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## **Council**

Thursday, 12 March 2026, 10.00am

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council  
100 Cuba St, Te Aro, Wellington

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**Quorum:** *Seven Councillors*

### **Members**

#### **Councillors**

Daran Ponter (Chair)

Adrienne Staples (Deputy Chair)

Ros Connelly

Quentin Duthie

Nigel Elder

Sarah Free

Penny Gaylor

Tom James

Claire Johnstone

Shamia Makarini

Phil Rhodes

Yadana Saw

Gabriel Tupou

Simon Woolf

**Recommendations in reports are not to be construed as Council policy until adopted by Council**

# Council

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Thursday 12 March 2026, 10.00am

Taumata Kōrero - Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council  
100 Cuba St, Te Aro, Wellington

## Public Business

No.	Item	Report	Page
1.	Apologies		
2.	Conflict of interest declarations		
3.	Public participation		
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**Council  
12 March 2026  
Report 26.98**



**For Decision**

## **2026/27 ANNUAL PLAN ENGAGEMENT**

### **Te take mō te pūrongo**

#### **Purpose**

1. To advise Council of the approach and materials for the 2026/27 Annual Plan engagement.

### **He tūtohu**

#### **Recommendations**

That Council:

- 1 **Agrees** the 'inform and engage' approach for the 2026/27 Annual Plan, including the number, dates, and locations of the 'Coffee and Chat' community sessions:
  - i Tuesday 19 May: Cuba Street
  - ii Wednesday 20 May: Masterton
  - iii Thursday 21 May: Online
- 2 **Approves** the 2026/27 Annual Plan engagement material content as set out in [Attachments 1](#) and [2](#).
- 3 **Authorises** the Chief Executive to make minor editorial changes to the proposed 2026/27 Annual Plan engagement materials to correct errors and improve public understanding.

### **Te tāhū kōrero**

#### **Background**

2. Section 95 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) requires a local authority to prepare and adopt an annual plan for each financial year.
3. Several Council workshops have been delivered between November 2025 – February 2026 to support the development of the 2026/27 Annual Plan draft budget and rates requirement, and the approach and content for engagement with community.

## **Te tātaritanga Analysis**

### ***2026/27 Rates Increase and Annual Activity Review***

4. The 2024-34 Long Term Plan (LTP) forecasted an average regional rates increase of 13.3% for year three of the LTP (the 2026/27 financial year).
5. Like many organisations, we continue to face reduced government funding and ongoing cost of living pressures in our communities. To manage this, we've carefully reviewed everything we do. We've looked for efficiencies, adjusted the timing of some work, reviewed service levels, explored new revenue options, and held vacancies as we evaluate the overall number of staff we need to accomplish our goals
6. This has resulted in lowering the average regional rates increase for the proposed 2026/27 Annual Plan from a starting point of 17.8% to 9.7<sup>1</sup>.
7. [Attachment 1](#) outlines the changes that are proposed.
8. [Attachment 2](#) shows the breakdown of rates in each part of our region, categorised by type.
9. The proposed 2026/27 average regional rates increase reflects a careful balance, addressing current financial challenges while minimising impact to the services and projects identified as important during the development of the LTP.

### ***'Inform and Engage' approach***

10. Section 95(2A) of the Local Government Act 2002 requires councils to consult on an Annual Plan only if there are any 'significant or material' differences from the corresponding year of the LTP (in this case year three of the 2024-34 LTP).
11. Officers undertook an evaluation of the proposed changes for the 2026/27 Annual Plan in line with Greater Wellington's Significance and Engagement Policy<sup>2</sup> and determined that there were no activities within the proposed changes which triggered a legislative requirement to consult with our communities. However, we are required to 'inform and engage' our communities about the changes proposed for year three of the LTP (the 2026/27 financial year).
12. More detail on the approach to our public engagement on the proposed 2026/27 Annual Plan is provided in Te Whakatūtakitaki | Engagement section below.

<sup>1</sup> Note that in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan the projected average Regional Rates increase for 2026/27 was 13.3%, however due factors such as inflation, interest rate pressures, decisions taken in the 2025/26 Annual Plan and the impact of the removal of Water Supply the starting point jumped up to 17.8%.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.gw.govt.nz/your-region/plans-policies-and-bylaws/policies/>

## **Ngā hua ahumoni**

### **Financial implications**

13. The proposed 2026/27 Annual Plan will outline the impact on rates arising from the activities Council intends to deliver in 2026/27. In addition, the proposed average rates for each region are set out in [Attachment 2](#).

