

Wednesday, 10 June 2026

*Te Hui o Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga*  
**Hastings District Council**  
**Council Meeting**

*Kaupapataka*

# Attachments Volume 1

## Waipātiki Wastewater Targeted Rate Submissions

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*Te Rā Hui:*  
Meeting date: **Wednesday, 10 June 2026**

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*Te Wā:*  
Time: **9.00am**

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*Te Wāhi:*  
Venue: **Council Chamber  
Ground Floor  
Civic Administration Building  
Lyndon Road East  
Hastings**

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175

4/30/26, 11:57 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE #138

CREATED

 PUBLIC  
Apr 30th 2026, 10:13:27 am

IP ADDRESS



\* Name

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Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

Waipatiki sewage scheme

Please tell us your views below

(No response)

Attach a File

[waipatiki\\_sewerage\\_scheme\\_31\\_april\\_2026.pdf](#)

Attach a File

31 April 2026

611 Waipatiki Road

EJ Horn and L W Hasselman ( Hasselman Family Trust)

#### WAIPATIKI SEWERAGE SCHEME

I am a Waipatiki resident since 1950 and in that time been through the consultation and implementation of the current system.

Many promises and assurances that were made at the time seem to have evaporated.

We joined, even though we had a good septic system, because of the persuasion of the council's representatives that joining would be for the public good as it was thought at the time there was a problem with the lagoon caused by some septic tanks. (This system does not appear to have solved the problem)

We were told the system would be owned by the HDC and we would pay to join the scheme and the scheme would be maintained by the council.

This brings me to the problem of being asked to pay for a new system. A new system that is expected to survive earthquakes and tidal waves that would completely devastate the whole valley leaving not much behind. The council chose the area to place the system and must have known about the soil quality and proximity to the stream at the time but found it to be satisfactory for the sewage system. The system belongs to the council for the benefit of all peoples, not just the old residents. We are not responsible for the Councils obligations to the campground.

In the last 77 years our family has been committed to the well being of Waipatiki in many ways, not the least, many hours work in the bush.

This cost is not ours to bear as original joiners but the councils as promised when first set up.

Waipatiki beach is the only sandy, available beach in the greater district attracting visitors from far and wide I think this should be a cost to the general public.

Thank You

Elizabeth Horn [hasselman@xtra.co.nz](mailto:hasselman@xtra.co.nz) 021835603

5/4/26, 1:04 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#199

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 4th 2026, 9:51:00 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Ron and Brenda Neal

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**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waipatiki Wastewater Proposal

**Please tell us your views below**

We are objecting to the proposal.  
Have sent a submission but incorrect file attached which is missing a page..  
Please use this attachment.  
As before if attachment has failed please let us know.  
Ron Neal 0274441185  
Thanks

**Attach a File**

neal\_submission.pdf (loading...)

**Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/199>

1/1

### **Submission to the HDC regarding Waipatiki WWTP Upgrade.**

Submitted on behalf of the Neal Family Trust.

Owners of 627 Waipatiki Road, Tangoio, Hastings District.

The Neal Family Trust (NFT) objects to the proposed current plan to upgrade the Waipatiki Wastewater Treatment Plant based on the following points.

1). The consultation process with the Waipatiki Community regarding the WWTP upgrade to current standards has been extremely poor in the lead up years. Transparency and clarity around the reasoning for this upgrade have been inadequate prior to the only two public meetings which were held with council staff to provide information regarding the upgrade. Little was said at the time about how the costings are arrived at.

We were just presented with an exorbitant bill!

2). HBRC and the Camp ground. This is confusing. They have been granted a 10-year consent extension by HBRC. The intention is to eventually connect it to the current Secondary Waste Water Treatment Plant (SWWTP). The upgrade to the current SWWTP presumably will include an increase in its capacity to cope with the addition of the Camping ground connection at a later date. Yet we are being asked to fund this upgrade now, but the Camp ground will benefit when eventually connected with no apparent contribution from the HBRC towards the upgrade.

Also, the original reason for a treatment system was to stop effluent contaminating the stream and sea near the outflow based on high E.coli levels. The stream is part of the HBRC responsibility and so that is another reason for the HBRC to contribute to ongoing costs and upgrades either from the Camp upgrade fund or in addition.

There should be a significant contribution from the 1.2 million set aside for the Campground's upgrade, towards the fair cost of upgrading the current treatment plant.

3). Earthquake/Flood protection costs to the existing treatment plant are exorbitant considering there is no guarantee that whatever is done will in fact be adequate. It would be prudent get a second opinion as to the cost and design of this part of the upgrade. Septic tanks, pumps, piping to the plant and electricity supply, will also be at risk during severe flooding and earthquake. "Failure is still, possible". Stated in the Proposal.

4). Sewage/Wastewater treatment charges since 2006 to 2026 amount to some \$8750 per bach. (See attached appendix for calculations relating to 627 Waipatiki Road).

Depending on the number of baches involved, this could mean anything from approx. \$450,000 to \$600,000 contributed over the 20-year period. Can we have some evidence as to where the money was spent. Was this in fact used for maintenance? Was any put into a contingency fund? Did some of it just end up in the general coffers?

5). The Uniform Annual General Charge has an inclusion to fund 20% of Wastewater Treatment costs. (See Description and Purpose of Rates on the back of the rates demand). This suggests that there has been extra funding for Wastewater Treatment costs in addition to the designated Wastewater Treatment Waipatiki fee in our rates.

These have increased approx. 2.5 times in the last 3 years to \$1022 yearly currently. Multiply that by 75 baches over 10 years and this amounts to at least \$766,000 to cover ongoing costs over this time! Add the \$450,000 to \$600,000 already paid in the previous years. A lot of money! What has it been used for?

6). With the original scheme in 2006, there was the opportunity to pay a lump sum. This has not been included in the current payment options.

**In summary**, our Submission is that, based on the above points, Waipatiki Ratepayers are being asked to fund much more than is reasonable, towards the cost of upgrading a treatment plant that is currently operating sufficiently for the number of baches that are currently connected.

Much has been paid in the past and will be in the future. At least \$70,000 a year from ratepayers is being currently being paid into the Wastewater Treatment fund. This should be more than sufficient for maintenance costs and even cover some of the upgrade.

Whilst acknowledging the need to keep to current standards and that some contribution from Ratepayers may be necessary, we submit the current costings proposal should be reviewed in the light of the above 6). points and considerably reduced to an amount acceptable to the ratepayers.

On behalf of the Neal Family Trust

Ron Neal

Brenda Neal

**Appendix 1****Waipatiki Sewage/Waste Water treatment Charges****For 627 Waipatiki Road**

2006 to 2013. No record. Estimated \$300 p.a. x 7 years+ \$2100

Below figures are from electronic and hard copy (posted) accounts

2006/201212	\$2100
2013/14	\$410
2014/15	\$420
2015/16	\$420
2016/17	\$420
2017/18	\$420
2018/19	\$420
2019/20	\$430
2020/21	\$453
2021/22	\$453
2022/23	\$479
2023/24	\$500
2024/25	\$800
2025/26	\$1022

**Total**            **\$8747**

Multiplied by 50 to 70 baches

\$437,350 to \$612,290 obtained over a 20-year period.

Has this **all** been spent on maintenance over those years?

That is an awful lot of maintenance.

Was any put aside for future upgrading costs? If so, this should be deducted from the costings for a current upgrade.


5/4/26, 3:56 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #207

### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 4th 2026, 3:50:05 pm

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Amanda Jung

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Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

No

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

Waipataki Waste Water Scheme.

5/4/26, 3:56 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

**Please tell us your views below**

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to formally oppose the proposed significant rate increase affecting property owners in Waipatiki who either reside permanently or holiday at their baches.

While I acknowledge the importance of maintaining and improving local infrastructure, I strongly believe that the current proposal unfairly distributes costs across all ratepayers, regardless of individual responsibility.

Firstly, there are well-documented issues with faulty and failing septic systems in the area, some of which are reportedly leaking into the local stream. This is particularly concerning given that the stream is used by children and animals for recreation. Property owners whose septic systems are not compliant or are contributing to environmental contamination should be required, as a priority, to repair or replace their systems at their own cost. It is neither equitable nor reasonable for those who have already invested in compliant, efficient septic systems to subsidise the remediation of properties that have not met these standards.

Secondly, I am concerned about the inclusion of costs associated with the local motor camp. As this facility is owned and operated by the council, and generates revenue for the council, it is inappropriate to pass the financial burden of its infrastructure issues onto private ratepayers. The responsibility for maintaining and upgrading council-owned assets should rest with the council itself, particularly where those assets are income-generating.

In summary, I urge the council to reconsider this rate increase proposal and adopt a more targeted and fair approach—one that ensures costs are borne by those directly responsible, rather than distributed broadly across all property owners.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

Yours sincerely,  
Amanda Jung

**Attach a File**

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**Attach a File**

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5/6/26, 3:23 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#215

### CREATED



PUBLIC

May 5th 2026, 9:59:27 am

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Maxwell Plested Plested

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Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

Yes

### Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

### What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

Waipatiki Wastewater Treatment Upgrade

### Please tell us your views below

See attachment

please advise if the attachment is not received, as the writer is not familiar with the terminology and 'Choose a file' process.

### Attach a File

[waipatiki\\_wastewater\\_treatment\\_scheme\\_upgrade.docx](#)

### Attach a File

Waipatiki Wastewater Treatment Scheme Upgrade.

This is the submission on behalf of the Plested Settlement Trust,

Owners of property 629 Waipatiki Road, Tangoio, Hastings District.

Plested Settlement Trust (PST) objects to the proposed upgrade of the wastewater treatment plant, in its current form, costings and liabilities.

The original sewerage scheme as proposed to the ratepayers, at no stage to our knowledge, were we advised that the proposal was for a 20 year consent period. Had ratepayers known that they were going to be subject to reviews of the scheme and further capital cost, many would likely not have joined the scheme.

In any event, we have recently learnt that our scheme was due to expire in May 2025. Unfortunately Hastings District Council (HDC) failed to renew the consent prior to expiry. As a consequence Waipatiki Community members are now confronted with increased costs due to new legislation introduced by Government in December 2025. Had the renewal been exercised by due date we would likely have been able to renew the consent in a manner similar to which Hawkes Bay Regional Council (HBRC) did for themselves in respect of the Waipatiki Camp Ground (WCG), which was effected in June 2024. Having been renewed prior to the new December 2025 legislation, they have been able to “roll over” their existing scheme without incurring major costs. This is in spite of HBRC being required, at the time of their purchase of WCG in 2016, being required to join the Waipatiki Community Scheme in 2018!

Accordingly, if the Waipatiki Community renewal had been effected, WCA members would not now be confronted with \$600,000 of cost for flood protection and earthquake strengthening, as this work would have needed to have been carried out by HBRC for the camp ground, as prior to 2024 there is record of the fact that Waipatiki Camp Ground had intentions of “bolting on” to the existing community scheme, originally funded by WCA members.

Accordingly, our \$1.2m budget should have the \$600,000 allocation for flood protection and earthquake cost deducted from the budget. The \$600,000 should lie clearly with HBRC.

Further, it would seem negligent that a treatment plant of this nature should have been sited adjacent to a floodable stream, in the first instance. The cost therefore may sit with the people who made the decision of such a siting, not with the ratepayers of the Waipatiki community.

This would see the scheme cost to WCA members reduced by approximately \$8,000 per property, with the actual cost lying correctly with HBRC.

The WCA scheme is, we believe, operating satisfactorily as indicated by HDC, so a renewal in 2025 would, like the HBRC/WCG scheme, with ‘no adverse effect’ – a precedent set by HBRC themselves!

HDC documentation provided, quoted the Acts of Parliament which are considered to include transparency and equality in decision making, which criteria is not met by HBRC deferring the WCG consent renewal, as required in the sale agreement, but Waipatiki Community Association being required to “pick up the ball” which they (HBRC) have dropped.

WCA ratepayers are estimated to have contributed in excess of \$500,000 in rating liability relative to wastewater treatment since the scheme was introduced, without apparently any major maintenance costs being incurred, other than normal running and servicing costs. This

amount of money seems totally adequate for the service provided, bearing in mind that the scheme has been paid for by the ratepayers, in large part and consequently we consider the current rates set, to be appropriate.

Our conclusion and submission is that the proposed wastewater upgrade should be delayed until HBRC /WCG are connected and compliant.

If the scheme is to go ahead prior to HBRC/WCG becoming compliant as part of the scheme Waipatiki Ratepayers Community members/ratepayers contribution should be reduced by \$8000.00 per property/ratepayer.

On behalf of the Plested Settlement Trust.

M C Plested

H J Plested.



5/6/26, 3:34 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#220

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 5th 2026, 2:41:42 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

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**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Wastewater treatment upgrade at Waipatiki

**Please tell us your views below**

I oppose the proposed upgrade due to the significant rates increase it will place on Waipatiki ratepayers. The scale of the increase is disproportionate for a small coastal community and does not adequately reflect affordability or the limited ability of residents to absorb higher costs.

With households already under pressure from the current cost-of-living crisis, now is not the appropriate time to impose such a substantial rates rise. I urge Council to reconsider the timing, scope, and cost of this project, and to explore more affordable alternatives or deferral until economic conditions improve.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/220>

1/1




5/7/26, 11:50 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #228

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 6th 2026, 7:18:32 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

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**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waipatiki waste water

5/7/26, 11:50 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

**Please tell us your views below**

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Dear Sir/Madam,

We wish to formally express our opposition to the proposed upgrade of the current storage/wastewater system and any associated costs being imposed on our property.

When our property arrangement was originally established, it was made clear that retaining our septic system was an option, and this was the preference we would have continued with. We did not agree or sign up to future infrastructure upgrade costs of this nature, particularly where these appear to benefit broader development and commercial interests, including campground upgrades and servicing for other properties.

In our view, the current situation reflects infrastructure that should have been properly planned and implemented from the outset. It is unfair for existing property owners to now be expected to fund upgrades that largely support wider expansion and development requirements beyond our own needs.

We therefore object to being charged or financially responsible for these proposed works and request clarification on:

The legal basis for imposing these costs on existing owners who did not consent to the upgrade arrangement;

Why septic retention was originally presented as an option if compulsory future connection and upgrade costs were always intended;

How costs are being allocated between private property owners and commercial/development beneficiaries such as the campground.

We ask that our objection be formally recorded and that no costs be allocated to our property until these concerns have been properly addressed.

Kind regards Dawn Baxter

**Attach a File**

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**Attach a File**

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<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/228>

2/2


5/7/26, 11:53 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #229

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 6th 2026, 7:28:10 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



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Steve Baxter

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**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waste water treatment

**Please tell us your views below**

Defer for 5 years and readdress in June 2029 when the campground resource consent needs to be done

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**



5/7/26, 11:55 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#230

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 6th 2026, 7:49:58 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Alice Russ

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**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

Yes

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme Statement of Proposal – Funding Strategy, Affordability, and Environmental Outcomes

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/230>

1/2

5/7/26, 11:55 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

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**Please tell us your views below**

**Affordability & Financial Hardship:** As a young family currently on a single income due to maternity leave, with further leave planned, an additional \$1,670 per year on rates is an overwhelming burden. The Council must consider the social impact of these costs on permanent, young residents who were not notified of this massive \$16,700 liability when purchasing their homes two years ago.

**Inadequate "Public Good" Allocation:** The proposed 10% public good funding is too low. Waipātiki is a significant regional destination and the scheme services public toilets and a regional campground; therefore, the broader Hastings community should contribute a larger share (at least 20-25%) to reflect this regional benefit.

**Repayment Term vs. Asset Life:** The Council identifies this as a multi-generational asset with a 35-year consent certainty. It is unreasonable to force current residents to pay the full capital cost over a short 10-year period. I request an option to extend the repayment term to in line the consent period, to make the annual rates increase manageable for households.

**Environmental Performance & Lagoon Health:** The proposal claims to protect the environment, yet the Waipātiki lagoon remains filled with E. coli and unswimmable every summer. I challenge the Council to provide a performance guarantee that this \$2.4m investment will actually resolve these local water quality issues before charging residents.

**Request for Hardship/Deferral Policy:** I would like to see a formal policy for rates remission or deferral for this specific targeted rate. This would allow families in periods of financial hardship (such as maternity leave) to accrue the cost against the property title rather than facing immediate financial distress.

**Transparency of Technical Solutions:** I am concerned that the preferred option is a "top of the line" approach without enough evidence of more creative, staged, or lower-cost nature-based solutions. Residents deserve to see a more detailed comparison of "middle-ground" infrastructure options that achieve compliance without the maximum price tag.

Please refer to my attached PDF letter for more detail on our specific household circumstances and how this proposal impacts us as permanent residents

---

**Attach a File**

aruss\_submission\_to\_the\_2026\_27\_draft\_annual\_plan\_waipatiki\_wastewater\_scheme.pdf

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**Attach a File**

15 May 2026

To: The Strategy Manager  
Hastings District Council  
Private Bag 9002, Hastings 4156

**Subject: Submission to the 2026/27 Draft Annual Plan – Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme**

To the Mayor and Councillors,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Statement of Proposal for the Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme.

