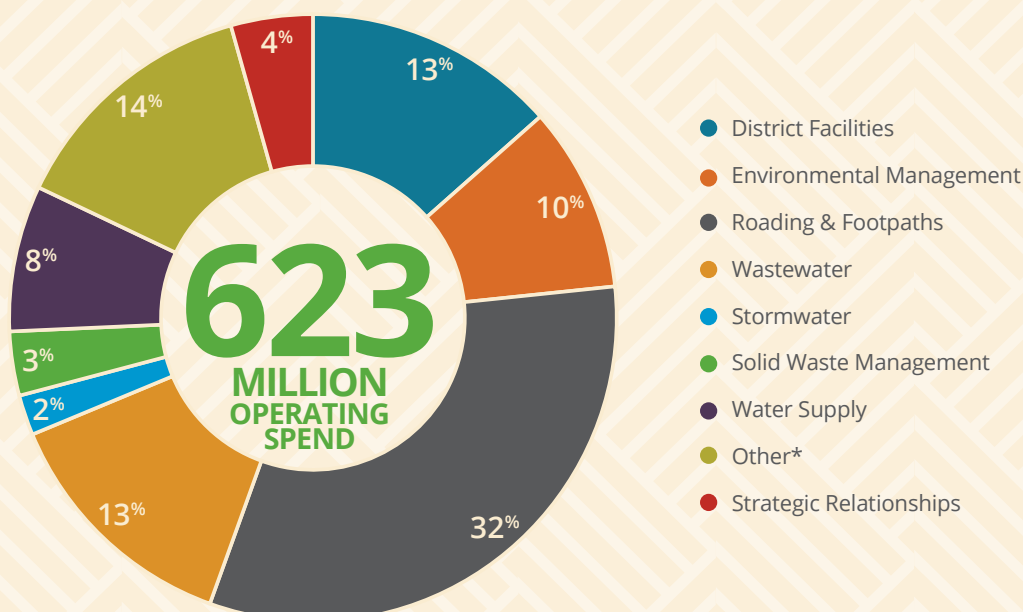
Our main source of funding is from rates. While we try to maximise the Government subsidies available and have adopted a ‘user pays’ policy (exercised through targeted rates and consumption and user charges) for many services and assets, the bulk is funded by rates.

Where does our revenue come from?

Council operational expenditure for the 3 year period is proposed to be funded on average, 61% from rates (including targeted water), and 39% from other revenue including user fees and charges and subsidies. In addition, we are budgeting for funding from Government subsidies to support capital expenditure.



Operating spend



* Other includes Governance Administration, Planning and Policy, Drainage, Community and Engagement.

NGĀ HUA O Ā KOUTOU UTU RĒTI THIS IS WHAT YOUR RATES DOLLAR CONTRIBUTES TO

GENERAL RATES

19
CENTS

TRANSPORT NETWORK

10
CENTS

REGULATORY SERVICES

09
CENTS

COMMUNITY SERVICES

08
CENTS

CUSTOMER SERVICES

07
CENTS

RECREATION FACILITIES

07
CENTS

FUTURE PLANNING

06
CENTS

GOVERNANCE

04
CENTS

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

03
CENTS

REFUSE

01
CENT

CIVIL DEFENCE

01
CENT

HOUSING FOR THE
ELDERLY

TARGETED RATES

17
CENTS

WASTEWATER

04
CENTS

WATER

04
CENTS

STORMWATER

IF YOU WANT TO
KNOW MORE ABOUT
OUR ACTIVITIES
PLEASE SEE PAGE 27
OF THIS DOCUMENT
ON WHERE TO FIND
OUR SUPPORTING
INFORMATION