## **Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori**

### **Implications for Māori**

14. Mana Whenua were integral to the development of the 2024-34 LTP, both through their participation as decision making members of the 2024-34 LTP Committee, and through submissions received during the consultation process. The 2026/27 Annual Plan retains the core direction of the LTP.
15. The organisation's commitment to partnership with mana whenua has seen the emergence of a system that facilitates mana to mana discussions at governance, management and operational levels. Regular hui at these levels ensures that the system through which the relationships are nurtured can grow and evolve.
16. These relationships are also considering the next phase of planning from whaitua level to regional planning systems which will influence future iterations of annual and long-term planning.

## **Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi**

### **Consideration of climate change**

17. Climate change has been considered across the breadth of development of the proposed 2026/27 Annual Plan, including the implications of the proposed changes on Council's climate goals.

## **Ngā tikanga whakatau**

### **Decision-making process**

18. The matters requiring decision in this report were considered by officers against the decision-making requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

## **Te hiranga**

### **Significance**

19. As outlined in paragraphs 10 and 11 above, officers have completed a significance assessment of the proposed changes from year three of the 2024-34 LTP, using our current Significance and Engagement Policy and have determined that the proposed changes are of medium to low significance. Therefore, Greater Wellington is not legislatively required to consult on the 2026/27 Annual Plan but will be informing and engaging.
20. The matters for decision in this report have been assessed as being of low significance, as they are procedural in nature.

## **Te whakatūtakitaki Engagement**

21. To inform the community of the proposed 2026/27 Annual Plan, and enable the community to provide feedback, Greater Wellington will make an engagement document available (see [Attachment 1](#)) to inform the community on:
  - a The proposed (reduced) rates increase for 2026/27 acknowledging that the current cost of living is impacting communities across our region; including a breakdown of what the 9.7% average regional rate increase means in each area of the region and for each rating category (residential, business and rural).
  - b Changes to year three of the 2024-34 Long Term Plan; outlining at a high level the key changes to work programmes required to achieve the lower rates increase and respond to central government funding shortfalls.
22. As in previous years, place-based Factsheets (for Kāpiti Coast, Porirua, Lower Hutt, Upper Hutt, Wellington City, and Wairarapa) will be prepared to provide local and regional information for the community. These will support Councillors and staff in discussions with community members on how the 2026/27 Annual Plan affects different parts of the Wellington Region.
23. While primarily presented digitally on our website, a small number of printed copies will be circulated to partners and available at Greater Wellington offices across the region.
24. 'Frequently Asked Questions' documents for the community, Councillors and call centre staff will also be produced to support conversations.
25. These engagement materials will be supported by a comprehensive communications campaign including press releases and social media posts.

### ***How the community will be able to provide feedback***

26. Have Your Say: a 'Have Your Say' survey enabling people to provide general feedback will be open online from 16 March through 17 April 2026. Alternatively, community members can also post or drop-off written feedback to Council offices during the same period.
27. 'Coffee and chat' in-person session: 'Coffee and chat' in-person sessions (like those run during the 2025/26 Annual Plan process) will be held at the end of May 2026. Community members can register to attend and share their general feedback with Councillors about the proposed 2026/27 Annual Plan in an informal setting. We propose to hold these at different locations across the region as follows:
  - a Tuesday 19 May: *Cuba Street*
  - b Wednesday 20 May: *Masterton*
28. Online discussion sessions: The in-person 'coffee and chat' sessions will be complemented by an online session on Thursday 21 May.

29. For the sessions outlined in paragraphs 26 and 27 above, we will closely monitor registrations and keep Councillors informed on attendance levels.

### **Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei**

#### **Next steps**

30. The engagement document and place-based factsheets will be published, and the community will be able to provide general feedback through the ‘Have your Say’ pages and the ‘coffee and chat’ sessions.
31. Any feedback received will be analysed and presented to Council for consideration and deliberation early June 2026.
32. The final 2026/27 Annual Plan will be presented for adoption by Council at its meeting on 25 June 2026.