My name is Alice Russ, and I am writing on behalf of my family at 2 Nga Manu Place. We moved to Waipātiki nearly two years ago to raise our young family in this beautiful community. We are currently a household of four, most recently operating on a single income during a maternity leave period, with further maternity leave planned in the coming years.

While we support the goal of a sustainable, compliant wastewater system, we have significant concerns regarding the proposed funding structure and its impact on the long-term viability of young families in this settlement.

**Affordability & Financial Hardship:**

An additional \$1,670 per year on our rates for the next decade is a staggering expense. This liability was not disclosed to us when we purchased our home two years ago, and facing such a sharp increase while on a single income is a significant hardship. We ask the Council to consider the social and economic well-being of permanent residents when finalizing these figures.

**Inadequate "Public Good" Allocation:**

The proposal allocates only 10% of the cost to the general ratepayer as "Public Good." We believe this is an underestimate. Waipātiki is a regional treasure; the wastewater scheme supports a public reserve, public toilets, and a regional campground that draws thousands of visitors from across the Hawke's Bay. We argue that the regional benefit justifies a Public Good contribution of at least 20–25%.

**Repayment Term vs. Asset Life:**

The Council is seeking a 35-year resource consent for a multi-generational asset. Requiring current residents to pay for this infrastructure over a short 10-year term creates an artificial and unnecessary financial peak. We request that the Council offers a repayment option to align the costs with the life of the benefit.

**Performance Guarantees Regarding the Lagoon**

A primary justification for this investment is environmental protection. However, the Waipātiki lagoon is frequently unswimmable in summer due to high E. coli levels. We would

like to see a clear commitment or guarantee that this \$2.4 million project will directly result in improved swimmability and water quality for the lagoon.

**Request for Hardship and Deferral Options**

We urge the Council to implement a hardship policy for this targeted rate. For families in transitional life stages, such as maternity leave, the option to defer these payments as a charge against the property title would provide essential relief without compromising the Council's long-term revenue.

**Exploration of Cost-Effective Alternatives**

We would like more transparency regarding the "creative" or nature-based solutions that were considered. We want to be certain that this "top of the line" approach is a mechanical necessity and not simply the most convenient option for the Council.

We look forward to speaking further to this submission at the hearing on 10 June 2026.

Yours sincerely,



**Alice Russ**  
**Waipatiki Resident**



*Our family at Waipātiki Beach. We love our community and want to ensure that infrastructure upgrades are both environmentally effective and financially sustainable for the families who live here year-round.*

5/7/26, 12:14 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#231

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 6th 2026, 8:03:14 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Paul Kite

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0279686738

**\* Email**[paulkite2018@gmail.com](mailto:paulkite2018@gmail.com)

**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

Yes

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

We object to the proposal to impose wastewater/storage upgrade or connection costs on our property. At the time of establishment, retaining the existing septic system was presented as an available option and no obligation was disclosed or agreed for future compulsory upgrades or contributions. We do not accept retrospective cost allocation and consider that any such charges would require clear legal authority and a fair, transparent apportionment between private property servicing and wider development benefit. We therefore oppose inclusion of our property in any funding or charging arrangement for this proposal.

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/231>

1/2

5/7/26, 12:14 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

**Please tell us your views below**

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We formally object to any proposal that seeks to impose capital, connection, or ongoing infrastructure charges in respect of our property relating to the wastewater/storage system.

No contractual, statutory, or consent-based obligation was disclosed or agreed at the time of establishment that would give rise to retrospective liability of this nature. The option to retain the existing septic system was expressly presented as available, and any future compulsory upgrade obligation was not identified or agreed.

Any retrospective imposition of cost is not accepted and raises substantive issues as to lawful authority, procedural fairness, and legitimate expectation. In the absence of clear and express statutory power, such imposition is not considered valid.

Further, the proposed works appear to extend beyond servicing of the individual allotment and instead facilitate broader network capacity and development enablement, including servicing of adjacent or associated commercial activity. In those circumstances, any cost recovery must be demonstrably based on a lawful, transparent, and proportionate apportionment between private benefit infrastructure and wider development infrastructure. No such apportionment has been evidenced.

Accordingly, we do not consent to our property being included in any funding, rating, contribution, or charging framework associated with this proposal.

We request confirmation of the specific statutory authority relied upon and full disclosure of the methodology used to allocate costs.

All rights are reserved, including the right to challenge any resulting decision or charge through all available statutory and judicial review processes.

**Attach a File**

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**Attach a File**

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<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/231>

2/2

5/7/26, 4:16 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#239

### CREATED



PUBLIC

May 7th 2026, 1:36:47 pm

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Lisa & Bruce Muir

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0274810874

### \* Email

[lisa.muir68@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.muir68@gmail.com)

Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

No

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

Annual Plan Consultation – Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme

5/7/26, 4:16 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

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**Please tell us your views below**

Good afternoon,

We wish to submit feedback on our thoughts regarding the upgrade to the current Wastewater Treatment Plan in Waipatiki.

To confirm along with email documentation received through the council, we also attended the meeting in January which 5 council members attended. Our thoughts from the meeting & documentation provided are -

- There seemed to be a lack of notice/transparency/consultation from the council when the initial planning/discussion of the upgrade was discussed with the ratepayers.
- At the meeting it was very clear that homework had not been done very well by the people in attendance from the council. When asked many questions from the ratepayers there was a few questions they could not answer which was disappointing.
- The quotations for work to be carried out seem extremely high. Was there three quotations provided by three independent companies (not preferred contractors by the Council)?
- Personally our septic system is working very well. We would use the dwelling no more than 35 nights of the year so definitely not a huge volume of septic being generated. I would say this would be the case for 85-90% of the dwellings as well.
- The public toilet is use constantly and in very high demand/use over the summer time. The amount of flushes per month would exceed the whole community for all of the summer months by far.
- The overall treatment system seems to be working efficiently and the lagoon water is clear, swam in daily with no cause for concern.
- There was discussion regarding future proofing/strengthening of current structures in the case of a Tsunami/major earthquake/event. We feel if there was an earthquake large enough to cause a Tsunami, the village would be totally wiped out completely and the septic would be the least of our worries.
- There was also talk around the campground upgrade in a few years time which then would benefit from the treatment plant if/when connected. This seems a sly move in our opinion. Upgrade the treatment plant at the cost of the ratepayers, wait a couple of years and then link in to the system. A suggestion would be to wait until the camp upgrade is completed by the council, then look at the Treatment upgrade then at a more fairer split of costs determined by use.
- The amount of \$16,700 per household seems extremely high and unfair to have paid off over 10 years. Why not 20 years? I feel the quoting of the project needs to be reviewed as extremely high quotations.

Thank you for hearing our concerns/thoughts. We look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Bruce & Lisa Muir  
622 Waipatiki Road

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**Attach a File**

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**Attach a File**

5/11/26, 9:20 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#264

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 10th 2026, 2:32:37 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Margaret Campbell

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

+64 21 479974

**\* Email**[margie@elementodesign.co.nz](mailto:margie@elementodesign.co.nz)

**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

"Annual Plan Consultation - Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme".

I respectfully Request that council do the following.

Withdraw the proposed rate increase until the following items have been considered and answered, not only to me as an individual but to the community as a whole .

5/11/26, 9:20 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

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**Please tell us your views below**

More time needs to be given to allow for further community engagement.

**Justification of Costs**

Provide more Geotech, engineering data and modelling that justifies the cost. Are these piles really necessary or is just to tick a box in case of a major earthquake, that may or may not cause the migration of the tanks into the stream? In which case the whole underground village system will more than likely be rendered useless. Why does there appear to be no flood protection when this is the most likely form of natural disaster, in my mind, to damage the treatment plant.

Has council investigated other options for the upgrade besides H5 treated piles? If so I would ask you share these and costs with Waipatiki Community Assn

**Potential Stream and Environmental Contamination**

What is being done about the properties that are not connected to the current scheme?

It is my understanding that they will also be charged their fair share, however what guarantee can council give that these privately owned tanks are in good working order and not contaminating the stream, particularly after heavy rainfall, when water ingress has been a well-known problem within the village. I would also like to point out that our children, grandchildren and the general public use the lagoon (which the Waipatiki Steam feeds) for swimming and play all year round. It appears that council is aware of leaching as there is a sign erected at the start of the lagoon stating it is not safe to be in the water for 3 days following heavy rain!

Is there environmental impact of driving H5 Treated poles so close to the steam bank and subsoil ie; leaching? when the water table is known to be high.

**Fairness of Costs**

A detailed breakdown of costs between the Campground and the community would be most helpful. At present the campground has had its own resource consent deferred for 10 years, and yet we are asked to pay for a major upgrade of the WWTP which will then allow for the campground to tap into it for the discharge of treated waste. I understand this will also allow the campground to increase the number of campers on site. I believe this is a very unfair and Council has left themselves wide open for criticism on the subject. It all looks rather underhanded and transparency is clearly needed here.

**Value for Money**

The majority of land owners have already paid \$12,000 each in 2005 for connection and upgrade of their sewer systems on the understanding that the infrastructure was owned and therefore to be maintained in the future by council. Since that time land owners have also been paying on average \$1000 sewer rate per annum over 20 years and although there is an annual check over of systems and tanks connected, there still must be quite a few dollars left in the kitty. I believe it is unfair for HBDC to now be asking for a further \$16,700 for a further upgrade particularly when the current system is running well with the capacity it has and given there are very few bare sections left to build on and the average home owner may only be in residence for matter of weeks per year. This does not lend much in the way of community confidence in what we as the rate payers are getting for our money, and how our rates are being used.

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**Attach a File**

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**Attach a File**

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<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/264>

2/2

5/11/26, 9:26 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#267

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 10th 2026, 7:17:21 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Philip Berry

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0211616343

**\* Email**[berryphilip13@gmail.com](mailto:berryphilip13@gmail.com)

Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

No

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme Statement of Proposal

**Please tell us your views below**

We do not support the funding proposal for the Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme.

Waipatiki ratepayers already paid for the infrastructure in 2005 and there was no indication then of future charges required.

The system is council-owned infrastructure so should be funded by council, not directly to Waipatiki ratepayers. The new costs have simply arisen from regulatory changes, not resident behavior.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/267>

1/1



5/11/26, 9:33 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#269

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 11th 2026, 4:36:08 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Marilyn Lusk

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0272766733

**\* Email**[632wp@farmside.co.nz](mailto:632wp@farmside.co.nz)

**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waipatiki Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/269>

1/2

5/11/26, 9:33 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

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**Please tell us your views below**

Submission to the Hastings District Council Annual Plan (Waipatiki Wastewater)

I have had an association with Waipatiki since 1977 and have lived here permanently since 2006. In 2005 under the then Waipatiki Ratepayers Association and with the support of the HBRC and HDC, I initiated a community effort which over the past 21 years has resulted in extensive native planting along the Waipatiki Stream.

I oppose the proposed upgrade to the waste water treatment plant in its existing form as a cost of \$16,700 per property has not been clearly justified.

1. Our WWTP was put in in 2005, largely paid for by the existing property owners and the developers of the new subdivision. It has no obvious functional issues but apparently falls short of new central government standards issued in December 2025. Also it is allowed to operate only by virtue of a new resource consent application made by the HDC before its initial consent expired in May 2025.

2. By contrast, the campground stand alone wastewater treatment system has functional and legal easement issues. Its resource consent was due to expire in May 2024. It is allowed to continue to operate through to 2034 by virtue of a 10 year resource consent extension, applied for, and granted, by the HBRC.

3. The HDC " is responsible for funding any upgrades to the campground wastewater system needed in order to enable connection to the community treatment plant and disposal system" (Report to Council by Lex Verhoeven and Steve Cave 23 September 2025). The proposed upgrade to the community WWTP enables campground connection.

4. It is claimed that consultation with the property owners, who are expected to largely fund the upgrade, has been adequate. On 8 May 2023, three members of the Waipatiki Community Association met with the HDC. This was three months after Cyclone Gabrielle and one attendee remembers that the discussion was mostly about how the system performed during the 3 week power outage.

5. Two and a half years later at a meeting with the community on 15 November 2025, we were told the the upgrade to the WWPT was to cost \$1.2 million - half the \$2.4 million cost of both WWPT upgrade and campground system - although the design of the campground work had still to be finalised. At no point was there acknowledgement that in fairness there should be a contribution by the campground to the cost of the existing plant and an acceptance of liability for a share of the current proposed upgrade.

6. Half the \$1.2 million cost ie \$600,000 appears to be for civil works designed for geotech and flood risk mitigation. This seems excessive given that the risk was not identified as significant in the 84 page Good Earth Matters Alternative Assessments Report dated April 2024 presented to Council in August 2024. Under " Discussion of Preferred Option" the authors write:

"The main disadvantages associated with this option are accepting the flood and geotechnical risks associated with the current community WWTP location. From Figure 3.2, it is clear there is no 'ideal' site for the community WWTP and discharge area, however, their current locations are in the best location at present to not impact the more significant and sensitive areas north of the river or uphill. Further they are in an area that is away from the community (for aesthetic and amenity values) and is a currently degraded ecosystem, therefore this option provides a potential for improvement to the receiving environment by the planting projects and environmental enhancements. The planting will provide some resilience in weather events by limiting the rate of surface water run-off in any extreme circumstances (significant rainfall and ponding) and the residual risks will need to be accepted or mitigated via minor design works (storage for effluent, raising base height of infrastructure etc.). It is considered that the disadvantages of this option are outweighed by the benefits, and that it provides a cost effective pathway for achieving the sought project outcomes."

6. The \$600,000 buys an heroic rammed palisade of 93 x 8m H5 treated poles at 1-1.2m centres. Perhaps a sufficient level of mitigation could be achieved by way of managed tree planting - poplar poles for short term effectiveness (with later removal), interplanted with totara and kaihikatea as permanent guardians. Surely such a solution would sit more comfortably with both Hapu and local community values on a location above the Kowhiro Steam, now known as a spawning ground for native fish.

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**Attach a File**

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<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/269>

2/2

5/11/26, 9:34 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#270

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 11th 2026, 8:51:45 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Hannah Galloway

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0272447103

**\* Email**[alchemygisborne@hotmail.com](mailto:alchemygisborne@hotmail.com)

Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

No

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waipatiki wastewater proposal

**Please tell us your views below**

We are not in support of the proposal.

We have already paid for a wastewater system which was understood to be a one off contribution, there are no issues with the current system at this time.

I am not happy for Waipatiki residents only to subsidise the cost of the including the campground in the system.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/270>

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5/11/26, 3:48 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#275

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 11th 2026, 2:23:27 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Rhiannon Tong

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New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0211746522

**\* Email**[rhiannondamien@gmail.com](mailto:rhiannondamien@gmail.com)

Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

No

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme

Please tell us your views below

My family has owned our holiday home at Waipatiki for 34 years, I do not support this proposal. We have already contributed a significant amount to this waste water system. At the time we were led to believe this was a one off contribution, and that this would become a council owned and maintained asset.

Attach a File

Attach a File

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/275>

1/1




5/12/26, 12:16 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

# HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #276

## CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 11th 2026, 4:09:33 pm

## IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Neil Faulknor

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0274966372

### \* Email

[neilfaulknor@gmail.com](mailto:neilfaulknor@gmail.com)

**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

### Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

### What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

Waipatiki Waste Water Treatment upgrade

### Please tell us your views below

I fully support the WCA submission on the current upgrade proposal. As a super annuitant on a fixed income, the proposed funding would put me under serious hardship and stress. I/we have had some of the highest rate increases over the last 2 years of any TLA's I have looked at, something like a 17% and a 14% increase, on top of the HBRC moving to Capital Value for rating purposes despite some 80% of rate payers submitting against the proposal. By careful saving I have been able to retire to a freehold but basic, property. The proposed increase in rates coupled with the current widespread increase in cost thanks to Trump's war, will see me having to draw on the small emergency fund recommended by a financial adviser (\$5000), and approach my bank about drawing funds from an undischarged mortgage, something I would not enjoy and something I would never have imagined at my age of 80 years.

### Attach a File

### Attach a File

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/276>

1/1




5/12/26, 12:20 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #279

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 11th 2026, 5:13:04 pm

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Russell Fergusson

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

0274 457102

#### \* Email

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**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

#### Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

#### What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme

#### Please tell us your views below

Please find attached our submission for the Waipatiki Wasterwater Scheme

#### Attach a File

#### Attach a File



5/12/26, 12:23 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#280

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 11th 2026, 7:15:43 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Shelley Minter

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0273608453

**\* Email**[minters1985@gmail.com](mailto:minters1985@gmail.com)

**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Proposed Waipātiki Wastewater Plant Upgrade

**Please tell us your views below**

I oppose the proposed Waipātiki wastewater plant upgrade in its current form and request that Council defer the funding decision until further technical and financial assessment is completed.