Example of rates payable on different value properties

Applies to all rateable properties

Land Values	General Rates	UAGC	Road UAGC	Roading Rate	Ward Rate Average	Public Good Rate	Wastewater Average	Water Average (Excluding Usage)	Final Rates 2024/25	AP 2023/24
Residential										
100,000	\$349	\$450	\$100	\$8	\$478	\$30	\$1,468	\$369	\$3,253	\$2,658
250,000	\$873	\$450	\$100	\$21	\$478	\$30	\$1,468	\$369	\$3,790	\$3,123
500,000	\$1,746	\$450	\$100	\$42	\$478	\$30	\$1,468	\$369	\$4,684	\$3,898
750,000	\$2,619	\$450	\$100	\$64	\$478	\$30	\$1,468	\$369	\$5,578	\$4,674
1,000,000	\$3,492	\$450	\$100	\$85	\$478	\$30	\$1,468	\$369	\$6,473	\$5,449
Rural and Lifestyle										
100,000	\$349	\$450	\$100	\$9	\$478	\$30	-	-	\$1,417	\$1,282
250,000	\$873	\$450	\$100	\$23	\$478	\$30	-	-	\$1,955	\$1,748
500,000	\$1,746	\$450	\$100	\$46	\$478	\$30	-	-	\$2,851	\$2,525
750,000	\$2,619	\$450	\$100	\$70	\$478	\$30	-	-	\$3,747	\$3,302
1,000,000	\$3,492	\$450	\$100	\$93	\$478	\$30	-	-	\$4,643	\$4,079
Commercial										
100,000	\$960	\$450	\$100	\$23	\$478	\$30	\$1,468	\$369	\$3,879	\$3,201
250,000	\$2,401	\$450	\$100	\$57	\$478	\$30	\$1,468	\$369	\$5,354	\$4,479
500,000	\$4,801	\$450	\$100	\$114	\$478	\$30	\$1,468	\$369	\$7,811	\$6,610
750,000	\$7,202	\$450	\$100	\$172	\$478	\$30	\$1,468	\$369	\$10,269	\$8,741
1,000,000	\$9,603	\$450	\$100	\$229	\$478	\$30	\$1,468	\$369	\$12,727	\$10,872

Notes:

1. Land Values are indicative amounts only.
2. In addition to the total rates indicated above, ratepayers in the rateable area for the stormwater network will be charged the targeted rate per \$ of capital value of their rateable property i.e. for \$100K of capital value the targeted rate for stormwater charge will be \$21.96.

Monitoring and reviewing our Financial Strategy

As part of business as usual, we constantly scan both the financial environment and our own performance to monitor:

- sustainability of our financial performance and position
- any emerging risks
- whether the strategy is being implemented as intended
- any trends in the community's ability to pay.

The Strategy will be reviewed triennially as part of the LTP process. Consideration will also be given to the impacts of any significant changes in local, national or global economic conditions during each year's Annual Plan process. To read our full financial strategy please click on the following address www.fndc.govt.nz/ltp2024-27 or read the paper copy version available at our service centres, libraries or i-SITEs across the District.

NGĀ KAUPAPA MATUA O TE MAHERE NEI

KEY PROPOSALS FOR THIS PLAN

As we have mentioned our priority for the next three years is to focus on fixing the damage to our transport network. But we also have some challenges we want to talk about and welcome your thoughts and ideas on some or all of the options proposed.

You can provide your feedback online, complete the submission form, or come along to a day where you can verbally submit your comments. The details can be found under key dates on page 1.

ME TONO Ā KOUTOU KŌRERO I MUA I TE
15 O NGĀ RĀ O ĀPEREIRA
REMEMBER WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK
BY 15 APRIL



ISSUE 1

ME WHAKAREREKĒ RAINI TE ĀHUA O TE TATAU I TE WAI UA PUTA NOA I TE ROHE? SHOULD WE CHANGE THE WAY WE RATE STORMWATER ACROSS THE DISTRICT?

What's happening now

Stormwater is rainwater that flows across roofs, roads and driveways into the Council's stormwater system of drains and culverts.

Severe weather events impact on our stormwater infrastructure and its ability to cope, is at capacity.

We need to decide on how we rate this activity going forward to tackle the growing problems that are increasing due to more severe weather events, lack of asset information and making sure our long-term investment are future-proof.

In the future, as we move on to the next LTP, we will have a better understanding about our stormwater network and asset information.

We'll be working to identify and solve problems before they become urgent, rather than waiting to react once issues arise

What is the issue?