### **Ngā āpitihanga**

#### **Attachments**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Title</b>
1	<a href="#">2026/27 Annual Plan engagement document</a>
2	<a href="#">2026/27 Annual Plan revised rating figures</a>

### **Ngā kaiwaitohu**

#### **Signatories**

Writers	Tyler Dunkel – Kaiwhakahaere Matua   Manager, Corporate Planning & Reporting Kara Dunn – Kaitohutohu   Advisor, Planning & Reporting
Approvers	Zofia Miliszewska – Kaiwhakahaere Matua   Head of Strategy and Performance Ashwin Pai – Kaiwhakahaere Matua   Head of Finance Luke Troy – Kaiwhakahaere Matua Rautaki   Group Manager, Strategy Alison Trustrum-Rainey – Kaiwhakahaere Matua Rautaki   Rainey, Group Manager Finance & Risk

**He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga  
Summary of considerations**

***Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference***

In accordance with clause 32 of Schedule 7 to the LGA, the Council is required by legislation to make decisions on rates in the Annual Plan.

Section 95 of the Local Government Act requires Council to adopt an annual plan for each financial year, and to consult on the annual plan, unless the annual plan does not include significant or material differences from the content of the long term plan for the financial year to which the proposed annual plan relates.

This Report is outlining the approach to, and materials for, communicating and getting feedback on the proposed 2026/27 Annual Plan and associated rates increase; therefore, Council is responsible for approving this information.

***Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies***

The 2026/27 Annual Plan sets out the budget, rates and deliverables for year three of the 2024-34 Long Term Plan. The matter for decision is to approve the content that will be published to inform and engage the community on the proposed 2026/27 Annual Plan.

***Internal consultation***

The proposed 2026/27 Annual Plan engagement material has been developed with input from across the organisation.

***Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.***

For the proposed 2026/27 Annual Plan material there is a reputational risk of releasing a proposed rates increase that may be higher than community expectations; however, this risk has been mitigated by the work done to reduce the rates increase, and the approach to inform the community and get feedback before adopting the proposed rates increase.



## Te Mahere-ā-Tau e tūtohutia ana 2026/27 - Me mōhio koe Proposed Annual Plan 2026/27 - What you need to know

### E aha ana a Te Pane Matua Taiao? | What does Greater Wellington do?

Greater Wellington works to create an extraordinary Region, with a thriving environment, connected communities, and a resilient future. Our focus areas include:

- Active Mana Whenua partnerships and participation for improved outcomes for Māori
- Leading action for climate resilience and emissions reduction
- Holistic approaches to deliver improved outcomes for te taiao (the environment)
- Improved access to environment and transport services and equity of outcomes through participation with communities.

Greater Wellington delivers a wide range of activities that protect our environment while also meeting the cultural, social and economic needs of our communities. We're specifically responsible for environment management, flood resilience and land management, provision of regional parks, and public transport planning and funding.

### Ngā panonitanga nō te wā o tā tātou Mahere Pae Tawhiti 2024-34 | Changes since our 2024-34 Long Term Plan

Annual Plans explain and update you on what we plan to do in the coming financial year. They also show how this compares with what we said we would do in the Long Term Plan, how much it will cost, and how it will be paid for. The 2026/27 Annual Plan covers year three of our 2024-34 Long Term Plan.

Before we adopt the 2026/27 Annual Plan, the Council will update the Long Term Plan to remove bulk water services from 2026/27 onwards. This change is required by new legislation under the Government's Local Water Done Well reforms<sup>1</sup>. For Greater Wellington and the four city councils in our region, this means moving responsibility for water services to Tiaki Wai, the new Council Controlled Organisation responsible for water services, from 1 July 2026.

This update removes water-related budgets, assets, projects, debt, performance measures, and policy references from the Long Term Plan from 2026/27 onwards.

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<sup>1</sup> For further information on Greater Wellington's Local Water Done Well reforms response, please refer to our [website](#).



Because this change is required by law and reflects a change that has had previous public consultation<sup>2</sup>, no additional public consultation or external audit is needed.

Aside from this update, there are no significant changes to what we planned to deliver in year three of the 2024-34 Long Term Plan. For this reason, and in line with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002, we are not running a formal consultation on the 2026/27 Annual Plan. However, we still want to share some of the proposed changes and give you the opportunity to tell us what you think about it overall.