While I support appropriate investment in wastewater infrastructure and environmental protection, significant concerns remain regarding unresolved technical issues, lack of transparency around costs and design assumptions, and whether the proposal represents the most proportionate and cost-effective solution.

I am also concerned that the funding model places an unfair burden on the Waipātiki community while other users of the wider wastewater and water system, including the campground and public facilities, do not appear to contribute proportionately.

I request that Council defer the proposal, complete an integrated review of the full wastewater system, resolve outstanding technical matters, and provide greater transparency around costs, alternatives, and funding allocation before proceeding.

Thank you.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/280>

1/1



5/12/26, 12:24 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#281

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 11th 2026, 7:17:43 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Travis Minter

**Address**

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**\* Contact phone number**

02756666999

**\* Email**[shellintrav@icloud.com](mailto:shellintrav@icloud.com)

**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waipātiki Wastewater Plant Upgrade

**Please tell us your views below**

I oppose the proposed Waipātiki wastewater plant upgrade in its current form and believe the funding decision should be delayed until there is clearer information around the technical issues, overall costs, and whether this is actually the best and most sensible solution.

I support investing in wastewater infrastructure and protecting the environment, but at the moment there are still too many unanswered questions around the scale of the upgrade, the cost, and how those costs are being shared.

I am particularly concerned that the Waipātiki community appears to be carrying an unfair share of the cost, while other users connected to the wider system, including the campground and public facilities, are not contributing fairly.

I would like Council to pause the proposal, complete a full review of the wider wastewater system, resolve the outstanding technical concerns, and provide more transparency around costs, alternatives, and funding before moving ahead.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/281>

1/1



5/12/26, 3:51 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#284

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 11th 2026, 8:35:23 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Stephanie Keong

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

027 733 2010

**\* Email**[skeong10@gmail.com](mailto:skeong10@gmail.com)

**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

Yes

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme

**Please tell us your views below**

I oppose the proposal in its current form - please see attached document.

**Attach a File**[waipatiki\\_waste\\_water\\_treatment\\_plant\\_submission\\_11.05.26\\_sk.pdf](#)**Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/284>

1/1

**Submission on Draft Statement of Proposal – Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft Statement of Proposal for the Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme. I appreciate the work that has gone into assessing the plant and the surrounding risks. However, I have significant concerns about the scale of the proposed costs and the underlying assumptions used to justify them. For these reasons, I oppose the proposal in its current form.

**1. Disproportionate cost for a risk that may never eventuate**

A large portion of the proposed \$600,000 civil works cost relates to strengthening the plant against potential future natural hazards. The engineering advice presented indicates that the decision is based on an assessment of risk and the importance of the plant. However, when questioned, the engineer acknowledged that the scenario being protected against is a large earthquake that *may* occur at some point within the next 50 years.

This raises a fundamental question of proportionality. The proposal asks ratepayers to fund expensive mitigation works now for an event that is uncertain in both timing and scale. I am prepared to accept the risk and contribute to repairs *if and when* a disaster actually occurs, rather than paying upfront for protection against a low probability scenario.

**2. Acknowledgement within the SOP that failure cannot be fully prevented**

The Statement of Proposal itself notes that flooding and subsidence risks cannot be entirely mitigated and that failure remains possible even with the proposed works. This makes it difficult to understand why such a high level of expenditure is being directed toward protection measures that cannot guarantee the plant's resilience.

If the majority of the \$600,000 cost is for protection that still does not eliminate the risk, the value proposition for ratepayers becomes even less clear.

**3. Recent examples show that more cost effective alternatives are often available**

A recent NZ Herald article reported that Council estimated a replacement for the cyclone damaged Burnside Bridge in Central Hawkes Bay at \$16 million for a two lane structure. A local resident then obtained an independent quote for a like for like single lane bridge at \$2.75 million. This highlights how dramatically costs can differ depending on the approach taken.

The same concern applies to the proposed \$600,000 strengthening works at Waipatiki. For a small community, this cost appears disproportionately high, and it is reasonable to question whether more practical, lower cost options have been fully explored.

**4. High cost per property, with limited permanent population**

The estimated cost of **\$16,700 per property** is extremely high, particularly given that Waipatiki has approximately 75 connected properties but only around 14 permanent residents (including

the campground). The majority of properties are holiday homes, meaning the year round benefit of this investment is limited.

The scale of the cost relative to the number of properties and the relatively small permanent population makes the proposal difficult to justify.

#### **5. Limited benefit to individual landowners**

As a landowner, I cannot currently appreciate the direct benefit of this level of expenditure. The risk being mitigated is low probability, the protection is not guaranteed to prevent failure, and the cost is disproportionately high.

If a disaster of the scale described were to occur, the community would be facing far more immediate concerns such as access, safety, and essential supplies than the wastewater plant alone. In that context, the proposal feels misaligned with the practical realities of disaster response and recovery.

#### **6. Preference for a more balanced, risk based approach**

I am not opposed to contributing to the maintenance and resilience of the wastewater scheme. However, I do not support paying now for extensive strengthening works based on a hypothetical event that may or may not occur within the next half century.

A more balanced approach would be:

- Maintain the plant to a safe and functional standard now.
- Monitor the site and reassess if risk levels materially change.
- If a disaster occurs, contribute to repairs or strengthening at that time.

This approach respects both the financial realities of the community and the actual level of risk.

In summary the proposed costs are excessive relative to the risk, the number of properties, and the uncertain benefit to landowners. The Burnside Bridge example shows that infrastructure costs can vary dramatically depending on the approach taken, and that more cost effective solutions are often available. I therefore oppose the proposal in its current form and ask the Council to reconsider the scale and timing of the proposed works, and to explore more proportionate, staged, or risk-responsive alternatives.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Regards

Stephanie Keong



5/12/26, 3:57 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#287

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 12th 2026, 11:30:16 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Leah ERICKSEN

**Address**

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**\* Contact phone number**

0211137551

**\* Email**[waimafrucoltd@xtra.co.nz](mailto:waimafrucoltd@xtra.co.nz)

**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waipatiki Wastewater scheme

**Please tell us your views below**

In respect of the Waipatiki Wastewater scheme I am concerned about the preconceived nature of the proposed planned works and the limited timeframe provided for meaningful public consultation and input.

In addition, the proposed expenditure lacks sufficient transparency, particularly regarding how funds are allocated and justified.

I am also concerned that the financial burden appears to fall disproportionately on ratepayers who are already paying significantly higher wastewater rates than the wider community. This raises questions around fairness and equity in the proposed funding structure and causes to question why money was not set aside for future works from the money already paid by ratepayers.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/287>

1/1



5/12/26, 3:59 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#288

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 12th 2026, 11:35:52 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Brett Collier

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0274574662

**\* Email**[brett.collier@alliedpetroleum.co.nz](mailto:brett.collier@alliedpetroleum.co.nz)

**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

Yes

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waipatiki Waste Water Scheme

**Please tell us your views below**

I feel that there has been a lack of clarity from the HDC regarding the Wastewater Scheme in Waipatiki. There is no breakdown of costs of equipment required between the camp upgrade and the residential upgrade costs.

The current system was paid for the residence of Waipatiki some years ago and everyone thought it would be the last time we had to pay for the system especially as our sewage rates are twice the normal in HDC. Where has all the added costs to the Waipatiki residents gone?

I understand that standards change but I cannot understand why the residents have to pay once again. This upgrade should be paid by the whole council region, not just the few households at Waipatiki. I notice that this extra 10-year fee has already been implemented on the next rates on your web site. This has been done before the residence can have their say in the matter. Another conflict of interest is that the HDC has extended the time of compliance for the Waipatiki Motor Camp - is this due to lack of funds? If so, postpone the whole project until the HDC can pay for the entire scheme upgrade.

I agree with the submission that the Waipatiki Association will submit this Friday.

The whole project should be postponed until ALL the questions in the submission have been answered. I am also in agreement of taking this issue legally as a group against the HDC.

Regards,  
Brett Collier  
637a Waipatiki Road.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/288>

1/1



5/12/26, 4:03 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#290

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 12th 2026, 1:18:41 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Phyllida Gibson

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**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

The Waipatiki wastewater scheme.

**Please tell us your views below**

Submission on Proposed Wastewater Cost Allocation at Waipatiki.

I do not support the current proposal, as the costs do not appear to be fairly structured or allocated.

My concerns are as follows:

- The Waipatiki community appears to be footing the bill for work that will ultimately benefit the connection of the campground at a later date.

The Waipatiki Community seems to be paying a substantial amount for geotechnical stabilisation work, which will also benefit the council when the campground connection proceeds in the future. A conflict of interest.

- We have already contributed \$12,000 toward the original wastewater infrastructure in 2005.
- We already pay significantly higher wastewater rates, so an additional charge of \$1,600 on top of this is excessive.

For these reasons, I believe the current proposal results in an unfair allocation of costs and should be reconsidered.  
Thank You.

**Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/290>

1/2

5/12/26, 4:03 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

Attach a File

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<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/290>

2/2

5/14/26, 10:03 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#297

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 12th 2026, 7:16:14 pm

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angela Jameson

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**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Proposed Waipatiki Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade

**Please tell us your views below**

Attached

**Attach a File**

submission\_on\_proposed\_wastewater\_treatment\_plant\_upgrade..docx

**Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/297>

1/1

**Submission on Proposed Waipatiki Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade – Opposition to funding model.****Submitter:** Angela Jameson**Topic:** Targeted rate of \$1,670 per year for 10 years ( \$16,000 per household)**Position:** Oppose the proposed funding model; support a fair, evidence-based alternative.

I respectfully request that council

1. Grant an extension in time to allow for a more extensive consultation with the Waipatiki community on the proposed upgrades to the Waipatiki Wastewater Treatment Plant. This would ensure time for provision of full technical, financial, and regulatory information to be provided. The consultation period is insufficient for a proposal of this scale to be adequately explored.
2. Provide performance data and modelling that justify the scale of the upgrade together with a detailed breakdown of costs between the community and the campground.
3. Look at alternative funding options including a fairer distribution of costs and a longer time frame for payment. The proposal of 10 years puts an unfair burden on existing Waipatiki ratepayers, some of whom may no longer own property in Waipatiki after the 10-year payment timeframe.
4. I understand the need to meet modern wastewater treatment standards and can see that improvements to the existing Wastewater treatment plant needs to be look at – however I don't feel adequate transparency or exploration of options has been provided by Council. Accordingly, I oppose the proposed funding model and would like to see a fairer more evidence-based alternative be explored in full and transparent consultation with the Waipatiki Community.

5/14/26, 10:30 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#301

### CREATED



PUBLIC

May 12th 2026, 10:36:07 pm

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Andrew Taylor

### Address

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### \* Contact phone number

021 237 3939

### \* Email

[treestandstreams5@gmail.com](mailto:treestandstreams5@gmail.com)

Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

Yes

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

### What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme

### Please tell us your views below

Submission attached has been prepared by the committee of the Waipatiki Community Association.

### Attach a File

26.05.12\_final\_submission\_bound.pdf

### Attach a File

## Waipātiki Community Association Inc.

### Submission to the Hastings District Council Annual Plan (Waipātiki Wastewater)

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#### 1. Introduction

The Waipātiki Community Association Incorporated (“WCA”) represents approximately 70 households in the Waipātiki Valley. The Association has been active in the area since 1968 and plays an important role in environmental stewardship, community coordination, and engagement with local authorities.

The Mission Statement of WCA is “**Preserving and Enhancing the Community and Environment of Waipātiki**”. We do this through looking out for each other, trapping pests, beach cleaning, propagating and planting native trees, weed control and community days – a huge amount of voluntary effort almost entirely by members of our community.

Waipātiki has a fine mix of beach, bush and birds and is popular for day visitors or those who choose to stay at the camping ground. WCA is proud of the part we play in preserving and enhancing the valley.

WCA supports Council’s objectives of:

- Protecting environmental values
- Securing long-term wastewater consents
- Providing resilient infrastructure

However, WCA does not support the current proposal to fund the wastewater upgrade through the Annual Plan in its present form.

---

#### 2. Overall Position

WCA’s position is that:

The proposed funding decision is premature and should be deferred until the project is better defined, more robustly evidenced, and more fairly structured.

WCA is not seeking to stop the project, but rather to ensure that when it proceeds it is:

- Technically justified
  - Proportionate in scale
  - Cost effective
  - Fairly funded and free of perceptions of conflict of interest
-

### 3. Key Issues

#### 3.1 Technical Uncertainty and Information Gaps

The current proposal is being advanced despite significant unresolved technical matters:

- HBRC has issued a comprehensive Section 92 request identifying material gaps in:
  - Environmental effects assessment
  - Overflow behaviour and management
  - Monitoring data and historical performance
  - Nutrient and contaminant pathways
- An in depth review (see section 3.7 below) questions whether:
  - The scale or need for upgrade is justified
  - The proposal represents the best practicable option
  - Further information is required before a funding decision can be made
- A priorities assessment (as attached) concludes the phased upgrade as proposed cannot be justified on the basis of cost / benefit or environmental gain
- Council reporting acknowledges that the existing community system is generally performing adequately
- Concerns that the use of over 90 driven tanalised piles in proximity to the Waipātiki Stream could lead to leaching into the waterway.

WCA considers that it is not appropriate to commit funding before these matters are resolved.

---

#### 3.2 Misalignment Between Consent and Funding

There is a fundamental inconsistency in how the project is being treated:

- The resource consent application treats the wastewater system as an integrated network including:
  - Community WWTP and public toilets
  - Campground system
  - Water treatment plant back flush discharges
- The Annual Plan proposal separates the project costs meaning the initial works are charged to the community while these works benefit the later stages of the integrated approach (connection of the camping ground).

The campground:

- In 2016, when HBRC and HDC agreed to purchase, was subject to an obligation for HDC to connect the camping ground wastewater to the Waipātiki Community Wastewater Plant by 30 June 2018. This obligation has not been met, yet the current

proposal defers that connection further while progressing community funded works.

- In 2024 had its own wastewater consent renewed until 2034 which included an increase in number of campers allowed.
- Contributes to a significant proportion of the back flush flows from the water plant to the WWTP.
- Under Council's funding proposal the connection of the campground is deferred.

WCA considers that separating funding while maintaining an integrated technical approach opens Council up to criticism of unfairly pushing District costs onto the Waipātiki community.

---

### *3.3 Sequencing and Cost Effectiveness*

WCA has reviewed the relative environmental benefits of different upgrade approaches and considers that:

- Upgrading the community WWTP in isolation provides limited environmental benefit
- Other interventions (including addressing higher contributing sources) may provide greater benefit per dollar spent
- A significant portion of cost appears to be driven by excessive geotechnical stabilisation rather than treatment performance or flooding risk

This raises questions about whether the current proposal represents the most effective use of public funds.

---

### *3.4 Level of Service and Design Assumptions*

The proposal appears to be driven by a high level of service and long-term consenting objective (e.g. 35-year horizon).

WCA considers that:

- The appropriate level of service has not been clearly demonstrated
  - The balance between resilience, cost, and risk has not been transparently assessed
  - There is insufficient information to confirm that the proposed works are proportionate to the identified risks
  - The extent of ground stabilization work proposed at the WWTP appears far greater than required to re-consent the existing community discharge
  - No evidence has been provided that a 35 year consent would be granted
-

### 3.5 Funding Equity

WCA has significant concerns regarding the fairness of the proposed cost allocation:

- The community funded the original wastewater infrastructure in 2005 when households paid around \$12,000- each. This was assumed to be a one-off charge and that any upgrades would be covered out of annual rates.
- Ongoing users include:
  - Campground
  - Public toilet facilities
  - Water treatment plant interactions
- Not all users contribute proportionately to WWTP establishment or ongoing costs (refer to rating information attached)
- Upgrading the community WWTP ahead of the other contributing sources places a disproportionate burden on the community.
- Detail around which phase of the integrated solution relates to which of the proposed works has not been adequate to show the cost allocation is fair.
- In effect the current proposal requires the Waipātiki community to fund infrastructure capacity that primarily enables future or external users.

WCA considers that a beneficiary-pays approach must be clearly demonstrated.

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### 3.6 Community Confidence and Value for Money

At the core of local government is a fundamental expectation that ratepayer funds are used efficiently and prudently.

WCA notes that:

- The community is not in a position to independently assess engineering or cost assumptions
- Council must therefore demonstrate that proposals represent best value for money
- Wastewater rates at Waipātiki are double those charged across the rest of the District yet no evidence has been provided of forward planning for this consent renewal

At present, the information available does not provide sufficient transparency, clarity or confidence that:

- Alternatives have been fully explored
  - Costs are optimized and fairly apportioned
  - The proposal is the most appropriate solution
-

### 3.7 Technical Review

#### 3.7.1 Overall Finding

The information currently available does not sufficiently demonstrate that the proposed upgrade is necessary, proportionate, or optimally designed. While the need to secure a new consent is acknowledged, further evidence and analysis is required before a funding decision can be made.