- The impact of weather events on the public and private network has increased.
- The lack of long-term investment and asset information has our stormwater network at full capacity.

How we currently rate for stormwater?

We currently rate to fund specific capital developments within the urban communities across the district. The rate is set in two categories with no differentials.

This activity contributes to these community outcomes



Let's look at the options

We have included the positive and negative impacts for each option as well as how that impacts on service, ratepayers and debt. We also have a preferred option that we think would work best while still continuing to provide this service to our communities.

OPTION 1 Do nothing		
Positive impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuity: Maintains the current funding structure without disrupting existing operations. • Familiarity: The current method works fine. 	Negative impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate Funding: Maintaining the status quo may not provide sufficient resources to address the increasing challenges posed by severe weather events and aging infrastructure. • Risk of infrastructure failure: Without additional investment, the stormwater network may remain at full capacity, leading to increased risks of flooding and other related issues. • Lack of future-proofing: Failing to adapt the funding mechanism may hinder efforts to future-proof the stormwater management system against evolving challenges. 	
Impact on level of service Nil	Impact to ratepayer 10% general rate funded 90% targeted on capital value	Impact on debt Nil

OPTION 2

Change to a targeted rate based on land use and introduce a public good rate

Positive impacts

- Fairness: Targets those who directly benefit from the stormwater network.
- Adequate funding: Ensures a more equitable distribution of funding, potentially generating additional revenue to address the increasing demands on stormwater infrastructure.

Negative impacts

- Equity concerns: there may be challenges already with high rating increases across the district to be able pay.

Impact on level of service

Less reactive activity on addressing the issue

Impact to ratepayer

\$10 stormwater public good rate per rating unit per year

See table below for targeted rate details

Impact on debt

Nil

Stormwater targeted rate		2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Industrial / commercial	Per land use	375.00	375.00	375.00
Others including residential	Per land use	187.50	187.50	187.50



OPTION 2 IS OUR PREFERRED OPTION

What do you think?

Let us know your thoughts. Complete your submission online at www.fndc.govt.nz/ltp2024-27

Want more information?

Our capital programme shows what projects we will be doing in the stormwater space over the next three years.

You can find that on our website (link) or you can read the document at any of our service centres, libraries or information centres / i sites.

ISSUE 2

ME WHAKAREREKĒ RAINI TE ĀHUA TATAU I TE HUNGA KA HONO KI TE WAI ME TE WAIPARA, KA ĀHEI RAINI KI TE HONO KI TE WAI ME TE WAIPARA? SHOULD WE CHANGE THE WAY WE RATE FOR THOSE WHO ACCESS OR COULD ACCESS WATER SUPPLY AND WASTEWATER SERVICES?

This proposal does not affect those who are not connected (or not able to connect) to a council water or wastewater scheme.

We are proposing a shift in the way we rate for water and wastewater. These services cost a lot of money and it is really tough to fund these services in an affordable and equitable way with the district being so spread out.

What's happening now

We are proposing that everyone who is connected (or could connect) to council water supply and/or wastewater schemes is charged on a district-wide, ward or scheme-by-scheme basis.

What is the issue?

We are proposing this change to make sure we can upgrade our services to be compliant and support

growth while still managing affordability – one of the biggest challenges we face as a district. If we continue to rate water and wastewater the way we do currently, some communities will not be able to afford their rates when we carry out much-needed upgrades.

This activity contributes to these community outcomes



Let's look at the options

We have included the positive and negative impacts for each option as well as how that impacts on service, ratepayers and debt. We also have a preferred option that we think would work best while still continuing to provide this service to our communities.

OPTION 1 Do nothing

Positive impacts

- **Familiarity:** People pay for the services that they receive.
- **Fairness:** Targets those who directly benefit from the water and wastewater network.
- **Adequate funding:** Ensures a more equitable distribution of funding, potentially generating additional revenue to address the increasing demands on infrastructure.
- **Compliance:** We need to make sure our water and wastewater schemes are doing the job they should. There are issues we need to resolve, some because of increased government requirements.
- **Affordability:** The total cost of upgrades is not relative to the number of connections on a network. That means a small community will experience a far greater cost burden than a larger community, where the costs are spread more widely. By moving to a district-wide targeted rate, the burden is spread across a much larger number of ratepayers.