**E whakaheke ana i te whakapikinga rēti ā-rohe mō te 2026/27 e hiki ai i ētahi o ngā taumahatanga kei runga i ngā hapori | We're reducing the average regional rates increase for 2026/27 to ease the pressure on our communities**

Rates pay for the essential services and projects set out in our 2024-34 Long Term Plan, but they are not our only source of funding. We also rely on government subsidies, transport improvement grants, interest and dividends, and other operating revenue such as fees and fares, as set out in our Revenue and Financing Policy.

Like many organisations, we are facing reduced government funding and ongoing cost of living pressures in our communities. To manage this, we've carefully reviewed everything we do. We've looked for efficiencies, adjusted the timing of some work, reviewed service levels, explored new revenue options, and held vacancies as we evaluate the overall number of staff, we need to accomplish our goals.

Together, these changes reduce the average regional rates increase for 2026/27 from an initially projected 13.3% in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan to 9.7%.

Central government is progressing several reform proposals that, if implemented, could have significant implications for Greater Wellington. We are engaging with the feedback processes and planning for their potential impacts. These reforms are:

**Simplifying Local Government:** a proposal to remove elected regional councillors and replace them with new boards made up of local mayors, it also proposes that councils work together to develop plans for future structures for local government within each region.

**Rates capping:** a proposal to limit annual council rates increases to between 2 and 4 percent.

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<sup>2</sup> Greater Wellington consulted in March–April 2025 on Local Water Done Well delivery model options. The consultation showed strong support for a multi-council water services CCO, which Council confirmed as its preferred model on 26 June 2025 ([Council Report 25.250, Local Water Done Well Delivery Model](#)).



**Resource Management reform:** the Resource Management Act will be replaced with two new pieces of legislation, one focused on environmental protection and another on planning and development, to enable faster delivery of development and infrastructure.

**Emergency Management Reform:** The Civil Defence and Emergency Management Act will be replaced by the Emergency Management Bill which modernises New Zealand’s emergency management system.

Regardless of these proposed changes we’re still focused on delivering what matters most to our communities. This includes responding to climate change, controlling pests that harm our environment, delivering public transport, and protecting communities from flooding.

The lower rates increase strikes a balance between affordability and continuing the services and projects our community told us were important when the 2024-34 Long Term Plan was developed. We’re not adding new work or increasing service levels.

Instead, we are focusing on using our resources more effectively so we can deliver good value for money across essential services and major projects, while reducing the amount of additional rates funding needed.

The change in average regional rates increase for residential, business and rural can be seen in the table below:

	Average increase per annum	Average increase per week
Residential (Including GST)	\$83.83	\$1.61
Business (excluding GST)	\$695.70	\$13.38
Rural (excluding GST)	\$103.25	\$1.99

For a more personalised estimate of your draft 2026/27 rates, please check out our rates calculator on our website: <https://rates.gw.govt.nz/>

#### *Assistance in paying your rates*

If you need assistance with paying your rates and fit the criteria, rates remission and postponement can be applied for on our website: <https://gw.govt.nz/RatesRemission>. Rates rebates can also be applied for via your local council.



## E panoni ana i te ara whakatutuki i ētahi o ā mātou mahi kua whakaritea | We're changing how we deliver some of our planned work

We are still focused on delivering the services that matter most, even though money is tight. We will keep working closely with others across the region and strengthening our partnerships, including our ongoing commitment to working with mana whenua. To manage costs, we have had to make some trade-offs, which means some services will be reduced or delayed.

In 2026/27, we will deliver outcomes for our communities through three main areas of work: Environment, Metlink Public Transport, and Regional Strategy and Partnerships. Our 2024-34 Long Term Plan (<https://ltp.gw.govt.nz/>) explains this work in more detail.

To achieve the lower average regional rates increase outlined above, and to respond to central government direction and additional funding pressures, we are considering the below changes to how we work and what we plan to do in 2026/27.