#### 3.7.2. Technical Justification

- The primary driver appears to be re-consenting and new regulatory standards rather than demonstrated failure of the existing system.
- Limited data is presented on current system performance, capacity constraints, and environmental effects.
- It is not possible to confirm whether the proposed works are necessary or proportionate.

#### 3.7.3. Engineering Design and Cost Drivers

- A significant portion of cost relates to geotechnical works (piling).
- These are based on modelling of low-probability events rather than observed failure.
- Limited evidence of alternative, potentially lower-cost solutions being assessed.

#### 3.7.4. Campground Relationship

- The wastewater system is functionally linked to the campground but this relationship is not clearly addressed.
- The campground is not currently connected but is expected to connect in future.
- Cost allocation and timing are unclear.

#### 3.7.5. Costing and Funding

- Estimated cost per property has increased significantly.
- Limited transparency on cost breakdown and allocation.
- The proposed 70% local cost share does not clearly align with beneficiaries.

#### 3.7.6. Alternatives Assessment

- Evaluation methodology is not clearly presented.
- Limited evidence that staged, deferred, or alternative solutions were fully assessed.
- It is not possible to confirm that the preferred option is the best practicable solution.

#### 3.7.7. Regulatory Drivers

- Proposal is influenced by new wastewater standards and pursuit of a long-duration consent.
- It is unclear whether this outcome is guaranteed or justifies the scale of investment.

#### 3.7.8. Consultation Process

- Limited timeframe for community response.
- Information fragmented across documents.
- Limited opportunity for informed participation.

#### 3.7.9. Key Information Gaps

- Lack of detailed performance data.
- No clear cost breakdown.
- Limited transparency in funding model.
- Insufficient evidence supporting design decisions.
- Incomplete assessment of alternatives.

#### 3.7.10. Conclusion

Further information and analysis are required before the proposal can be properly evaluated. There is insufficient evidence to confirm necessity, proportionality, value for money, or fair cost allocation.

---

#### 4. Relief Sought

WCA seeks that Council:

**1. Defers the funding proposal set out in the 2026-2027 Draft Annual Plan**

**2. Undertakes an integrated review of the wastewater system, including:**

- Community WWTP
- Campground system
- Public toilets
- Water treatment plant interactions

**3. Resolves outstanding technical matters, including:**

- Responses to HBRC Section 92 requests
- Confirmation of environmental effects
- Validation of system performance data

**4. Reassesses the scale and level of service** to ensure that the solution is proportionate

**5. Reviews sequencing of works** to optimise environmental outcomes relative to cost, and considers construction of all phases of the Integrated Solution at the same time

**6. Develops a revised funding model** based on actual beneficiaries.

**7. Provides greater transparency around:**

- Cost breakdown (including geotechnical works) and allocation
- Alternative options considered
- Basis for design decisions

**8. Re-engages with the community** on a revised and integrated proposal

---

#### 5. Conclusion

WCA reiterates that it supports appropriate investment in wastewater infrastructure and environmental protection. However, the current proposal does not provide sufficient confidence that it represents the best outcome for the community or for Council.

A deferral will enable Council to:

- Consult more fully with the Waipātiki community
- Resolve outstanding issues
- Strengthen the technical basis
- Improve cost efficiency

- Ensure fair cost allocation
- Avoid criticism of conflict in these processes

WCA is committed to working constructively with Council to achieve this outcome.

---

Dated 5<sup>th</sup> May 2026

**Submitted on behalf of:**

Waipātiki Community Association Inc.



..... Andrew Taylor, Chairperson



..... Angela Tremain, Vice Chairperson

And Committee Members: Stephanie Keong, Nicolas Schnell, Kiki Abel, Brett Collier, Leah Erikson, Fraser Holland, Stewart Horn, Marilyn Lusk and Bruce Maroney.

**Date:** 11 May 2026

**Supporting Documents:**

Table of Upgrade priorities and pollution potential

Waipātiki water and wastewater rates information

Plan of Works proposed at Community Wastewater Treatment Plant

**Wastewater Upgrade Priorities at Waipātiki - Pollution Potential.**

	Waipātiki Community (Connected Sites, includes vacant but connected sites)	Waipātiki Community (Sites not Connected, with on site WW)	Waipātiki Public Toilet block (at domain)	Waipātiki Camping Ground	Waipātiki water Treatment Plant (backwash discharge)	Council suggested Cost
<b>Facilities as Currently Utilised</b>						
On site treatment	Yes	Perhaps	Yes	Yes	N/A	<b>Existing rates</b>
Community treatment plant	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	
Community disposal field	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	
Water Treatment Plant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
<b>Pollution Potential</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>As Existing</b>
<b>Facilities as result of Council's proposed (2026) Community WWTP Upgrade:</b>						
On site treatment	Yes	Perhaps	Yes	Yes	N/A	<b>Extra \$ 1.2 million</b>
Community treatment plant	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	
Community disposal field	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	
Water Treatment Plant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
<b>Pollution Potential at completion</b>	<b>Very Low</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Very Low</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Very Low</b>	<b>Very small improvement</b>
<b>If first priority is connecting Campground to Community Scheme:</b>						
On site treatment	Yes	Perhaps	Yes	Yes	N/A	<b>\$ 1.2 million + ??</b>
Community treatment plant	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Community disposal field	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Water Treatment Plant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
<b>Pollution Potential at completion</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Small improvement</b>
<b>If first priority is connecting remaining residential sites to Community Scheme:</b>						
On site treatment	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	<b>Cost is to individual sites</b>
Community treatment plant	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
Community disposal field	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
Water Treatment Plant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
<b>Pollution Potential at completion</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Moderate improvement</b>
<b>If full wastewater system is upgraded (fully integrated solution)</b>						
On site treatment	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	<b>\$2.4 million</b>
Community treatment plant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Community disposal field	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Water Treatment Plant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
<b>Pollution Potential at completion</b>	<b>Very Low</b>	<b>Very Low</b>	<b>Very Low</b>	<b>Very Low</b>	<b>Very Low</b>	<b>Fully compliant</b>

**Conclusions:**

**All sites / facilities in the valley utilise the water treatment plant**  
**The water treatment plant utilises the Community WWTP, therefore all existing sites / facilities rely on the community WWTP**  
**Prioritising upgrading of the Community WWTP ahead of the campground cannot be justified on the basis of cost / benefit**  
**Upgrading the WWTP for the Community is not "low hanging fruit" in terms of environmental benefit**

5th May 2026

**Waipātiki water and wastewater rates information**

**Waipātiki Camping Ground**

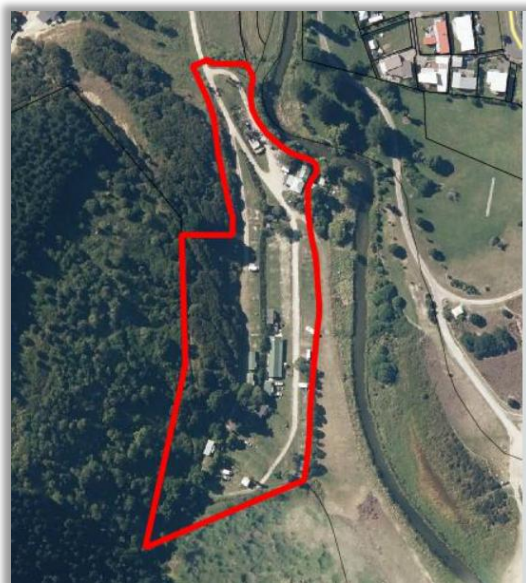
The camping ground currently treats and discharges wastewater via its own scheme, is not connected to the community wastewater treatment plant and pays no wastewater rates.

The camping ground is supplied water from the community water treatment plant.

The camping ground discharges approx. 23 m<sup>3</sup> of wastewater per day to its own wastewater plant, presumably this is how much water the camping ground sources from the Water Treatment Plant.

Per household peak demand would be something like 1.2 m<sup>3</sup> per day. On this basis the campground uses the equivalent of around 20 households of water, so should be paying 20 units of water rates.

The camping ground currently only pays 1 water rate.



Physical Address	498A Waipatiki Road WAIPATIKI 4181
Assessment No	0953025803
Legal Description	LOT 1 DP 506992 - WAIPATIKI BEACH MOTOR CAMP - RECREATION RESERVE
Cert of Title	769241
Land Area (ha)	2.0028
Land Value	\$750,000
Improvement Value	\$250,000
Capital Value	\$1,000,000
Total Rates	\$762,00
Sewer Units	0.0
Water Units	1.0
Refuse Units	0.0
Recycling Units	0.0

**From HDC Intramaps 1 May 2026**

The existing Waipātiki water treatment plant back flushes to the community wastewater treatment plant and therefore the campground relies on and utilises the community wastewater treatment plant, even though it does not currently discharge wastewater to it. The camping ground did not contribute to the costs of establishing the community wastewater treatment plant. There are grounds for the Camping ground to pay a wastewater rate equivalent to its share of back flushed water treated by the community Waste Water Treatment Plant.

There do not appear to be any figures for the total volume of water back flushed from the water treatment plant and treated at the WWTP. It is therefore not possible to assess what the camping ground's share of this might fairly equate to. However the camping ground currently pays no wastewater rates.

**Waipātiki Public Toilets (and outside shower)**

The public toilets are connected to water treatment plant and currently pay two water rates.



Physical Address	Waipatiki Road WAIPATIKI 4181
Assessment No	0953025300
Legal Description	LOTS 58-60 DP 11449 LOT 22 DP 27133 LOTS 3 4 DP 579115 PT SEC 3 BLK XIV MOEANGIANGI SD - RECREATION RESERVE
Cert of Title	1074442
Land Area (ha)	34.4966
Land Value	\$1,300,000
Improvement Value	\$70,000
Capital Value	\$1,370,000
Total Rates	\$1524.00
Sewer Units	0.0
Water Units	2.0
Refuse Units	0.0
Recycling Units	0.0

**From HDC Intramaps 1 May 2026**

The toilet block is connected to the community wastewater treatment but appears to have never been charged wastewater rates (perhaps 2.0 waste water rates to match water rates).

The water plant back flushes to the WWTP therefore the public toilet block relies on the wastewater treatment plant. As is the case with the camping ground, the public toilets should be contributing to the waste water treatment plant costs due to water use.

The public toilets currently pay no wastewater rates.

**Rates Comparisons (water and wastewater components only):**

	Wastewater		Water	
Camping ground	0.0	\$ 0-	1.0	\$ 811-
Toilet Block	0.0	\$ 0-	2.0	\$ 1,524-
Residential (Waipatiki)	1.0	\$ 1,022-	1.0	\$ 762-
Residential – vacant	0.5	\$ 521-	0.5	\$ 381-
Residential – no WW	0.5	\$ 521-	1.0	\$ 762-
Havelock North	1.0	\$511-	1.0	\$762-

**Ratings Example at Waipātiki**

**Example: Residential Site with no dwelling – Service connections in place for water and wastewater but site not built on:**

Land Value	\$500,000
Improvement Value	\$0
Capital Value	\$500,000
Total Rates	\$3011.30
Sewer Units	0.5
Water Units	0.5
Refuse Units	0.0
Recycling Units	0.0

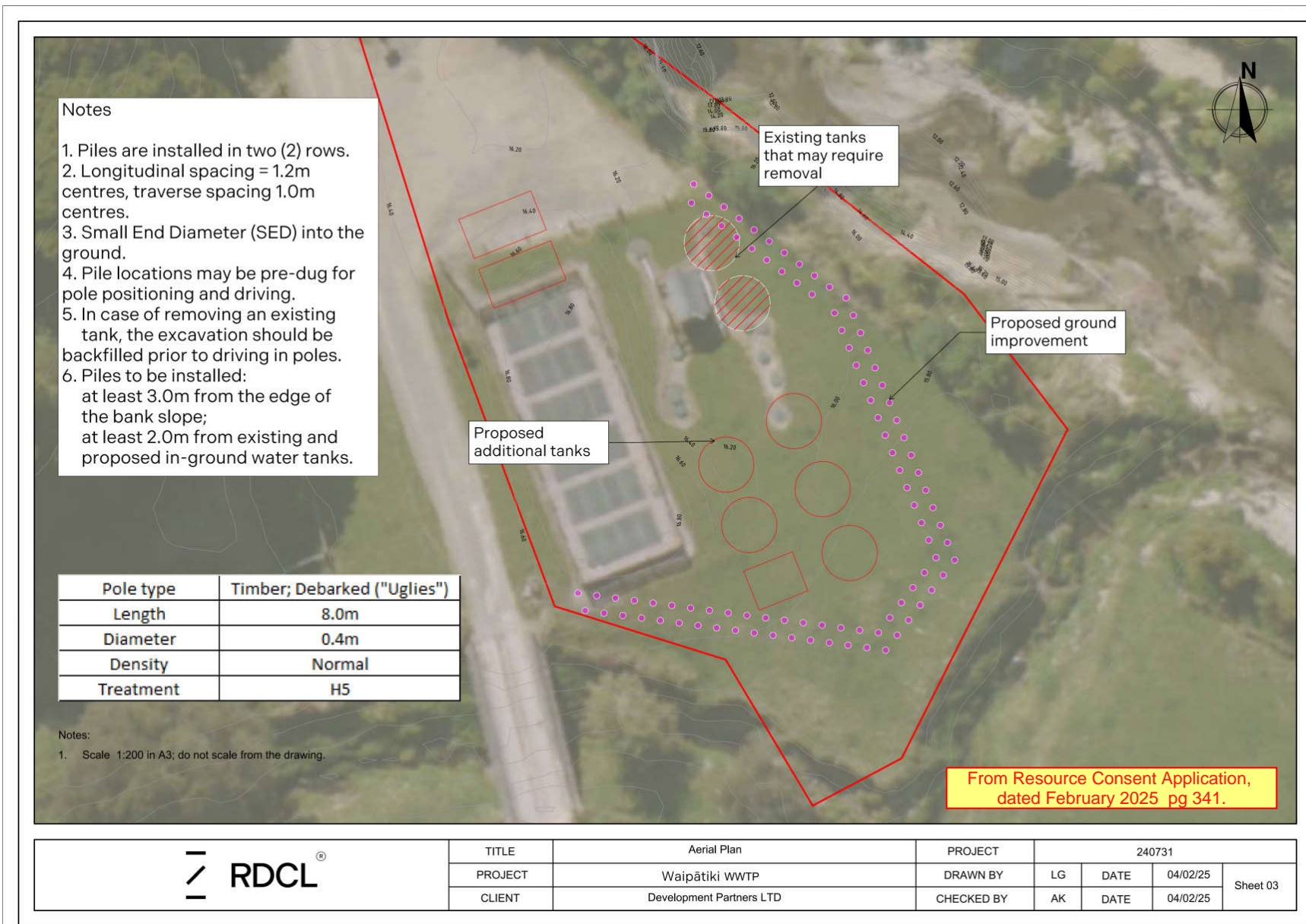
**Example: Residential Site with established dwelling – Water connection in place but no wastewater connection (only approx. 4 such properties at Waipātiki)**

Land Value	\$420,000
Improvement Value	\$560,000
Capital Value	\$980,000
Total Rates	\$3254.18
Sewer Units	0.5
Water Units	1.0
Refuse Units	0.0
Recycling Units	0.0

**Residential Site with established dwelling – Water and wastewater connections in place**

Land Value	\$465,000
Improvement Value	\$695,000
Capital Value	\$1,160,000
Total Rates	\$3842.88
Sewer Units	1.0
Water Units	1.0
Refuse Units	0.0
Recycling Units	0.0

Waipatiki Community Association  
5<sup>th</sup> May 2026



5/14/26, 10:31 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#302

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 12th 2026, 11:29:18 pm

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**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waipatiki Waste Water Scheme

**Please tell us your views below**

I do not support the current proposals to fund the wastewater upgrade in its present form. I do not agree that the project is technically justified due to the fact that the current system is working well and the proposed system is just to obtain consent due to changes in the regulations placed by the council itself. The campground has been given an extension on their consent to wait for the residents to pay for the improved system. This places a disproportionate burden on the community.

The proposed system seems to be a lot more than what the community needs and most of the cost is to prevent damage due to earthquake mitigation, which is over the top.

I am concerned about the affect on the environment and the proximity of the piles to the Waipatiki Stream. The proposed 70% local cost share has substantially increased and does not align with beneficiaries.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/302>

1/1



5/14/26, 10:32 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#303

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 12th 2026, 11:57:47 pm

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**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

Yes

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Wapatiki waste water scheme

5/14/26, 10:32 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

**Please tell us your views below**

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As a property owner at Waipatiki. The proposed waste water scheme does not sit well with on various levels.

As financial pressures continue to increase around general living costs, i feel that the proposed option of financing the unnecessary scheme over the ten year period is unaffordable. I am in no financial position to occur this cost. This is why i am only for the longer 20 year term of financial contribution.