Negative

- **Inadequate Funding:** Maintaining the status quo may not provide sufficient resources to address the increasing challenges posed by severe weather events and aging infrastructure.
- **Equity concerns:** there may be challenges already with high rating increases across the district to be able to pay.

OPTION 1 cont...**Do nothing**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth: This includes current demand and future growth. By enabling growth and new connections, upgrade costs will be shared across more ratepayers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future affordability: Affects some of our smaller communities. |
|--|---|

Impact on level of service	Impact to ratepayer	Impact on debt
Nil	See water supply and wastewater targeted rates tables in the Funding Impact Statement - Rates, details on page 26 (Other information)	Nil

OPTION 2**Change to district-wide rates for those connected to / or have the ability to connect to water supply and / or wastewater services****Positive impacts**

- **Familiarity:** People pay for the services that they receive.
- **Fairness:** Targets those who directly benefit from the water and wastewater network.
- **Adequate funding:** Ensures a more equitable distribution of funding, potentially generating additional revenue to address the increasing demands on infrastructure.
- **Compliance:** We need to make sure our water and wastewater schemes are doing the job they should. There are issues we need to resolve, some because of increased government requirements.
- **Affordability:** The total cost of upgrades is not relative to the number of connections on a network. That means a small community will experience a far greater cost burden than a larger community, where the costs are spread more widely. By moving to a district-wide targeted rate, the burden is spread across a much larger number of ratepayers.
- **Growth:** This includes current demand and future growth. By enabling growth and new connections, upgrade costs will be shared across more ratepayers.

Negative impacts

- **Equity concerns:** there may be challenges already with high rating increases across the district to be able to pay.
- **Future affordability:** Affects some of our smaller communities.

Impact on level of service	Impact to ratepayer	Impact on debt
Nil	The table below show rates for water and wastewater services if changed to a district-wide targeted rate.	Nil

Water supply targeted rate		2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Connected	Per SUIP	369.70	402.71	487.83
Availability	Per rating unit	369.70	402.71	487.83
Wastewater targeted rate				
District-wide connected	Per SUIP	417.35	461.18	529.39
District-wide availability	Per rating unit	417.35	461.18	529.39
District-wide additional pans	Per sub pan*	250.41	276.71	317.63

* Per sub pan = Per subsequent pan

OPTION 3

Change to targeted ward rate for those connected to / or have the ability to connect to water supply and / or wastewater services

Positive impacts

- **Compliance:** We need to make sure our water and wastewater schemes are doing the job they should. There are issues we need to resolve, some because of increased government requirements.
- **Affordability:** The total cost of upgrades is not relative to the number of connections on a network. That means a small community will experience a far greater cost burden than a larger community, where the costs are spread more widely. By moving to a district-wide targeted rate, the burden is spread across a much larger number of ratepayers.
- **Growth:** This includes current demand and future growth. By enabling growth and new connections, upgrade costs will be shared across more ratepayers.

Negative impacts

- **Inadequate Funding:** Maintaining the status quo may not provide sufficient resources to address the increasing challenges posed by severe weather events and aging infrastructure.

Impact on level of service

Nil

Impact to ratepayer

The tables below show rates for water and wastewater services if changed to a ward based targeted rate including the wastewater operational rate.