<b>Ko te Mahere ā-rohe me ngā Rangapū – Regional Strategy and Partnerships</b>	
<b><i>Changes in this Activity Group have contributed \$1.3m in reductions on rates (a 0.5% reduction on the average regional rates figure)</i></b>	
Increased revenue	Increased revenue options are being explored in several areas including changes to how we fund the Wellington Transport Analytics Unit, and revenue resulting from phase two of the Energy Transformation Initiative.
<b>Ngā Waka Tūmatanui – Metlink Public Transport</b>	
<b><i>Changes in this Activity Group have contributed \$4.0m in reductions on rates (a 1.4% reduction on the average regional rates figure)</i></b>	
Optimise public transport services	We would adjust our services to better reflect current patronage demand, and reduce operating costs
Review the need for blanket earthquake strengthening of rail buildings	We would review the need for a blanket earthquake strengthening of our structures to 66% of New Building Standards and instead take a risk-based approach to such works.
Reducing service design budget for new bus services	Changes to increase bus services would only be made if costs can be offset within the bus network service budget. This reduces the budget set aside for new services.
Defer a new network operating centre	We would not set up a new network operating centre that was included in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan. We would continue with current arrangements and avoid both setup and ongoing operating costs.
<b>Te Taiao – Environment</b>	



<b>Changes in this Activity Group have contributed \$7.5m in reductions on rates (a 2.7% reduction on the average regional rates figure)</b>	
Increase camping fees in regional parks	<p>We would increase camping fees across regional parks. Fees have been the same since 2020 and have not kept pace with increased costs of maintaining campgrounds and visitor facilities. The changes would also bring them closer to fees charged at similar parks elsewhere.</p> <p>The proposed new fees would be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unpowered sites: \$12 for adults and \$6 for children</li> <li>• Powered sites: \$24 for adults and \$12 for children</li> </ul>
Minimal reduction in parks restoration	We would marginally slow down the restoration across our parks network next year. This would mean a small reduction in planting across the parks, except for at Belmont where the rate of planting and grazing retirement would continue as planned.
Delay in Te Awa Kairangi flood protection projects	We would delay construction for the Norbert to Gemstone flood protection work by 12 months, and Manor Park flood protection work by 24 months. This would give us more time to complete planning, confirm costs, and explore possible Crown funding before the next planning cycle.
Delay in Pinehaven FMP Implementation	We are currently working with funding partners Upper Hutt City Council on options to improve the affordability of flood protection works. Further construction is delayed until this work is done, which reduces costs for the coming year.
Efficiencies in Flood Protection	We have considered efficiencies in how flood protection work is delivered, which means some of the additional resources originally planned for the next financial year can be deferred. These efficiencies will not meaningfully change the level of flood protection services provided across the Region.
Maintain Wairarapa Moana restoration work	We would slow down the increase in restoration work around Wairarapa Moana while continuing to work with the new Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board. Restoration activity will increase again in future years.
Reduce increase in Community-focused environment funding	We would not expand the Community Environment Fund as planned in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan. We would also stop the Environment Activation Fund from starting this year. Overall community focused funding would stay at a similar level as previous years instead of increasing.
Temporarily reduce Wainuiomata Orongorongo Water Catchment Zero Ungulates Programme (WOWCAZUP).	This programme supports forest regeneration and safeguards water quality by controlling the impact of feral deer, pigs and goats. We would temporarily reduce the funding for this programme for one year. While it may take longer than expected, we will still be able to achieve the planned outcomes of the programme.
Scale back Fish Passage Remediation work	We would scale back fish passage improvement work across the region. This would reduce operating costs by around 20–30 percent and capital spending by about 40 percent.



### *Our ongoing work to manage costs and improve efficiency*

During our planning process to prepare the 2026/27 Annual Plan, Council evaluated and reviewed its work programme and operating practices to better understand the cost pressures facing the organisation and identify opportunities to limit the impact on rates. In addition to the items outlined in the table above, other actions are already underway across the organisation, including in our back-office support functions, to manage expenditure, improve efficiency, and reduce the overall funding requirement for the 2026/27 financial year.

Council has already progressed a number of efficiency initiatives and targeted cost reductions. These include scaling back or reprioritising non-essential work, tightening operating budgets across the organisation, and seeking opportunities to deliver services more efficiently. Further efficiencies are being explored as part of a wider organisational focus on value for money and sustainable cost management which will continue through the development of our 2027-37 Long Term Plan over the next 12 months.

Alongside this, in February 2026, Council agreed to a general public transport fares increase of 3.1 percent and a change to the off-peak discount from 30 percent to 20 percent. This decision forms part of a parallel review of public transport fares and charges and helps reduce the level of general rates funding required to operate public transport network.