The cost of the project seems to be a large proportionate around geotechnical stabilization, which has nothing to do with the actual treatment upgrades.

There has been no guarantee that the 35 year consent will even be granted, which to me confirms that there is insufficient information, risk assessments completed to justify the upgrade and owners financial risk.

To me it looks like the council is trying to get residents to pay for a system that in time the camp ground can hook into and benefit from the system. The connection date and their contribution is unclear so as a resident we have not been provided with transparent information.

Why is the current system that was funded in 2005 only lasted 20 years?

How can the consent on the camp ground be extended and the community one not?

This clearly points to the underling suspicion that the camp ground is going to get more financial benefit than the local residents.

I totally oppose this waste water scheme upgrade, there is a lot more to worry about if there is ever an earthquake that is going affect the community, than a sewage system that possibly will not be affected. THE CURRENT ONE WORKS FINE.

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**Attach a File**

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**Attach a File**

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5/14/26, 10:57 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #306

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 13th 2026, 11:09:02 am

#### IP ADDRESS



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**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

#### Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

#### What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

Waipatiki wastewater scheme

#### Please tell us your views below

As a fulltime resident of Waipatiki I am committed to ensuring the environment is protected.

I do not support the current proposal under the Annual Plan. Council acknowledges that the current system is generally operating effectively. The wastewater treatment station is a council-owned asset. It seems there are now concerns that is not well sited for flood conditions, and costly land stability work is needed. which perhaps indicates that the initial site assessment by Council was inadequate.

The proposal has the community rate payers funding the initial works which the campground will later benefit from when it is integrated. When the current scheme was introduced in 2005, rate payers believed their contribution to be a one off charge. This proposal does not fairly allocate costs for the work given the major future beneficiary is not included in the local cost share.

#### Attach a File

#### Attach a File

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/306>

1/1



5/14/26, 11:26 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#308

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 13th 2026, 11:38:11 am

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**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme and Proposed Capital Charge

5/14/26, 11:26 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

Submission to Hastings District Council Annual Plan

Re: Proposed Waipatiki Wastewater Capital Charge

Submitted by Waitohi Trust, S and G Horn, 605 Waipatiki Road

We believe the proposed additional capital charges are the responsibility of Hastings District Council alone.

Prior to residents being encouraged to join the existing wastewater scheme, there were a number of meetings held over approximately five years to discuss solutions to the perceived pollution issues affecting the Waipatiki Stream and lagoon (Eastwater and Kate Purden). None of the earlier options presented at those meetings were ultimately adopted.

Eventually, Innoflow Technologies Ltd provided a proposal for a system intended to service 76 connections, including existing baches and new sections. At no stage was there any indication that the campground would form part of this scheme, as the campground already operated its own consented wastewater system.

Under the Innoflow proposal, interceptor tanks, associated piping and infrastructure were installed on private properties out to the road reserve and then connected to the treatment pods via the main line, which passes approximately four to nine metres beneath the Waipatiki stream bed.

Although the interceptor tanks and some infrastructure are located on private property, these assets are owned by Hastings District Council, as outlined in wastewater documentation dated 11/11/2005 (ref. doc1 attached). The remainder of the system infrastructure is also council owned.

Property owners were required to contribute either \$12,902.85 by installments or a one-off payment of \$10,733.94. In addition, owners had to fund connection costs from their bach to the interceptor tank, including plumbing and electrical work. In our own case this cost was approximately \$1,100.

Why residents agreed to join the scheme

Many residents had already invested substantial capital into their own private septic tank systems and, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, believed those individual systems were functioning adequately. Residents were therefore being asked to abandon existing private wastewater systems they had already paid for in order to join the proposed community scheme.

At a meeting held on 16/10/2003 (ref doc2 attached), representatives of the Hawke's Bay Regional Council advised residents with a private scheme to expect increasingly stringent rules, scrutiny and enforcement requirements in the future. Given those warnings, and as a 75% uptake from existing bach owners was required for the community scheme to proceed, many residents felt compelled to join in the wider interests of the valley and community.

Over many years, working along with council staff, residents have contributed significant voluntary time and effort in maintaining infrastructure, flora and fauna of the wider Waipatiki environment, to the benefit of all visitors to Waipatiki.

Our understanding and expectations

Our understanding at the time was very clear:

Hastings District Council would own and operate the entire wastewater scheme, including infrastructure located on private property.

The capital contribution requested from residents was a one-off payment required to establish the scheme.

Residents' ongoing responsibility would be limited to annual wastewater charges associated with the operation and maintenance of the system.

The scheme was designed for 76 connections.

There was no mention whatsoever that the campground would become part of the scheme, given it already had its own consented wastewater disposal system.

We therefore strongly dispute the basis for asking residents to contribute further capital funding into a scheme that is fully owned and controlled by council.

Other considerations

1. Use of treated poles near waterways

We understand that approximately 96 poles, presumably treated to H5 standard, are proposed as part of resilience works for earthquake protection.

We question whether any assessment has been made regarding the potential risk of groundwater contamination from these treated poles, particularly given the proximity of the Waipatiki and Kowhiro Streams and the two downstream wells supplying water in the area, one being the Waipatiki drinking water supply.

Can the council assure us that groundwater contamination will not occur?

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/308>

3/5

5/14/26, 11:26 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

#### 2. Seismic risk and infrastructure resilience

We understand the council has undertaken seismic investigations identifying the need for protection works around the pod site. However:

Has similar seismic assessment work been carried out on the opposite side of the valley where interceptor tanks and associated infrastructure are located?

In the event of a significant earthquake, what effect could ground movement have on interceptor tanks and pipe infrastructure connected to the main plant?

Is there a possibility that parts, or all, of the system could be compromised?

#### 3. Escalating wastewater charges

When the Innoflow system was originally discussed, residents were informally advised that annual wastewater costs were expected to be approximately \$250 per year.

In reality, charges commenced at \$400 per year, which appeared to reflect the estimated costs of an earlier proposal rather than the Innoflow system itself.

Over time, charges generally increased gradually in line with inflation until:

2023/24 - approximately \$500

2024/25 - \$800

2025/26 - \$1,022

These charges are now double the wastewater rates paid by many other Hastings District Council wastewater users, with little or no explanation provided.

#### 4. Lack of control or oversight

Residents have no practical ability to influence, monitor, or assess council decisions relating to the scheme's costs, performance, or expenditure.

We therefore question why residents should now be expected to contribute further capital funding into a scheme that is entirely council owned and controlled.

#### Conclusion

We believe emphatically that the Innoflow scheme presented to residents was always intended to be council owned and council operated.

Residents made a substantial one-off capital contribution in good faith to enable the scheme to proceed, with additional private connection costs and the abandonment of previous investment in private septic tank systems that many believed were functioning perfectly adequately.

Our understanding was that future operational costs would be incorporated into the wider Hastings District wastewater network, with residents contributing through standard annual wastewater charges consistent with the rest of the district.

For these reasons, we do not support the proposed Waipatiki wastewater capital charge.

#### Attach a File

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[doc1.jpg](#)

#### Attach a File

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[doc2.jpg](#)



# Waipatiki – Wastewater

11 November 2005



### Special Points of Interest:

- Innoflow will discuss with you where the interceptor tank for your property should be placed
- All tanks will have a pump

Homeowners need to organize the following:

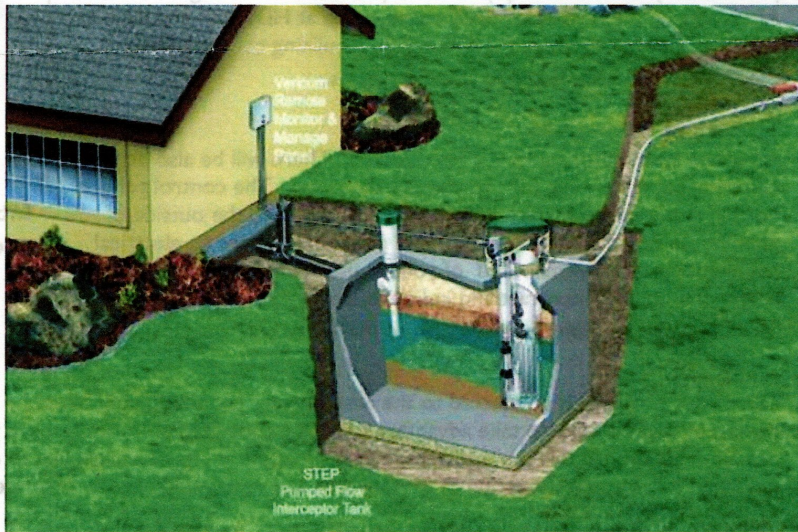
- A drainlayer to connect your house plumbing to the interceptor tank
- An electrician to connect the pump's control panel to your house
- Emptying of your old septic tank

### Inside this issue:

Interceptor Tank Issue	1
Location of the interceptor tank	2
Interceptor tank connection	2
Pump's Electrical Connection	2
Old Septic Tank	2
Queries	2

## Interceptor Tank Issue

Each dwelling connecting to the wastewater network will have an interceptor tank. These tanks form the first stage of the treatment process where they collect and retain most solids and provide primary decomposition. The cut-a-way schematic below gives an indication of what the inside of the tank will look like.



Each tank will house a pump and a filter to filter out solids so that only liquid from the "clear zone" between the tank's scum and sludge layers is pumped. This reduces biological loading and clogging of downstream components.

Because the tank forms part of the treatment process, the tank and it's the fittings, i.e. the pump, filter and control panel will be owned by the Council, despite it being located on private property. This means that Council will be responsible for maintaining the tanks and fittings..

Each property owner will own, and be responsible for the maintenance of, the drain that will connects your house to the tank and also for the wiring that connects the pump control panel to your house electrical supply.

There are several issues homeowners need to be aware of regarding the interceptor tanks:

- Location of the Tank
- Connecting the plumbing to the tank
- Providing an electrical connection to the pump's control panel
- Emptying the old septic tank

16/10/2003

**Implications for Waipatiki**

- Anticipate that Waipatiki will be a high risk area
- Expect a stringent rule framework in future
- Expect enforcement of current rules wherever possible
- On-site disposal questionable as a long term solution given soil and water table conditions

Hawke's Bay Regional Council

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**Interest-free loan details**

- \$215,000 non-interest bearing loan to HDC
- 75% of the existing community must connect
- = to approx. 1/3 of the conversion costs
- Loan repayments over 5 years recovered by HDC

Hawke's Bay Regional Council

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Factors	Onsite Option	Offsite Option
Capital Costs	\$12-15,000 plus	
Annual Costs	\$550	
Operational Costs	Power, parts	
Landowner Input	High management costs	nil
Area of land	At least 400 m2	10 m2
Land Improvements	Restricted due to wastewater loading	Normal building restrictions only
Water Quality	Still potential for contamination	Low potential for contamination if to forest
Recreational uses	Still potential for contamination	Guidelines expected to be met
Property Investment	Hindered by land improvement restrictions and land owner input	Sound investment
Financial Incentive	Not available	Currently available

Hawke's Bay Regional Council

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5/14/26, 11:32 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#311

### CREATED



PUBLIC

May 13th 2026, 12:23:42 pm

### IP ADDRESS



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Nicholas Schnell

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Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

No

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

### What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

Not happy with what has been proposed and require more information before an informed decision can be made.

### Please tell us your views below

I've attached a written submission which I would like read.

### Attach a File

[n\\_schnell\\_submission\\_on\\_proposed\\_waipatiki\\_wastewater\\_treatment\\_plant\\_upgrade.pdf](#)

### Attach a File

## **Submission on Proposed Waipātiki Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade – Opposition to Funding Model**

**Submitter:** Nicholas Schnell, Treasurer of the Waipatiki Community Association

**Position:** Oppose the proposed funding model; support a fair, evidence-based alternative.

### **1. Support for meeting new environmental standards**

I support the need to meet modern wastewater treatment standards and accept that some additional investment will be required by homeowners. However, the proposal presented in the Annual Plan does **not** provide sufficient technical evidence, cost transparency, or fairness to justify charging each household \$16,700.

### **2. Lack of technical justification for the scale and urgency of the upgrade**

The proposal is driven primarily by the re-consenting process—not by demonstrated system failure. While the requirements to meet the new regulations have been mentioned, there is limited evidence presented by council to demonstrate that the current system is unable to meet environmental outcomes.

I'd like to see key data that justifies the upgrade—such as current discharge quality, nutrient loading, hydraulic capacity, and compliance history all related to current household numbers — this has **not** been provided. Without this information, ratepayers cannot assess whether the proposed works are necessary or proportionate.

In addition to the above, the solution council has proposed includes a massive cost assigned to stabilization works of the current treatment plant relating to “flooding and subsidence” after it has withstood Cyclone Gabrielle. This may be necessary , but I'm not sure the extent they have gone to is warranted, or that it is the most cost efficient option.

Until this information is supplied, the community cannot make an informed decision, which is unfair.

### **3. Unclear and potentially inequitable cost allocation and unfair terms.**

The proposal allocates **70% of costs to Waipātiki homeowners**, despite the project having broader public and regulatory drivers. There is an apparent inconsistency between the stated distribution of benefits and the proposed allocation of costs.

Asking retirees to suddenly have to pay a large sum over 10 years is unreasonable. If there is going to be substantial additional cost – owners should be allowed more favourable terms, such as payment over a 30 year term.

#### **4. Residents already paid a substantial capital contribution in 2005**

Residents contributed **\$10,700–\$12,900** in 2005 to establish the community wastewater system. These payments were understood to cover the full capital cost of establishing the scheme. Residents were not informed that they would be responsible for future capital renewals or upgrades, especially only 20 years later. One could reasonably expect that after contributing over \$10,000, you'd get more than 20 years use out of the system.

The system has since been operated as a **council-owned asset**, and capital renewals for council infrastructure are normally funded district-wide—not imposed on a small group of historical contributors.

In addition to the above, owners currently pay a “sewer rate” of \$1,022 per year compared to a Havelock North property paying only \$511. It is proposed that the sewer rate increases from \$1,022 to \$1,174 next year with the 10 year, \$1,6668.02 on top of that!

#### **5. Significant information gaps prevent informed consultation**

I feel there is a distinct lack of detailed performance data and limited breakdown of costs.

The consultation period is also unreasonably short for a proposal of this scale and complexity.

#### **6. Request for Council action**

I respectfully request that Council:

1. **Withdraw the proposed targeted rate** until full technical, financial, and regulatory information is provided.
2. Provide a **detailed breakdown** of costs between the community and the campground.
3. Provide the **performance data** and modelling that justify the scale of the upgrade.

4. Reassess funding options consistent with normal council practice for council-owned infrastructure, including district-wide funding or uniform targeted rates.
5. Extend the consultation period to allow for meaningful community engagement.

### **7. Conclusion**

I support achieving compliance with modern environmental standards. However, the current proposal is **not supported by adequate evidence, not transparently costed, and not fairly allocated**. Until these issues are addressed, I oppose the proposed targeted rate of ~\$16,000 per household.

5/14/26, 11:43 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

# HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#312

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 13th 2026, 12:49:37 pm

## IP ADDRESS



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Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

No

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

### What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

I don't agree with this proposal.

### Please tell us your views below

I've attached my submission

### Attach a File

[judi\\_schnell\\_submission\\_on\\_waster\\_water\\_proposal.pdf](#)

### Attach a File

**Submission on Proposed Waipātiki Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade****Submitter:** Judi Schnell**Position:** Oppose the proposed funding model**1. I support good environmental standards, but the cost is too high**

I understand that the wastewater system needs to meet new rules, and I agree that improvements may be needed. I am not against doing the right thing for the environment. But asking every household to suddenly pay around **\$16,700** is simply too much, especially for older people like me who live on a fixed income. We own a small batch in Waipatiki that has been in the family for generations, and which I inherited from my parents.

**2. I don't feel we have been given enough information**

From what I have seen, the council has not shown clear evidence that the current system is failing. I have not seen any proper data about how the plant is performing now. What I do know is that from my perspective it is perfectly functional.

Before asking us for this kind of money, I believe the council should show us the facts. At the moment, it feels like we are being asked to trust the council without being given the information we need to understand the situation.

**3. The cost allocation feels unfair**

The proposal says Waipātiki homeowners should pay **70% of the cost**, even though the upgrade is also driven by new national standards and the campground connection. It doesn't seem fair that a small community should carry such a heavy burden when the benefits are wider than just our homes.

For someone my age, living alone, this is a frightening amount of money. Many of us are pensioners. We simply cannot afford this.

If there *must* be extra charges, they should be spread over a much longer period — 20 or 30 years — so older people are not put under sudden financial pressure.

**4. We already paid a large amount in 2005**

Back in 2005, residents paid between **\$10,700 and \$12,900** to set up the wastewater system. We were told this was the capital cost to get the system built, and it was effectively for council assets. We were never told that we would be asked for another large capital payment only 20 years later.