Impact on debt

Nil

Water supply targeted capital rate		2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Bay of Islands - Whangaroa				
Connected	Per SUIP	273.92	351.25	402.15
Availability	Per rating unit	273.92	351.25	402.15
Kaikohe - Hokianga				
Connected	Per SUIP	405.75	466.14	497.93
Availability	Per rating unit	405.75	466.14	497.93
Te Hiku				
Connected	Per SUIP	567.48	695.66	689.92
Availability	Per rating unit	567.48	695.66	689.92
Wastewater targeted capital rate				
Bay of Islands - Whangaroa				
Connected	Per SUIP	569.41	590.10	594.99
Availability	Per rating unit	569.41	590.10	594.99
Additional pans	Per sub pan	341.65	354.06	356.99
Kaikohe - Hokianga				
Connected	Per SUIP	302.73	457.20	548.55
Availability	Per rating unit	302.73	457.20	548.55
Additional pans	Per sub pan	181.64	274.32	329.13
Te Hiku				
Connected	Per SUIP	322.90	412.41	458.87
Availability	Per rating unit	322.90	412.41	458.87
Additional pans	Per sub pan*	193.74	247.45	275.32
Wastewater targeted operational rate				
Bay of Islands - Whangaroa				
Connected rate	Per SUIP	1,396.84	1,159.41	1,247.09
Subsequent pan rate	Per sub pan	838.11	695.65	748.26
Kaikohe - Hokianga				
Connected rate	Per SUIP	773.27	840.11	1,005.65
Subsequent pan rate	Per sub pan	463.96	504.07	603.39
Te Hiku				
Connected rate	Per SUIP	828.49	883.53	997.73
Subsequent pan rate	Per sub pan*	497.10	530.12	598.64

OPTION 4

Change to targeted scheme-based operational rate for those connected to / or have the ability to connect to water supply and / or wastewater services

Positive impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance: We need to make sure our water and wastewater schemes are doing the job they should. There are issues we need to resolve, some because of increased government requirements. • Affordability: The total cost of upgrades is not relative to the number of connections on a network. That means a small community will experience a far greater cost burden than a larger community, where the costs are spread more widely. By moving to a district-wide targeted rate, the burden is spread across a much larger number of ratepayers. • Growth: This includes current demand and future growth. By enabling growth and new connections, upgrade costs will be shared across more ratepayers. • Fairness: Targets those who directly benefit from the water and wastewater network. • Adequate funding: Ensures a more equitable distribution of funding, potentially generating additional revenue to address the increasing demands on infrastructure. 		Negative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate Funding: This may not provide sufficient resources to address the increasing challenges posed by severe weather events and aging infrastructure.
Impact on level of service Nil	Impact to ratepayer The table below show rates for water and wastewater services if changed to a scheme based targeted rate including the wastewater operational rate.	Impact on debt Nil

Wastewater operational rate		2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Ahipara				
Ahipara connected	Per SUIP	945.01	992.38	1,078.92
Ahipara additional pans	Per sub pan*	567.00	595.43	647.35
Hihi				
Hihi connected	Per SUIP	2,147.01	2,067.21	3,215.07
Hihi additional pans	Per sub pan	1,288.20	1,240.32	1,929.04
Kāeo				
Kāeo connected	Per SUIP	1,614.42	1,674.26	1,768.51
Kāeo additional pans	Per sub pan	968.65	1,004.56	1,061.10
Kaikohe				
Kaikohe connected	Per SUIP	628.71	706.44	898.21
Kaikohe additional pans	Per sub pan	377.23	423.87	538.93
Kaitiāia & Awanui				
Kaitiāia & Awanui connected	Per SUIP	663.51	742.36	842.64
Kaitiāia & Awanui additional pans	Per sub pan	398.11	445.42	505.58
Kawakawa				
Kawakawa connected	Per SUIP	1,072.27	1,120.40	1,204.29
Kawakawa additional pans	Per sub pan	643.36	672.24	722.58
Kerikeri				
Kerikeri connected	Per SUIP	2,106.15	1,262.25	1,352.04
Kerikeri additional pans	Per sub pan	1,263.69	757.35	811.22
Kohukohu				
Kohukohu connected	Per SUIP	1,289.58	1,286.36	1,378.25
Kohukohu additional pans	Per sub pan	773.75	771.82	826.95