Together, these actions mean the proposed average regional rates increase already reflects a significant amount of work to manage costs before seeking community feedback on the specific changes included in this Annual Plan.

**For a further breakdown of average rates and the services we are delivering in your area of the region please see our Area Fact Sheets.**

### **Te mahi tahi ki ngā mana whenua | Working with mana whenua**

Greater Wellington is committed to deepening and uplifting our partnerships with mana whenua. As these relationships continue to mature, we are embracing the shifts required to work in ways that honour the authority, knowledge, and responsibilities that mana whenua hold within their rohe.

With growing trust and shared purpose, we are moving from a model of embedding te ao Māori and mātauranga Māori within our organisation, to creating the space and conditions for mana whenua to lead this work in ways that reflect their tikanga, aspirations, and inherited obligations.



This evolution strengthens how we design, deliver, monitor, and evaluate our work, ensuring that true whaitua approaches are shaped with and by mana whenua.

We partner with the six iwi of the region in recognition of their whakapapa and enduring kaitiakitanga of the whenua. These relationships are grounded in more than 30 years of working alongside one another to advance te taiao outcomes and strengthen our communities. We will continue to work with pre and post settlement entities appointed to represent the interests of:

- Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki
- Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai
- Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira
- Taranaki Whānui
- Rangitāne o Wairarapa
- Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa

Our shared focus is delivering mahi that reflects the priorities of mana whenua and contributes to strong outcomes for the whole rohe. This includes supporting the success of existing and future Treaty settlements and the development of emerging Post Settlement Governance Entities.

We continue to work alongside mana whenua through kaupapa and tūāpapa funding arrangements, ensuring early engagement, partnership-led design, and delivery approaches that enable meaningful outcomes for mana whenua, Māori, our wider communities, and te taiao.

### Kei te pīrangī mātou ki ō whakairo | We value your feedback

We understand that there is a balance to find between affordability and best serving the needs of our environment and community, both now and into the future, and we are always interested in whether you think we have hit the mark.

Please let us know if you have any feedback. This may be about

- Our proposed 2026/27 Annual Plan
- Our priorities and/or how we propose to deliver our services during 2026/27
- The proposed changes outlined above, including camping fees in regional parks
- Anything else related to the way Greater Wellington delivers on our responsibilities and works with our communities.



### How to provide feedback

- You can provide feedback online via our **Have Your Say platform** from 16 March through 17 April 2026.
- Register for a **Coffee and Chat discussion** (<https://calendly.com/corporate-planning>) with Councillors which will be held on:
  - o Tuesday 19 May: Cuba Street
  - o Wednesday 20 May: Masterton
  - o Thursday 21 May: Online
- You can also post your feedback to us at the below address or drop it off to one of our offices up until close of business on 17 April 2026.
  - o Please address your feedback to:

**Corporate Planning and Reporting Team  
Greater Wellington Regional Council  
PO BOX 11646,  
Wellington, 6142**
  - o Our offices are located at:
    - 100 Cuba Street, Wellington
    - 34 Chapel Street, Masterton

Council will consider a summary of any feedback received through this engagement period on the proposed 2026/27 Annual Plan, at its meeting in June 2026.

Please contact [Corporate.Planning@gw.govt.nz](mailto:Corporate.Planning@gw.govt.nz) if you have any questions relating to the 2025/26 Annual Plan.

### Help us to plan for the long term

Additionally, 2026 is the year we will review our long-term plan and consider the best way forward for the next 10 years.

Government reforms may change our responsibilities in the future, but we're still accountable for planning wisely right now and continuing to deliver high-quality services. We know there are rising costs so we will focus on the most important services first.



To make the best possible decisions for the Region, we need to understand what you think our priorities should be for the next 10 years.

We will ask for your feedback as we plan, starting with developing our big goals. Check Greater Say this April, to find out more about them and share your thoughts.



### **Privacy Statement**

Greater Wellington will collect, store, use and/or share your personal information in accordance with the Greater Wellington Privacy statement (<https://www.gw.govt.nz/your-council/legal/privacy-statement/>)

We don't require your name and contact details as part of your feedback but will ask you a couple of demographic questions. You do not have to answer those questions, but they will assist us with analysis of the feedback. All responses will be anonymised as part of the analysis, before overall themes are shared with Council and the public.

