

Regional Council Rates

2022-23

Kia ora koutou

Welcome to our community newsletter

I am privileged to lead the Regional Council team. We are the main environmental agency for Hawke's Bay.

We work hard with our community - from Mahia in the north to Pōrangahau in the south - to address the big environmental challenges we face.

We work behind the scenery, caring for our precious taonga, of land, air and water, and looking after the places we all love.

The pressures of a changing climate drive much of what we do - and we are working at pace and pulling all the available levers to overcome these challenges. This takes investment and that's why we have increased overall rates by 15% this year.

We are acutely aware this is an increase for our community at a challenging time - of increased household costs, Covid pressures, and stress.

I want to assure you that we carefully plan and prioritise our actions, and work on the most critical environmental issues that will have the most positive impacts.

I encourage you to read more in this newsletter about our work and what we do. Your rates are making a meaningful difference to protecting and restoring our beautiful region.

Ngā mihi nui

James Palmer
Chief Executive

The Kotahi Plan - our people our future

To tackle our environmental challenges, we need a new regional plan, and this is Kotahi.

It will include policies and rules to better protect the environment and be the next step to where we need to go as a region.

We want to hear from you about the environmental issues you care about.

Come along to one of our meetings this month!

For more information and meeting times, go to hbrc.govt.nz, search #kotahi



local people.

local impact.

Stand for our regional council and make a positive difference for our local environment.
Find out more at hbrc.govt.nz, search #elections

HAWKES BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL
TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O TE MATAU-A-MĀUI

Te whakapakari tahi i tō tātatau **taiao**.
Enhancing our **environment** together.

MyWay - all the way!

Hastings-based support worker Wendy Gerbes is a big fan of the new on-demand public transport service, MyWay.

The service is currently being trialled on routes 16A, 16B and 17, and does away with fixed routes and timetables, taking passengers anywhere they want to go in Hastings for just \$2.

Wendy, who was using her car to travel to her clients' homes, now uses MyWay instead.

"It's very convenient, and the drivers are friendly. I enjoy using MyWay; it's like a taxi, but better!"

She says that the service is proving popular; "I have to ring a bit earlier than before, about 10-15 minutes before I am ready to travel."

Wendy says that MyWay is a good option as it saves her using her car. Not only does Wendy use MyWay



to get to work around Hastings, she also takes her clients to the bank or supermarket.

Find out more including how to book a MyWay ride at: www.mywayhb.nz



Getting people out of cars: Since MyWay launched in early June this year, patronage has jumped by 50 percent. It's convenient, and easy, try it out!



Erosion control: We are delivering a \$30 million scheme to support Hawke's Bay landowners in sustainable farming. In the last year we helped deliver 150 km of fencing to protect 115 km of waterways and 1,475 hectares of vulnerable land and 131,000 trees were planted over 710 hectares.



Warmer, drier homes: This year we have provided funding for another 1,229 Hawke's Bay homes installing solar, ventilation, insulation and clean heating, helping families to have warmer, drier homes.



Thriving native birds, plants and insects: We protected 375 hectares of native forest this year, through fencing, pest plant and animal control, and supported 42 community groups to plant around 72 hectares of native plants.



Next generation of environmental leaders:

We work with students and teachers from 71 early local childhood centres and schools supporting teaching and learning for a healthy and sustainable world through the nationwide EnviroSchools programme and Hawke's Bay Secondary Schools Environment Challenge.



Civil Defence: Our civil defence team play a vital role - building resilience in the community to plan for emergencies, and monitor emerging threats, through to full activation in an emergency.



Supporting Wairoa : When natural disasters happen, we are there. Our Wairoa catchment team volunteered time and vehicles to support the delivery of care parcels to households impacted by the floods and helped call 60 rural households to understand the damage and check on people's well-being.



Protecting homes and businesses

from floods: In partnership with central Government we are investing \$30 million in upgrading our stopbanks and other assets to protect homes and businesses.



Right trees in the right places

Central Hawke’s Bay farmers Evan and Linda Potter say with the support of the Regional Council they have been able to retire areas and plant a mix of trees.

“We feel like this planting journey that we have started will change our current pastoral system by reducing sheep, reducing our workload, and means we can focus on the better land, and be more productive, and add resilience to our business.”

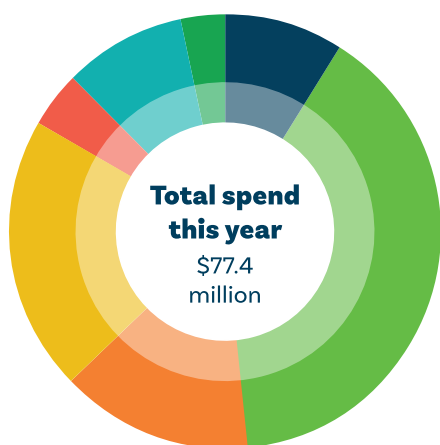
“We are also creating bird corridors from the ranges to the coast. When you go out to the middle of our farm and turn off your bike – the bird life is out of this world.”