Wastewater operational rate		2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Ōpononi				
Ōpononi connected	Per SUIP	982.38	1,028.55	1,110.70
Ōpononi additional pans	Per sub pan	589.43	617.13	666.42
Paihia				
Paihia connected	Per SUIP	840.86	880.64	951.59
Paihia additional pans	Per sub pan	504.52	528.38	570.95
Rangiputa				
Rangiputa connected	Per SUIP	1,147.63	1,200.95	1,295.34
Rangiputa additional pans	Per sub pan	688.58	720.57	777.21
Rāwene				
Rāwene connected	Per SUIP	878.00	922.53	1,004.25
Rāwene additional pans	Per sub pan	526.80	553.52	602.55
Russell				
Russell connected	Per SUIP	1,556.75	1,600.79	1,699.32
Russell additional pans	Per sub pan	934.05	960.47	1,019.59
Taipā				
Taipā connected	Per SUIP	865.23	893.99	978.19
Taipā additional pans	Per sub pan	519.14	536.39	586.92
Whangaroa				
Whangaroa connected	Per SUIP	20,367.79	20,894.15	21,501.85
Whangaroa additional pans	Per sub pan	12,220.68	12,536.49	12,901.11
Whatuwhiwhi				
Whatuwhiwhi connected	Per SUIP	900.77	948.15	1,036.29
Whatuwhiwhi additional pans	Per sub pan	540.46	568.89	621.77

* Per sub pan = Per subsequent pan

What do you think?

Take a look at the sample rating information for each option and how it affects you, and then let us know your thoughts. Complete your submission online at www.fndc.govt.nz/ltp2024-27

Want more information?

Our proposed capital programme shows what projects we will be doing in the water supply / wastewater spaces over the next three years.

You can find that on our website www.fndc.govt.nz/ltp2024-27 or you can read the document at any of our service centres, libraries or information centres / isites.



ME PĒHEA E HAERE TONU AI NGĀ RATONGA Ā NGĀ RĀ KEI TE HEKE MAI?

HOW DO WE CONTINUE TO PROVIDE COMMUNITY SERVICES IN THE FUTURE?

What's happening now

We operate six service centres, three I-sites and six libraries across our district. Last year, these centres had around 22,947 face-to-face interactions. While that might sound like a lot, the number is actually decreasing because more people are able to access our services online now. With better internet and increased online options, people are preferring to move to a more digitally operated service. To be more effective a more consolidated model where we combine our services as one would cater for the needs of our district.

What is happening now?

Customers are having to travel to separate locations, for example going to the library and then having to go to another building to make a service enquiry.

The options

We have included the positive and negative impacts for each option as well as how that impacts on service, ratepayers and debt. We also have a preferred option that we think would work best while still continuing to provide this service to our communities.

Some of the smaller service centres, libraries and isites have limited opening hours.

What is the issue?

A number of buildings are used for one purpose only, whether it be a service centre, library or i-site. And we know there are others that provide combined services but not in entirety.

Each building has associated operating costs which continue to increase over the years due to inflationary impacts, interest rates and day to day operations.

This activity contributes to these community outcomes



OPTION 1

Provide multi-purpose centres: two for Bay of Islands-Whangaroa, one each for Kaikohe-Hokianga, and Te Hiku

Positive impacts

- **Cost Savings:** Reduces overhead costs associated with operating and maintaining two service centres in the future.
- **Resource Optimisation:** Allows for the consolidation of resources into fewer locations, potentially improving efficiency.
- **Focus on Digital Services:** Encourages further investment and development of online platforms to meet the shifting demands of the population.

Negative impacts

- **Operational costs:** This will have additional costs in the 1st year to ensure setup is correct.
- **Capital investment:** The initial cost to setup will have an impact.
- **Reduced Accessibility:** Removes physical service points from certain areas, potentially disenfranchising those who rely on face-to-face interactions.
- **Customer Disruption:** May inconvenience existing clients who are accustomed to utilising the now-closed service centres.
- **Community Impact:** Closure of service centres may lead community dissatisfaction, particularly in areas where the centres provide essential support.

Impacts

If we do decide to go with our preferred option, we would not be implementing any changes until July 2025. We want to make sure the communities in those areas are well-informed of closures if they occur and what the alternatives are.