If you wish to attend the Coffee and Chat discussion with Councillors, we will ask for your name and contact details on the registration form so that we can contact you about the event if needed.

**Proposed revised rating figures for the 2026/27 Annual Plan engagement materials**

**For the main informing document**

Average Regional Rates	Average rates <b>increase</b> per annum	Average increase per week
Residential (incl. GST)	\$83.83	\$1.61
Business (excl. GST)	\$695.70	\$13.38
Rural (excl. GST)	\$103.25	\$1.99

**For the factsheets**

Wellington City Average Rates		Average Rates 2026/27	Average increase per annum	Average increase per week	Increase %
Residential (incl. GST)	Wellington City	\$1,295.26	\$106.76	\$2.05	9.0%
Business (excl. GST)	Wellington City	\$5,587.75	\$332.53	\$6.39	6.3%
	Wellington City – CBD	\$17,212.35	\$1,436.36	\$27.62	9.1%
Rural (excl. GST)	Wellington City	\$987.63	\$111.96	\$2.15	12.8%

## Proposed revised rating figures for the 2026/27 Annual Plan engagement materials

Wairarapa Average Rates		Average Rates 2026/27	Average increase per annum	Average increase per week	Increase %
Residential (incl. GST)	Masterton District	\$540.47	\$74.79	\$1.44	16.1%
	Carterton District	\$617.66	\$76.69	\$1.47	14.2%
	South Wairarapa District	\$718.31	\$77.64	\$1.49	12.1%
Business (excl. GST)	Masterton District	\$1,921.22	\$247.25	\$4.75	14.8%
	Carterton District	\$1,074.42	\$118.38	\$2.28	12.4%
	South Wairarapa District	\$1,551.29	\$147.52	\$2.84	10.5%
Rural (excl. GST)	Masterton District	\$828.89	\$121.02	\$2.33	17.1%
	Carterton District	\$897.76	\$113.37	\$2.18	14.5%
	South Wairarapa District	\$1,049.02	\$119.54	\$2.30	12.9%
	Tararua District	\$979.68	\$106.77	\$2.05	12.2%

Porirua Average Rates		Average Rates 2026/27	Average increase per annum	Average increase per week	Increase %
Residential (incl. GST)	Porirua City	\$1,125.06	\$70.03	\$1.35	6.6%
Business (excl. GST)	Porirua City	\$2,791.63	\$192.98	\$3.71	7.4%
Rural (excl. GST)	Porirua City	\$1,276.36	\$76.96	\$1.48	6.4%

Kāpiti Coast Average Rates		Average Rates 2026/27	Average increase per annum	Average increase per week	Increase %
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**Proposed revised rating figures for the 2026/27 Annual Plan engagement materials**

<b>Residential (incl. GST)</b>	Kāpiti Coast district excl Ōtaki	\$1,241.78	\$100.67	\$1.94	8.8%
	Ōtaki rating area	\$672.38	\$59.50	\$1.14	9.7%
<b>Business (excl. GST)</b>	Kāpiti Coast District	\$2,617.81	\$169.84	\$3.27	6.9%
<b>Rural (excl. GST)</b>	Kāpiti Coast District	\$974.45	\$96.09	\$1.85	10.9%

<b>Upper Hutt Average Rates</b>		<b>Average Rates 2026/27</b>	<b>Average increase per annum</b>	<b>Average increase per week</b>	<b>Increase %</b>
<b>Residential (incl. GST)</b>	Upper Hutt City	\$1,088.48	\$97.76	\$1.88	9.9%
<b>Business (excl. GST)</b>	Upper Hutt City	\$4,978.90	\$1,655.42	\$31.83	49.8%
<b>Rural (excl. GST)</b>	Upper Hutt City	\$933.39	\$38.86	\$0.75	4.3%

<b>Hutt City Average Rates</b>		<b>Average Rates 2026/27</b>	<b>Average increase per annum</b>	<b>Average increase per week</b>	<b>Increase %</b>
<b>Residential (incl. GST)</b>	Hutt City	\$1,230.20	\$38.89	\$0.75	3.3%
<b>Business (excl. GST)</b>	Hutt City	\$5,368.23	\$1,329.25	\$25.56	32.9%
<b>Rural (excl. GST)</b>	Hutt City	\$1,073.52	\$22.86	\$0.44	2.2%