“The Regional Council’s catchment team are great to work with and support farmers’ visions for the land to be more sustainable,” he says.

Find out more at: hbrc.govt.nz, search #RTRP

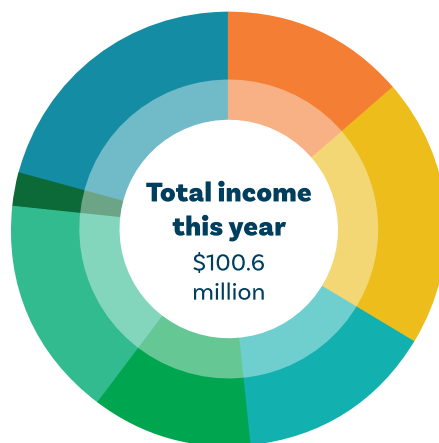
“We are going to leave a park-like environment that’s great to work in and for animals to grow. When we leave, it will be in a better state.”

Expenditure at a glance



- Governance and Partnerships** (including economic development and Sustainable Homes loans) \$7 million (9.05%)
- Asset Management** (including flood control, land drainage, water security, regional park and cycle trails) \$15.9 million (20.6%)
- Emergency Management and Civil Defence** \$3.3 million (4.3%)
- Integrated Catchment Management** (including environmental science, plant and animal pest control, biodiversity protection and erosion control) \$30.6 million (39.5%)
- Transport** \$7 million (9.05%)
- Corporate Services** \$2.5 million (3.2%)
- Policy and Regulation** \$11.1 million (14.3%)

Revenue at a glance



- General Rates** \$13.7 million (13.6%)
- Targeted Rates** \$20.2 million (20.1%)
- Subsidies and Grants** \$14.9 million (14.8%)
- Fees and Charges** \$11.9 million (11.8%)
- Investment Income** \$16.6 million (16.5%)
- Other Income** \$2.4 million (2.4%)
- Borrowing** \$20.9 million (20.8%)

Payment

Rates are due for payment on 20 September 2022

Take care that your payment doesn't arrive after 20 September 2022, as a 10% penalty will be applied from 21 September 2022.

A further penalty of 10% will be applied from 1 July 2023 to all outstanding rates including previous penalties.

Pay your rates the easy way!

Sign up **online** for direct debit and make monthly payments. It only takes five minutes!

Apply at hbrc.govt.nz, search: #ratesdd or complete and return the form enclosed with your rates account.



Or pay these other ways...

Internet banking: Always use the valuation number as a reference in all internet payments, along with your surname and address to ensure your payment can be verified.

Credit card: Either pay online at hbrc.govt.nz, search: #rates (note: there is a surcharge) or in person at our Napier customer service counter (no surcharge).

Pay in person: Take your rates account with you to pay at our Napier customer service counter, or at Wairoa, Hastings, or Central Hawke's Bay District Council offices (cash, EFTPOS, credit card).

In financial hardship? Our rates team can assist you with a confidential discussion to set up a payment plan.

Rates hub

For everything you want to know about rates and more, go to our rates hub hbrc.govt.nz, search: #rates

Help the planet and get your rates invoice by email. Visit hbrc.govt.nz, search: #ratesemail o

Keep me posted Stay up to date on the work of the council. Go to hbrc.govt.nz, search: #keepmeposted to sign up.

Individual rates change

Your individual valuation or other changes impact the way rates are calculated for your property. For example, if you live in Central Hawke's Bay or Wairoa, your rates may have been impacted by the general revaluation for your area. If you have renovated or completed a house build, these will impact your valuation.



Frequently asked questions

What is the difference between Regional Council and local or city council rates?

Regional Council rates are used for protecting and enhancing our natural environment – water, land, air and coast, and other regional functions like public transport and civil defence.

City or district council rates cover drinking water, sewage, rubbish collection, local roads and community facilities.

Why do I have to pay for Regional Council services I don't use?

We provide regional services for the benefit of the whole community, such as civil defence, public transport, pollution response and environmental regulation, biosecurity, regional economic development, and regional parks.

Why are my rates higher/lower than the stated average 15% increase?

Rates vary between properties depending on the services provided in your area.

You may have changes to your individual property such as renovations that will impact on your rating valuation.

Can I appeal a penalty?

You may apply for the remission of one penalty within a three year period where late payment has occurred due to special circumstances.

Do you have more questions?

Go to our rates hub

hbrc.govt.nz, search: #ratesfaq

We're here to help

Phone our customer service desk on 06 835 9200 (8am-5pm) or email info@hbrc.govt.nz