**5. The consultation feels rushed and incomplete**

For a proposal that affects people so deeply — financially and emotionally — the consultation period is far too short. Many of us are older and need more time to read, understand, and ask questions. The information provided so far is not detailed enough for us to make an informed decision.

#### **6. What I am asking the council to do**

I respectfully ask the council to:

1. **Withdraw the targeted rate** until proper technical and financial information is provided that demonstrates a clear need and effectiveness of the new solution.
2. Give a **clear breakdown of costs**, especially between the community and the campground, and have some sort of contract in place to be clear that we aren't going to be asked for another massive lump sum in 20 years time.
3. Provide the **actual performance data** that shows why this upgrade is needed now given that in my eyes the current system seems perfectly fine.
4. Look at **fairer funding options**, such as district-wide funding or a uniform targeted rate.
5. Extend the consultation period so the community has time to understand what is being proposed.

#### **7. Conclusion**

I support protecting the environment and meeting new standards. But the proposal as it stands doesn't seem fair, certainly is not affordable for many of us, and not supported by enough information. Until these issues are properly addressed, I strongly oppose the targeted rate of around \$16,000 per household.



5/14/26, 11:44 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#314

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 13th 2026, 1:25:57 pm

## IP ADDRESS

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Maurice Gunnell

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**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Annual Plan Consultation - Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme

**Please tell us your views below**

Submitter: Maurice Gunnell

Topic: Targeted rate of \$1670 p.a. for 10 years (\$16700 per household)

Position: I oppose the proposed funding model

1. I support the need to meet modern wastewater treatment standards and accept that some addition investment will be required by Waipatiki home owners.

2. The project is being driven by the re-consenting process and not by demonstrated system failure. There is limited evidence presented by the council to demonstrate that the current system is unable to meet environmental standards.

3. There is an inequitable cost allocation and unfair terms. 70% of the proposed cost is allocated to Waipatiki homeowners despite the project having broader public and regulatory drivers. I believe this is unfair as 1000s of day trippers come to Waipatiki Beach each year and that the public contribution should be increased from the proposed 10% public allocation and the homeowners share decreased.

Residents have already made a major contribution (\$10,700-\$12900 in 2005) to establish the community wastewater system, whilst the motor camp didn't contribute anything. Residents expected more than 20 years out of the current system.

In addition residents are paying twice the urban sewer rate, so they are more than contributing their fair share to the Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme.

**Conclusion**

I am asking for a fairer funding model that reflects council ownership of the Wastewater Scheme, the financial contribution made by the Waipatiki homeowners to the current scheme and more fairly reflects the 1000s of day trippers that come to Waipatiki beach each year who aren't paying their fair share in the current proposal.

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/314>

1/2



5/14/26, 11:49 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#321

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 13th 2026, 8:05:40 pm

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Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

No

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Annual plan consultation - Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme

**Please tell us your views below**

Please see attached a submission letter to the Council outlining my objections to the proposed Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme.

Reference Waipātiki Community Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade update & Statement of Proposal – Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme (April 2026).

Thank you for considering my submission.

**Attach a File**[submission to hastings district council.pdf](#)**Attach a File**

**Submission to Hastings District Council – Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme**

**Date:** 13 May 2026

**Name:** Peter Sidoruk

**Property Address:** 639 Waipatiki Road, Waipatiki

**Contact:** [Peter.sidoruk@icloud.com](mailto:Peter.sidoruk@icloud.com)

**Rates for property 94709:** \$6,216.71 incl. Water rate service provision \$1,524, Sewer rate Waipatiki \$2,044

**Subject:** Submission to Hastings District Council Annual Plan Consultation - Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme

Dear Hastings District Council,

I am writing as a Waipātiki property owner and ratepayer (property 94709) of 639 Waipatiki Road regarding my personal and family objection to the current proposed Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme and the associated targeted rate outlined in the 2026/27 Draft Annual Plan.

I am a member of the Waipatiki Community Association (WCA) and support their separate community submission (dated 05 May 2026). However as a property owner of over 23 years I personally want to raise several concerns and questions about the fairness and transparency of the proposal, and to request further clarification and Council reconsideration of certain aspects. I raise the following points for consideration:

**1. Substantial Financial Burden on Local Property Owners**

The proposed targeted rate of \$1,670 per property per annum for 10 years (\$16,700 total) is a significant financial burden for individual property owners, especially for a small community. For context our property at 639 Waipatiki Road is viewed as a traditional kiwi bach and we currently pay \$6,216.71 p/a with approx. \$3548 for water and sewage. Even with district wide subsidies, the cost for Waipātiki residents remains extremely high compared to the broader district contribution[1].

In 2005 I paid approx. \$12,000 for a waste water connection to a community system on the understanding that this would be a one-off ratepayer contribution to protect against potential pollution issues into the stream and general waterway protection of the Waipatiki environment. In 2005 I understood that ongoing resource consents and regulatory compliance would be maintained by the Council and certainly not an expectation to pay again in 2026 for costs for an upgraded waste water system. I think this is very unfair and unreasonable in any economic climate let alone at an uncertain time of local impact of global geo-political issues and general cost of living crisis.

**2. Distribution of Benefits vs. Costs**

The scheme provides environmental and recreational benefits to the wider Hastings district, not just Waipātiki residents. The public good component (10%) in my view undervalues the broader community benefit, especially given the precedent set by similar projects (e.g. East Clive Wastewater Treatment Plant)[1].

**Question:** Why is only 10% of the cost allocated as a public good when the benefits are clearly districtwide? Can this be reconsidered?

**3. Uniform Charging Despite Unequal Benefit**

It appears the targeted rate is applied to all properties within the “serviceable area of benefit,” regardless of whether they are actually connected to or benefit from the community wastewater scheme. Some properties remain on old onsite tanks and did not receive the original upgrade in

2005 yet may still be required to pay [1] including the Waipatiki Campground that is not included in the current proposal. Noting that the Campground is itself linked to the wastewater system and campground users come from the disproportionate 10% community good cost allocation

**Question1:** Can the Council consider one Waipatiki community wastewater solution including the campground at the same time including implementation of the works. It seems one holistic approach be more cost effective to Waipatiki ratepayers and overall to the Hastings District Council than separate projects to address the Waipatiki wastewater issues.

**Question2:** Has the council considered the wider environmental impact on habitat, waterways, roading and community safety of having separate campground and Waipatiki wastewater projects implemented versus one single piece of work. I don't think this is an insignificant and non-material consideration.

#### **4. Lack of Transparency on Funding Model and Inclusion Criteria**

The funding split (70% local, 20% districtwide, 10% public good) is based on council precedent but lacks detailed explanation or consideration of alternative models. The definition of the "serviceable area of benefit" is vague, and there is no clear list of included/excluded properties[1].

**Question:** Can the council provide a transparent breakdown of how these percentages were determined and a clear map/list of affected properties?

#### **5. Campground Connection and Cost Allocation**

The campground is a beneficiary of this wastewater scheme, but the timing and funding for its connection are uncertain. There is a concern that Waipātiki residents could end up subsidizing campground upgrades if costs are not clearly separated[1].

**Question:** How will the council ensure that Waipātiki residents are not subsidizing campground upgrades beyond their fair share?

#### **6. No Mention of Hardship Provisions or Flexible Payment Options**

The proposal does not address the potential financial hardship for some property owners or offer flexible payment arrangements beyond the 10-year term[1].

**Question:** Will the council consider hardship provisions, longer repayment terms, or other relief for those unable to pay?

#### **7. No Opt-Out or Appeal Process**

There is no mention of an opt-out or appeal process for ratepayers who believe they should not be included or who do not benefit from the scheme[1].

**Question:** Will the council establish an opt-out or appeal process for affected ratepayers?

#### **8. Quality Assurance and Cost Estimates**

While the project team has used conservative cost estimates and peer review, inflation and interest rate risks remain.

**Question:** Will the council provide regular updates on cost estimates and guarantee that any savings will be passed on to ratepayers? It is unclear if any project cost savings and efficiencies would be passed back to Waipatiki ratepayers? What guarantees can the council provide that no further costs would be asked from the Waipatiki community now and in the future?

#### **9. Public Consultation and Ongoing Engagement**

I emphasise the need for better community consultation, transparency, and responsiveness to feedback throughout the project[1]. I feel consultation and engagement has been very limited with only a couple of letters to ratepayers and Council representatives were present at two community meetings – deemed unofficial meetings. Its seems very little feedback given to the Council team has

been assessed or questions answered to the multiple project concerns. I feel insufficient analysis has been completed along with unconvincing evidence of solution design and rationale.

**Conclusion:**

I think the Waipatiki Wastewater scheme proposal does not fairly address the wider Waipatiki wastewater requirements in terms of usage and cost allocation.

I respectfully request that Council reconsider the Waipatiki Wastewater scheme funding allocation, increase districtwide contributions, and provide more transparency and flexibility in payment options for Waipātiki property owners. I also request clear answers to the questions above to ensure fairness and accountability in this process.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Yours sincerely,  
Peter Sidoruk

[1] Waipātiki Community Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade update & Statement of Proposal – Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme (April 2026)

5/14/26, 11:55 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#328

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 8:52:08 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Jacqui Holt

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0275679090

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**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme Proposal

**Please tell us your views below**

Our family do not support the current proposal to fund the Waipatiki wastewater upgrade through the Annual Plan in its current form and fully back the Waipatiki Ratepayers Association submission.

This is for the following reasons:

- we require more transparency of the detail and consultation completed to date
- there is a current lack of detail in the costs and rationale for apportionment between ratepayers and the Waipatiki Campground
- more investigation is required to ensure the project capacity, needs and approach to development are more clearly defined. As residents, we have already paid for the establishment and operation of a system which works and has capacity without adding the Waipatiki Campground. So why should this part of the project costs be included for residents contribution? More discussion and clarity required here.
- the project costs should also be shared amongst all future users including the Waipatiki Campground and the public toilets.
- more information is required on the current wastewater system and its performance. Also its current constraints and environmental effects.
- more information on alternative wastewater upgrade options.

Jacqui, Russell and Sally Holt and Marilyn Coutts

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/328>

1/2



5/14/26, 11:56 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#329

### CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 9:33:56 am

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Kiki Abel

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0278719111

### \* Email

[kiki.inc@me.com](mailto:kiki.inc@me.com)

Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

No

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

WWTP

5/14/26, 11:56 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

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**Please tell us your views below**

I am writing as a Waipātiki resident to formally object to the proposed requirement for residents to contribute approximately \$16,000 per household toward the wastewater treatment plant upgrade.

Like many residents, I understand the importance of maintaining environmentally compliant infrastructure. However, I do not believe this proposal is fair, reasonable, or adequately justified.

Residents already made significant capital contributions when the wastewater system was installed around 2005, with many households paying over \$10,000 at the time. There was no clear understanding that residents would later be expected to fund major future upgrades, compliance costs, or land remediation works on a council-operated asset.

We also continue to pay substantial annual targeted wastewater rates for the ongoing operation and maintenance of the system.

The current upgrade appears to be driven largely by changing environmental standards, consent requirements, engineering upgrades, and land stability issues at the treatment site. These are broader infrastructure and regulatory matters, not issues caused by residents.

Importantly, the wastewater system is operated and controlled by Hastings District Council. Residents do not own the plant, cannot influence engineering decisions, and have no control over future compliance requirements. For that reason, I believe the costs should be considered within broader council infrastructure funding, rather than being placed almost entirely on a very small community.

I also believe more transparency and consultation is needed before any decision is made. Residents should have access to:

clear cost breakdowns,

independent engineering review,

alternative funding options,

and clarification around future users of the system, including the campground.

I respectfully ask Council to reconsider the current proposal, remove the capital contribution from the Annual Plan, and undertake genuine consultation with the community on a fairer and more balanced funding approach.

Yours faithfully,

Waipātiki Resident

Kiki Abel

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**Attach a File**

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**Attach a File**

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#330

CREATED

IP ADDRESS



PUBLIC  
May 14th 2026, 10:16:14 am



\* Name

Richard Coles

Address

New Zealand

\* Contact phone number

0278365500

\* Email

632wp@farmside.co.nz

Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

No

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

Proposal relating to Waipatiki WWTP

Please tell us your views below

File attached

Attach a File

richard\_coles\_waste\_water\_submission.pages

Attach a File

My name is Richard Coles. I have been a property owner at Waipatiki for some 40 years and have family connections going back earlier. I am aware of the WCA submission on this issue and fully support it. However, I am in the somewhat unique position of being a witness and full participant of the establishment of the current WWTP. I believe the Council can usefully be guided in its current decision-making through an understanding of how things unfolded at the outset.

In the early 2000s, the need for a community wastewater scheme became more acute through two main issues: increased community awareness of the inadequacy of then current individual disposal fields and the likely doubling of the size of the community by virtue of subdivision of existing residential zoned land.

Those issues were the subject of much debate within the community, which led to the inescapable conclusion that a single comprehensive scheme was needed. It was recognised from the outset that the larger the scheme the more cost-effective it would be for individual users. The campground, which at that stage was privately owned, was considered for inclusion but declined on the basis that they had their own compliant scheme.

Council officers subsequently considered the options and designed and recommended the existing scheme. Interestingly the one major change during that process related to the siting of the secondary treatment plant. This was initially to be established on the domain, adjoining the residential zone, and at its lowest point. In the event a majority of residents opted for a remote position, notwithstanding that this was a more costly option.

I will not go into a detailed consideration of the effectiveness of the existing scheme. Rather there are two points in particular that I make. Firstly, I note that of the 42 then existing individual disposal fields around 36 properties (85%) voluntarily chose to sign into the new scheme, at a cost of around \$12,000 each. I believe that is a remarkable uptake and can be taken as a measure of the then (and current) community's commitment to good environmental outcomes.

Secondly, I believe that overall the scheme and the system, which was quite innovative at the time of installation, has worked remarkably well. I understand that in its over 20 years of operation, the plant has not been subject to major outages, spillages, or outright collapses. If I am correct in this then it may well be the best performing plant in New Zealand. It survived Gabrielle, and to those of us with generators at that time meant that we could continue to use its storage capacity and thus prevent adverse environmental effects.

Moving on to what might be taken out of this background in addressing the current options which revolve around a statutory requirement for renewal of discharge consent, I make the following points.

Our community has a remarkable sense of ownership of the current system, but there is a sense of shock at the scale of costs now proposed, just to maintain the status quo, in terms of its operation. This behoves a very careful consideration of options adopted around design, as well as for funding.

From the very beginning, there was a range of extreme options, largely reflecting the peculiarities of Waipatiki, chiefly its very small scale and the seasonality of occupation.

With respect to funding the spread of contribution needs to be as wide and as fair as possible. It is very clear that now is the time to integrate the campground as a paying user of the system. This then allows all users access to the practicalities of a very good system with the fairness and efficiency of a slightly scaled-up system.

It is also very clear to me that 20 years on the remaining non-connected and therefore non-paying property owners need to be closely reviewed. There is some evidence through monitoring of the Waipatiki stream and lagoon that there remains a worrying level of sewage contamination. This need not be a witch hunt. Again it is a matter of fairness. If there is clear evidence of pollution then this needs to be acted on. If nothing is followed up then the existing users, and payers, will continue to, in effect, subsidise those who 20 years ago elected not to join. It is time to right this wrong.

In analysing costs associated with this consent renewal it is very clear that the majority of costs involve new physical protection measures at the existing plant, primarily centred around earthquake risks. I have seen no reference to wildfires, tsunamis, sea-level rise or flooding, all of which may or may not become problematic in Waipatiki's future. Engineering for all of these risks is not an exact science. I note that the earlier Good Earth Matters report to Council on proposed schemes for Waipatiki suggested that no particular protection measures for the existing site were necessary. This is as good as the guess on the existing site of 20 years ago which has happened to work out OK.

What I would suggest is that if consideration is given to the peculiarities of Waipatiki; its small scale, its seasonality and its cost sensitivity, then risk management is the area where a somewhat different mindset might be employed. I believe also that so-called 'soft engineering' options might be usefully employed. Within other arms of the Council the Waipatiki community will be well known for its efforts over the past 20 years in protecting, enhancing and extending native planting throughout the valley. This site could be easily added to the community's plan, plant and maintain list. It could happen this winter if the Council agreed.

I have one last point to make. This has arisen from news reports as recently as 6 May and I am sure the Council is well up with this. If regional councils as we know them will no longer exist within a matter of months, then the mechanisms involved in resolving this issue may become quite fraught. I understand than similarly, how the 'three waters' policies actually unfold within Hawke's Bay, not to mention RMA reform and the form of local government itself, are all subject to uncertainty.

I know that the establishment of the Waipatiki waste water system was the result of a lengthy, considered, consultative process involving Councils (including HBRC) and community. It was a good process and it created a good scheme.

I submit that the consent considerations have equal significance and should not be rushed. The Council is faced with a kind of emerging nightmare administrative framework, not of its own doing. Let us not be forced into solutions that don't make sense. Who knows, a final outcome may yet allow solutions that would not be possible or difficult under present circumstances.