OPTION 1 IS OUR PREFERRED OPTION

OPTION 2

Provide a multi-purpose centre for each ward

Positive impacts

- **Cost Savings:** Reduces overhead costs associated with operating and maintaining two service centres in the future.
- **Resource Optimisation:** Allows for the consolidation of resources into fewer locations, potentially improving efficiency.
- **Focus on Digital Services:** Encourages further investment and development of online platforms to meet the shifting demands of the population.

Negative impacts

- **Operational costs:** This will have additional costs in the 1st year to ensure setup is correct.
- **Capital investment:** The initial cost to setup will have an impact.
- **Reduced Accessibility:** Removes physical service points from certain areas, potentially disenfranchising those who rely on face-to-face interactions.
- **Customer Disruption:** May inconvenience existing clients who are accustomed to utilising the now-closed service centres.
- **Community Impact:** Closure of service centres may lead community dissatisfaction, particularly in areas where the centres provide essential support.

Impacts

If we do decide to go with our preferred option, we would not be implementing any changes until July 2025. We want to make sure the communities in those areas are well-informed of closures if they occur and what the alternatives are.

OPTION 3

Do nothing

Positive impacts

- **Continuity:** Maintains the current setup without disrupting existing operations.
- **Accessibility:** Ensures continued physical presence in all locations, potentially reaching those who prefer or lack access to digital services.
- **Familiarity:** Customers are accustomed to the current service centre locations and may find comfort in their accessibility.

Negative impacts

- **Cost Inefficiency:** Maintaining the service centres, libraries and sites might be financially burdensome, especially if face-to-face interactions continue to decline.
- **Resource Allocation:** Spread resources thinly across multiple locations, potentially impacting the quality of service provided.
- **Lack of Adaptability:** Fails to capitalise on the trend towards digital services and may not align with changing consumer preferences.

Impact on level of service

Nil

Impact to ratepayer

No change

Impact on debt

Nil

What do you think? Do you agree with our preferred option or choose another? Then let us know. Complete a submission form online at www.fndc.govt.nz/ltp2024-27



HE KŌRERO ATU ANŌ OTHER INFORMATION

As well as providing your thoughts on the proposals in this document, we also welcome feedback on any of the supporting information mentioned below.

- Proposed forecast financial statements
- Proposed funding impact statements
- Proposed funding impact statement (rates)
- Proposed fees and charges schedule 2024/25
- Proposed forecast reserve funds
- Proposed community outcomes
- Proposed groups and activities
- Proposed Financial Strategy
- Proposed Infrastructure Strategy
- Proposed Policies
 - Accounting policies
 - Revenue and Financing Policy
 - Rating Relief Policies
 - Treasury, Liability and Investment Policies
- Proposed capital works programme
- Proposed significant forecasting assumption

Our adopted Significant and Engagement policy 2021 and Te Mahi Tahī me te Māori • Working with Māori document also supports these documents.

Supporting information can be viewed in paper versions at either Kaikohe, Kaitiāia or Kerikeri services centres or found on our website: www.fndc.govt.nz/ltp2024-27

Copies of the Consultation Document and submission form can be picked up from any service centres, sites / information centres or libraries.

MĀMĀ NOA IHO TE WHAKAPĀ MAI! MAKING A SUBMISSION IS EASY!



You can submit online at:
www.fndc.govt.nz/ltp2024-27
Online submissions saves cost and time!



You can email your feedback to:
submissions@fndc.govt.nz



You can come and fill in a printed form at a service centre near you, complete it there or take it away and post it back to us.



You can post your form back to us at:
LTP submissions
Far North District Council
Private Bag 752
Kaikohe 0440



You can catch up with us in person at one of our planned 'pop ups' in Kaikohe, Kaitiāia or Kerikeri, throughout March. See our website for information on when and where we will be.

KIA MAHARA ANŌ,
ME TONO MAI Ā
KOUTOU KŌRERO I
MUA I TE 15 O NGĀ
RĀ O ĀPEREIRA

REMEMBER WE NEED
YOUR FEEDBACK BY
15 APRIL

HE ARA TĀMATA
CREATING GREAT PLACES
Supporting our people

WHAKAPĀ MAI
CONTACT US

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