Richard Coles, 10 May 2026



## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#334

### CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 12:45:11 pm

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Jan tremain

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### \* Contact phone number

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Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

No

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

Waipatiki Wastewater scheme Proposal

Please tell us your views below

I strongly oppose the residents of Waipatiki been charged the cost of the wastewater plant for the campground, we have already upgraded and paid for this I therefor would like proposal taken out of the district plan for this year.

Attach a File

Attach a File



HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#340

CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 2:09:00 pm

IP ADDRESS



\* Name

hester Tremain

Address

New Zealand

\* Contact phone number

0272814086

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hettie.tremain@tremain.co.nz

Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

Yes

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

waipatiki waste water scheme

Please tell us your views below

To whom it may concern,

We oppose the proposal in its current form.

We do not agree to contribute to the capital costs in its current form.

We have all paid significant costs to the wastewater system in 2005 when we were supposedly all made to join the council wastewater scheme. We believed at this time that it was a one-off capital contribution.

We currently pay an additional \$1000 per annum to the council as a targeted 'sewer rate' for maintenance and operation.

Regards

Hester Tremain

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Attach a File



5/18/26, 10:49 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#351

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 7:50:24 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Bevan and Andrea Gully

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Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

No

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Proposed Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme

**Please tell us your views below**

We support the Waipatiki Community Association (WCA) to defer the proposed funding of the Waipatiki wastewater scheme until the project is better defined, more robustly evidenced, and more fairly structured.

We fully support the WCA submission, sent to HDC. There are many conflicts of interest, sequencing issues, design assumptions and significant unwanted costs.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/351>

1/1



5/18/26, 10:52 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#353

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 8:24:12 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Benjamin Martin

**Address**

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0277772253

**\* Email**[miss.alice.russ@gmail.com](mailto:miss.alice.russ@gmail.com)

Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

No

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme Statement of Proposal

**Please tell us your views below**

I am a permanent resident of 2 Nga Manu Place, and myself and my partner Alice Russ (who also lives at 2 Nga Manu Place) both support the Waipatiki Community Association (WCA) submission thats already been provided on behalf of the WCA.

Thanks, Ben Martin

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/353>

1/1




5/18/26, 10:55 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #354

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 14th 2026, 8:44:30 pm

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Gavin Burgess

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**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

#### Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

#### What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

Transparency on pricing for project and clarification

#### Please tell us your views below

What is the community paying for some of this must be R&M protection against floods and earthquake damage and how long is this going to last before you ask for community pay out again. Repeat of 2005 !No evidence for cost of different parts of project. How can two different project residence and Campground come out at 1.2 million or is this stacked? All happening to quickly and not enough consultation with community for funding asked for

#### Attach a File

#### Attach a File



5/18/26, 10:56 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#355

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 10:05:51 pm

## IP ADDRESS

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**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Opposition to disproportionate loading of the Waipatiki Waste Water Scheme on the Waipatiki community

**Please tell us your views below**

see attached letter

**Attach a File**

submission\_opposing\_waipatiki\_wasterwater\_scheme\_proposal\_sidoruk.pdf

**Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/355>

1/1

**Submission letter opposing disproportionate ratepayer funding for Waipatiki wastewater upgrade**

14 May, 2026

Hastings District Council  
Private Bag 9002  
Hastings 4156

**Attention:** Mayor and Councillors, responsible officials,

**Re: Opposition to proposal that places the largest share of Waipatiki wastewater upgrade costs on local ratepayers / beneficiaries**

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I write this as a family holiday home owner at Waipatiki, to formally oppose the Council's current funding approach for the proposed Waipatiki wastewater upgrade, which would require local ratepayers to shoulder the highest share of project costs.

The proposal, as currently framed, is inequitable, legally and procedurally flawed, and risks imposing an unfair financial burden on a small community for obligations that arise from Council decisions and regulatory processes.

Below I set out the principal grounds for opposition and the remedies requested of Council to adopt before any binding cost allocation or funding commitments are sought from residents.

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**1. Council responsibility for regulatory and consenting obligations**

**Argument:** The need to upgrade the plant appears driven primarily by expired consents, site instability, and legal obligations arising from the Deed of Nomination and HBRC processes — matters that are the direct consequence of Council planning, consenting choices, and asset management decisions. It is therefore inappropriate to treat ratepayers as the primary financiers of liabilities that stem from Council action or inaction.

- **Legal and procedural responsibility:** Where a public authority's historic planning, consenting or engineering decisions create a compliance obligation, equity and public-law principles support the Council bearing a substantial share of remediation costs rather than transferring them to a small group of residents who already pay substantial rates to cover these services.
- **Opportunity to mitigate Council liability:** The Council had opportunities to seek exceptions, extensions, or alternative consenting pathways and to coordinate with HBRC and the campground operator earlier in the process. Requiring residents to pay the lion's share after those opportunities have passed is unfair.

**2. Public good and wider district benefit justify a larger public contribution**

**Argument:** Waipatiki is not a private enclave; it provides **recreational, environmental and tourism benefits** to the wider Hastings district. The Council's own materials acknowledge the campground and public use value of the area.

- **Public benefit rationale:** Where infrastructure primarily protects public health, the environment, or supports recreational assets used by the wider community, a **larger public funding share** is justified. Allocating only **10%** to public good (as the proposal suggests) is not supported by a transparent benefits analysis and undervalues district-wide benefits.
- **Precedent and fairness:** Other councils and central government funding programmes routinely recognise that wastewater upgrades delivering public health and environmental outcomes attract significant public funding. Waipatiki’s recreational and environmental value warrants a materially higher public contribution.

“Halt the current proposal until full due diligence is completed for a comprehensive wastewater plan that ensures the Councils can effectively meet community and mana whenua expectations for levels of service and environmental outcomes that meet Section 71 of the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025, 2029 requirements.”

“Reevaluate the fairness of offloading 70% of the costs onto residents, given this is more of a Council planning, and engineering issue.”

These are explicit requests shared by the wider community and should be acted on before any cost allocation is finalised.

## 2. Procedural fairness and transparency failures

**Argument:** The process to date lacks the transparency and sequencing required for fair decision-making. **The council has a conflict of interest on this issue.**

- **Incomplete cost allocation and campground contribution:** It is procedurally unsound to require residents to commit to cost sharing before the campground’s contribution and HBRC funding position are resolved. The Council must publish a **clear, itemised cost breakdown** (site stabilisation; treatment equipment; campground integration; consenting; contingencies) and show how each cost driver is allocated.
- **Risk of scope change:** HBRC’s Section 92 requests and any further consent conditions may materially change scope and cost. The Council must not lock residents into funding before these risks are quantified and allocated.
- **Consultation shortcomings:** Residents must be given a genuine opportunity to influence funding options, including opt-out mechanisms and staged or alternative solutions.

## 3. Equity of proposed funding split and alternative models

**Argument:** The current model (residents ~70%, harmonisation 20%, public good 10%) is inequitable and unsupported by a transparent benefits and ability-to-pay analysis.

- **Alternative funding models:** The Council should model and present at minimum the following alternatives:
  - **30 / 50 / 20** (residents / harmonisation / public good) as a baseline equitable option;
  - Full or partial **HBRC contribution** where costs arise from regulatory compliance tied to regional water quality obligations.

- **Central government and loan options:** Explore Crown funding, targeted subsidies for small communities, low-interest loans, or staged capital programmes to avoid immediate heavy ratepayer levies.

#### 5. Specific requests and remedies

We request the Council to take the following actions before any binding funding decision or ratepayer commitment is sought:

1. **Halt the current funding proposal** and undertake full due diligence and a comprehensive wastewater plan aligned with Section 71 obligations and the Local Government (Water Services) Act timelines.
2. **Publish a full, itemised cost breakdown** separating community and campground costs and showing contingency and risk allowances.
3. **Confirm HBRC and campground funding positions** in writing and only then re-open funding discussions with residents.
4. **Reassess the public good contribution** with a transparent benefits assessment and increase the public share to reflect district-wide recreational and environmental benefits.
5. **Model and present equitable funding options** (including 30/50/20) and provide clear opt-out or alternative arrangements for residents unwilling or unable to pay.
6. **Allocate risk fairly:** any cost increases arising from Council consenting choices, design changes, or regulatory clarifications should not be borne primarily by local ratepayers.
7. **Provide a clear timeline** for decisions and a formal response to this submission within a reasonable timeframe.

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#### 6. Closing and next steps

As part-time residents in the community we share the commitment to achieving safe, environmentally sound wastewater outcomes for Waipatiki. We are not opposed to necessary upgrades where they are justified, transparent, and fairly funded. What we oppose is a funding model that places an undue and inequitable burden on a small group of residents for liabilities that arise from Council decisions and for benefits that extend well beyond the immediate community.

Please treat this letter as a formal submission and confirm receipt. We are happy to arrange a call with Council officers explain our position further and review the cost breakdown, HBRC correspondence, and the campground funding position before any further steps are taken.

Yours faithfully,

**Martin Sidoruk and Pauline Prince.**

**639 Waipatiki Road, Waipatiki  
C/O 6a, 42 Molesworth St, Wellington**

**021 2480899**

5/18/26, 11:01 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#357

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 15th 2026, 7:57:52 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Ange Tremain

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0272747888

**\* Email**[ange.tremain@gmail.com](mailto:ange.tremain@gmail.com)

**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

RE Waipatiki wastewater scheme, statement of proposal;

Technical Uncertainty and Information Gaps  
Misalignment Between Consent and Funding  
Sequencing and Cost Effectiveness  
Level of Service and Design Assumptions  
Funding Equity  
Community Confidence and Value for Money

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/357>

1/2

5/18/26, 11:01 AM

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**Please tell us your views below**

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We as members of the Waipatiki community are committed to protection, restoration and enhancement of the Waipatiki environment.

However we are not convinced your proposal is fair, cost effective, risk appropriate or technically justified. For this reason we do not support the Waipatiki waste water scheme statement of proposal provided.

In response to your question in regards to the rates increase: our preference is for the council to borrow as much as possible of the finally agreed capital value of the Waipatiki waste water scheme and to then levy interest and capital repayments across the life of the resource consent (where ever that lands) such that future owners at Waipatiki beach who continue to benefit from the system also pay proportionately for that system.

**Attach a File**

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cak\_tremain\_submission\_wwts\_12\_05\_2026\_1.pdf

**Attach a File**

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<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/357>

2/2

Please find the submission on the Waipatiki waste water scheme proposal by;

CJ and AK Tremain  
1Tangitu DR  
Waipatiki 4181.

Having worked on the Waipatiki community submission document it is clear that we share the views of the WCA and do not support the current proposal to fund the waste water upgrade through the Annual plan in its present form.

Submission to the Hastings District Council Annual Plan (Waipātiki Wastewater)

### 1. Introduction

The Mission Statement of the waipatiki community is “**Preserving and Enhancing the Community and Environment of Waipātiki**”. We do this through looking out for each other, trapping pests, beach cleaning, propagating and planting native trees, weed control and community days – a huge amount of voluntary effort almost entirely by members of our community.

Waipātiki has a fine mix of beach, bush and birds and is popular for day visitors or those who choose to stay at the camping ground. We are proud of the part we play in preserving and enhancing the valley.

We support Council's objectives of:

- Protecting environmental values
- Securing long-term wastewater consents
- Providing resilient infrastructure

However, we do not support the current proposal to fund the wastewater upgrade through the Annual Plan in its present form.

### 2. Overall Position

Our position is that:

The proposed funding decision is premature and should be deferred until the project is better defined, more robustly evidenced, and more fairly structured.

We are not seeking to stop the project, but rather to ensure that when it proceeds it is:

- Technically justified
- Proportionate in scale
- Cost effective
- Fairly funded and free of perceptions of conflict of interest

### 3. Key Issues

### 3.1 Technical Uncertainty and Information Gaps

The current proposal is being advanced despite significant unresolved technical matters:

- HBRC has issued a comprehensive Section 92 request identifying material gaps in:
  - Environmental effects assessment
  - Overflow behaviour and management
  - Monitoring data and historical performance
  - Nutrient and contaminant pathways
- An in depth review (see section 3.7 below) questions whether:
  - The scale or need for upgrade is justified
  - The proposal represents the best practicable option
  - Further information is required before a funding decision can be made
- A priorities assessment (as attached) concludes the phased upgrade as proposed cannot be justified on the basis of cost / benefit or environmental gain
- Council reporting acknowledges that the existing community system is generally performing adequately
- Concerns that the use of over 90 driven tanalised piles in proximity to the Waipātiki Stream could lead to leaching into the waterway.

We consider that it is not appropriate to commit funding before these matters are resolved.

### 3.2 Misalignment Between Consent and Funding

There is a fundamental inconsistency in how the project is being treated:

- The resource consent application treats the wastewater system as an integrated network including:
  - Community WWTP and public toilets
  - Campground system
  - Water treatment plant back flush discharges
- The Annual Plan proposal separates the project costs meaning the initial works are charged to the community while these works benefit the later stages of the integrated approach (connection of the camping ground).

The campground:

- At the time of purchase the Council was subject to an obligation to connect wastewater to the Waipātiki Community Wastewater Plant in 2018. This obligation has not been met, yet the current proposal defers that connection while progressing community funded works.
- In 2024 had its own wastewater consent renewed until 2034 which included an increase in number of campers allowed
- Contributes to a significant proportion of the back flush flows from the water plant to the WWTP
- Under Council's funding proposal the connection of the campground is deferred.

We consider that separating funding while maintaining an integrated technical approach opens Council up to criticism of unfairly pushing District costs onto the Waipātiki community.

### 3.3 Sequencing and Cost Effectiveness

We have reviewed the relative environmental benefits of different upgrade approaches and considers that:

- Upgrading the community WWTP in isolation provides limited environmental benefit • Other interventions (including addressing higher contributing sources) may provide greater benefit per dollar spent
- A significant portion of cost appears to be driven by excessive geotechnical stabilisation rather than treatment performance or flooding risk

This raises questions about whether the current proposal represents the most effective use of public funds.

### 3.4 Level of Service and Design Assumptions

The proposal appears to be driven by a high level of service and long-term consenting objective (e.g. 35-year horizon).

We consider that:

- The appropriate level of service has not been clearly demonstrated • The balance between resilience, cost, and risk has not been transparently assessed • There is insufficient information to confirm that the proposed works are proportionate to the identified risks
- The extent of ground stabilization work proposed at the WWTP appears far greater than required to re-consent the existing community discharge
- No evidence has been provided that a 35 year consent would be granted

### 3.5 Funding Equity

We have significant concerns regarding the fairness of the proposed cost allocation:

- The community funded the original wastewater infrastructure in 2005 when households paid around \$12,000- each. This was assumed to be a one-off charge and that any upgrades would be covered out of annual rates.
- Ongoing users include:
  - Campground
  - Public toilet facilities
  - Water treatment plant interactions
- Not all users contribute proportionately to WWTP establishment or ongoing costs (refer to rating information attached)
- Upgrading the community WWTP ahead of the other contributing sources places a disproportionate burden on the community.
- Detail around which phase of the integrated solution relates to which of the proposed works has not been adequate to show the cost allocation is fair. • In effect the current proposal requires the Waipātiki community to fund infrastructure capacity that primarily enables future or external users.

We consider that a beneficiary-pays approach must be clearly demonstrated.

### 3.6 Community Confidence and Value for Money

At the core of local government is a fundamental expectation that ratepayer funds are used efficiently and prudently.

We note that:

- The community is not in a position to independently assess engineering or cost assumptions
- Council must therefore demonstrate that proposals represent best value for money
- Wastewater rates at Waipātiki are double those charged across the rest of the District yet no evidence has been provided of forward planning for this consent renewal

At present, the information available does not provide sufficient transparency, clarity or confidence that:

- Alternatives have been fully explored
- Costs are optimized and fairly apportioned
- The proposal is the most appropriate solution

### 3.7 Technical Review

#### 3.7.1 Overall Finding

The information currently available does not sufficiently demonstrate that the proposed upgrade is necessary, proportionate, or optimally designed. While the need to secure a new consent is acknowledged, further evidence and analysis is required before a funding decision can be made.

#### 3.7.2. Technical Justification

- The primary driver appears to be re-consenting and new regulatory standards rather than demonstrated failure of the existing system.
- Limited data is presented on current system performance, capacity constraints, and environmental effects.
- It is not possible to confirm whether the proposed works are necessary or proportionate.

#### 3.7.3. Engineering Design and Cost Drivers

- A significant portion of cost relates to geotechnical works (piling).
- These are based on modelling of low-probability events rather than observed failure.
- Limited evidence of alternative, potentially lower-cost solutions being assessed.

#### 3.7.4. Campground Relationship

- The wastewater system is functionally linked to the campground but this relationship is not clearly addressed.

- The campground is not currently connected but is expected to connect in future.
- Cost allocation and timing are unclear.

#### 3.7.5. Costing and Funding

- Estimated cost per property has increased significantly.
- Limited transparency on cost breakdown and allocation.
- The proposed 70% local cost share does not clearly align with beneficiaries.

#### 3.7.6. Alternatives Assessment

- Evaluation methodology is not clearly presented.
- Limited evidence that staged, deferred, or alternative solutions were fully assessed.
- It is not possible to confirm that the preferred option is the best practicable solution.

#### 3.7.7. Regulatory Drivers

- Proposal is influenced by new wastewater standards and pursuit of a long-duration consent.
- It is unclear whether this outcome is guaranteed or justifies the scale of investment.

#### 3.7.8. Consultation Process

- Limited timeframe for community response.
- Information fragmented across documents.
- Limited opportunity for informed participation.

#### 3.7.9. Key Information Gaps

- Lack of detailed performance data.
- No clear cost breakdown.
- Limited transparency in funding model.
- Insufficient evidence supporting design decisions.
- Incomplete assessment of alternatives.

#### 3.7.10. Conclusion

Further information and analysis are required before the proposal can be properly evaluated. There is insufficient evidence to confirm necessity, proportionality, value for money, or fair cost allocation.

### 4. Relief Sought

We seek that Council:

**1. Defers the funding proposal set out in the 2026-2027 Draft Annual Plan**

**2. Undertakes an integrated review of the wastewater system,**

including:

- Community WWTP
- Campground system
- Public toilets
- Water treatment plant interactions

**3. Resolves outstanding technical matters,** including:

- Responses to HBRC Section 92 requests
- Confirmation of environmental effects
- Validation of system performance data

**4. Reassesses the scale and level of service** to ensure that the solution is proportionate

**5. Reviews sequencing of works** to optimise environmental outcomes relative to cost, and considers construction of all phases of the Integrated Solution at the same time

**6. Develops a revised funding model** based on actual beneficiaries.

**7. Provides greater transparency around:**

- Cost breakdown (including geotechnical works) and allocation
- Alternative options considered
- Basis for design decisions

**8. Re-engages with the community** on a revised and integrated proposal

## 5. Conclusion

We reiterate that we support appropriate investment in wastewater infrastructure and environmental protection. However, the current proposal does not provide sufficient confidence that it represents the best outcome for the community or for Council.

A deferral will enable Council to:

- Consult more fully with the Waipātiki community
- Resolve outstanding issues
- Strengthen the technical basis
- Improve cost efficiency
- Ensure fair cost allocation
- Avoid criticism of conflict in these processes

We are committed to working constructively with the Council to achieve this outcome.

Dated 5<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Submitted on behalf of:

CJ and AK Tremain

### Supporting Documents:

Table of Upgrade priorities and pollution potential

Waipātiki water and wastewater rates information

Plan of Works proposed at Community Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Wastewater Upgrade Priorities at Waipātiki - Pollution Potential.

#### Council suggested Cost

Facilities as Currently Utilised  
Waipātiki Community (Connected Sites, includes vacant but connected sites)  
Waipātiki Community (Sites not Connected, with on site WW)  
Waipātiki Public Toilet block (at domain)  
Waipātiki  
Camping Ground  
Waipātiki water  
Treatment Plant (backwash discharge)

On site treatment Yes Perhaps Yes Yes **N/A** Community treatment plant Yes No Yes No Yes Community disposal field Yes No Yes No Yes Water Treatment Plant Yes Yes Yes **Yes**  
Existing rates

Pollution Potential Low High Low Medium Low **As Existing**

#### Facilities as result of Council's proposed (2026) Community WWTP Upgrade:

On site treatment Yes Perhaps Yes Yes **N/A**  
Community treatment plant Yes No Yes No Yes Community disposal field Yes No Yes No Yes Water Treatment Plant Yes Yes Yes **Yes**  
Extra \$ 1.2 million

Pollution Potential at completion Very Low High Very Low Medium Very Low **Very small improvement**

#### If first priority is connecting Campground to Community Scheme:

On site treatment Yes Perhaps Yes Yes **N/A**  
Community treatment plant Yes No Yes Yes Yes Community disposal field Yes No Yes Yes Yes Water Treatment Plant Yes Yes Yes **Yes**  
\$ 1.2 million + ??

Pollution Potential at completion Low High Low Low Low **Small improvement**

#### If first priority is connecting remaining residential sites to Community Scheme:

On site treatment Yes Yes Yes **N/A**  
Community treatment plant Yes Yes No Yes No Community disposal field Yes Yes No Yes No Yes Water Treatment Plant Yes Yes Yes **Yes**  
Cost is to individual sites

Pollution Potential at completion Low Low Low Medium Low **Moderate Improvement**

#### If full wastewater system is upgraded (fully integrated solution)

On site treatment Yes Yes Yes **N/A**  
Community treatment plant Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Community disposal field Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Water Treatment Plant Yes Yes Yes **Yes**  
\$2.4 million

Pollution Potential at completion Very Low Very Low Very Low Very Low Very Low **Fully compliant**

### Conclusions:

**All sites / facilities in the valley utilise the water treatment plant  
The water treatment plant utilises the Community WWTP, therefore all existing sites / facilities rely on the community WWTP  
Prioritising upgrading of the Community WWTP ahead of the compground cannot be justified on the basis of**

cost / benefit

Upgrading the WWTP for the Community is not "low hanging fruit" in terms of environmental benefit  
5th May 2026

**Waipātiki water and wastewater rates information**

**Waipātiki Camping Ground**

The camping ground currently treats and discharges wastewater via its own scheme, is not connected to the community wastewater treatment plant and pays no wastewater rates.

The camping ground is supplied water from the community water treatment plant.

The camping ground discharges approx. 23 m<sup>3</sup> of wastewater per day to its own wastewater plant, presumably this is how much water the camping ground sources from the Water Treatment Plant.

Per household peak demand would be something like 1.2 m<sup>3</sup> per day. On this basis the campground uses the equivalent of around 20 households of water, so should be paying 20 units of water rates.

The camping ground currently only pays 1 water rate.



Physical Address	498A Waipatiki Road WAIPATIKI 4181
Assessment No	0953025803
Legal Description	LOT 1 DP 506992 - WAIPATIKI BEACH MOTOR CAMP - RECREATION RESERVE
Cert of Title	769241
Land Area (ha)	2.0028
Land Value	\$750,000
Improvement Value	\$250,000
Capital Value	\$1,000,000
Total Rates	\$762.00
Sewer Units	0.0
Water Units	1.0
Refuse Units	0.0
Recycling Units	0.0



From HDC Intramaps 1 May 2026

The existing Waipātiki water treatment plant back flushes to the community wastewater treatment plant and therefore the campground relies on and utilises the community wastewater treatment plant, even though it does not currently discharge wastewater to it. The camping ground did not contribute to the costs of establishing the community wastewater treatment plant. There are grounds for the Camping ground to pay a wastewater rate equivalent to its share of back flushed water treated by the community Waste Water Treatment Plant.

There do not appear to be any figures for the total volume of water back flushed from the water treatment plant and treated at the WWTP. It is therefore not possible to assess what the camping ground's share of this might fairly equate to. However the camping ground currently pays no wastewater rates.

**Waipātiki Public Toilets (and outside shower)**

The public toilets are connected to water treatment plant and currently pay two water rates.



Physical Address	Waipatiki Road WAIPATIKI 4181
Assessment No	0953025300
Legal Description	LOTS 58-60 DP 11449 LOT 22 DP 27133 LOTS 3 4 DP 579115 PT SEC 3 BLK XIV MOEANGIANGI SD - RECREATION RESERVE
Cert of Title	1074442
Land Area (ha)	34.4966
Land Value	\$1,300,000
Improvement Value	\$70,000
Capital Value	\$1,370,000
Total Rates	\$1524.00
Sewer Units	0.0
Water Units	2.0
Refuse Units	0.0
Recycling Units	0.0



**From HDC Intramaps 1 May 2026**

The toilet block is connected to the community wastewater treatment but appears to have never been charged wastewater rates (perhaps 2.0 waste water rates to match water rates).

The water plant back flushes to the WWTP therefore the public toilet block relies on the wastewater treatment plant. As is the case with the camping ground, the public toilets should be contributing to the waste water treatment plant costs due to water use.

The public toilets currently pay no wastewater rates.

**Rates Comparisons (water and wastewater components only):**

**Wastewater Water**

Camping ground 0.0 \$ 0- 1.0 \$ 811-  
 Toilet Block 0.0 \$ 0- 2.0 \$ 1,524-  
 Residential (Waipatiki) 1.0 \$ 1,022- 1.0 \$ 762-  
 Residential – vacant 0.5 \$ 521- 0.5 \$ 381-  
 Residential – no WW 0.5 \$ 521- 1.0 \$ 762-

Havelock North 1.0 \$511- 1.0 \$762-

**Ratings Example at Waipātiki**

**Example: Residential Site with no dwelling – Service connections in place for water and wastewater but site not built on:**

Land Value	\$500,000
Improvement Value	\$0
Capital Value	\$500,000
Total Rates	\$3011.30
Sewer Units	0.5
Water Units	0.5
Refuse Units	0.0
Recycling Units	0.0



**Example: Residential Site with established dwelling – Water connection in place but no wastewater connection (only approx. 4 such properties at Waipātiki)**

Land Value	\$420,000
Improvement Value	\$560,000
Capital Value	\$980,000
Total Rates	\$3254.18
Sewer Units	0.5
Water Units	1.0
Refuse Units	0.0
Recycling Units	0.0



**Residential Site with established dwelling – Water and wastewater connections in**

Land Value	\$465,000
Improvement Value	\$695,000
Capital Value	\$1,160,000
Total Rates	\$3842.88
Sewer Units	1.0
Water Units	1.0
Refuse Units	0.0
Recycling Units	0.0



**place**

Waipatiki Community Association  
5<sup>th</sup> May 2026



5/18/26, 11:02 AM

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## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#358

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 15th 2026, 8:30:41 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Dan Hart

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0274481546

**\* Email**[dan72hart@gmail.com](mailto:dan72hart@gmail.com)

Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

No

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Wiapataki waste water treatment plant

**Please tell us your views below**

I want to oppose the council proposal for the Wiapataki wastewater treatment plant. I brought my section at Wiapataki some 20 years ago. When I brought my site I was told that the sewer system was totally owned by the council and part of the section cost was to pay for the sewer tank onsite and contribution to the greater scheme. I have been paying for this sewer system in rates for 20 years, I have only just built my home so my site has been empty for 15-17 years paying rates on your sewer system. As a single income home this is another kick in the guts for me.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/358>

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5/18/26, 11:04 AM

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## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#359

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 15th 2026, 9:14:09 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Fraser Holland

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New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0274409514

**\* Email**[fraser.holland@hbnzsir.com](mailto:fraser.holland@hbnzsir.com)

**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

Yes

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme

**Please tell us your views below**

We strongly oppose the the Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme Statement of Proposal. See attached submission.

**Attach a File**[fraser\\_and\\_nicola\\_holland\\_submission\\_waipatiki\\_wastewater\\_scheme\\_15\\_may\\_2026.pdf](#)**Attach a File**[fraser\\_and\\_nicola\\_holland\\_submission\\_waipatiki\\_wastewater\\_scheme\\_15\\_may\\_2026.pdf](#)<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/359>

1/1

**Submission on Draft Annual Plan 2026/27  
Proposed Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme**

**- Upgrade & Funding / Targeted Rate**

**To:** Hastings District Council

**Submitter:** Fraser & Nicola Holland

**Address / Property:** 19 Tangitu Drive, Waipatiki Beach

**Email / Phone:** [fraser.holland@hbnzsir.com](mailto:fraser.holland@hbnzsir.com) / 0274409514

**I wish to be heard:** Yes (Fraser)

---

## **1) Our Position**

We support the need to meet modern environmental standards and for council to secure an appropriate wastewater consent for Waipātiki.

However, we oppose Hastings District Council proceeding with the proposed upgrade and associated funding model through the 2026/27 Annual Plan in its current form.

This proposal has been brought forward without meaningful consultation, nor sincerity, without open-book cost transparency, and without the technical evidence required for the community to properly assess the necessity, scale, and fairness of what is being proposed.

Put simply, Council is asking a very small community to commit to a significant financial burden without providing the information required to justify that decision.

---

## **2) The Proposal is Premature and Under-Evidenced**

There remain significant unresolved technical matters. The information provided to date does not adequately demonstrate:

- That the existing system is failing
- That the scale of the proposed upgrade and associated civil works is necessary
- That the proposed solution is proportionate or represents best value

The proposal appears to be driven primarily by the re consenting process and regulatory change, and the joint- council owned campground needs, rather than a clearly defined failure of the communities existing system.

I am not disputing the need for environmental compliance. I am disputing Council's approach of advancing a funding decision before the supporting evidence has been transparently presented and tested.

---

### **3) Consultation Has Been Inadequate**

This is a significant project with long-term financial implications, yet the consultation process has been rushed, fragmented and insincere.

Key information has been spread across multiple documents and processes; much information is missing. It is technical, together making it difficult for the community to form a clear and informed view. Most of the community welcomed council staff to our Community Associations AGM in January and heard about this proposal for the first time. The timeframe is completely insufficient given the complexity and scale of the proposal.

Effective consultation requires that those affected are provided with enough information to make an informed response. That has not occurred here.

---

### **4) The Proposed Cost Allocation is Unfair**

The proposed funding model places a disproportionate burden on a very small number of Waipātiki residents. Most of those residents spend less than 8 weeks a year at Waipātiki.

If the works are required to meet modern environmental standards, achieve long-term consenting, and deliver broader public and environmental benefits, then it is not reasonable to allocate most costs to a small group of property owners without clearly demonstrating why.

The current proposal does not provide a transparent or evidence-based explanation of how costs have been allocated, or how that allocation reflects actual beneficiaries.

---

### **5) The Campground Issue Cannot Be Ignored**

The wastewater system is clearly part of a wider, integrated network that includes:

- The community wastewater plant
- The campground
- Public toilet facilities
- The water treatment plant and its backflush discharge

However, the funding proposal treats these elements inconsistently.

The campground in particular is central to this issue:

- It was not part of the original scheme

- It was purchased jointly by Councils with an obligation to connect to the community system (but without inference that it would cost the community / residents directly)
- That connection has not been delivered
- It does not appear to contribute proportionately to wastewater costs

If the campground did not exist, or if it independently managed its wastewater, it is highly likely that the scale and urgency of the proposed upgrade would be materially different.

The community should not be expected to fund infrastructure that, in part, arises from Council's own decisions, obligations, or delays.

---

## 6) Residents Have Already Made a Significant Contribution

Residents contributed substantial capital in 2005 to establish the existing wastewater system. Our family bach completed in approx. 1972 had a perfectly good functioning on-site waste system. We were sold "for the good of the community" story, to join the current wastewater system. It was a significant cost then. This contribution was widely understood to be a one-off capital investment.

Since that time, residents have also paid ongoing wastewater rates, which are materially higher than those in other parts of the district.

It is therefore reasonable to ask:

- Why has Council not planned for renewal and consenting costs over time?
- How have the existing rates collected been applied? A one-line answer that includes "maintenance" and "power" does not cut it.
- Why is a further significant capital charge now being imposed on the same small group of contributors?

There is a strong sense that the community is being asked to pay twice for infrastructure that is owned and controlled by Council.

---

## 7) Repayment Terms Are Unreasonable

If Council is proposing that this upgrade will support a long-term consent (potentially up to 35 years), then any cost recovery from residents must reflect that timeframe.

A 10-year repayment structure is unnecessarily harsh and places an unrealistic burden on property owners.

If any targeted rate is to be applied, then:

- It should be spread over at least 20 years
  - Preferably aligned with the life of the consent (up to 35 years)
  - Consideration should be given to affordability, hardship, and flexibility
- 

## 8) What I Am Asking Council to Do

I request that Hastings District Council:

1. Remove or defer the Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme proposal from the 2026/27 Annual Plan
  2. Provide a full and transparent breakdown of all costs, including what relates to the community, campground, public facilities, and shared infrastructure
  3. Provide the underlying technical data and modelling that justifies the proposed upgrade
  4. Undertake an integrated review of the entire wastewater system, including all users and contributing factors
  5. Reassess sequencing and alternative options to ensure best value for money
  6. Develop a funding model that reflects actual beneficiaries, including Council-owned assets and public facilities
  7. If any targeted rate is imposed, apply it over a minimum of 20 years, and preferably aligned with the consent period
  8. Re-engage with the community through a proper, informed, and transparent consultation process
- 

## 9) Conclusion

We are not opposed to environmental responsibility or to appropriate investment in infrastructure.

However, the current proposal lacks transparency, lacks supporting evidence, and does not fairly allocate costs.

Until those issues are addressed, we oppose the proposal proceeding through this Annual Plan.

---

Fraser and Nicola Holland

**Date:** 15 May 2026




5/18/26, 11:04 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


# HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #360

## CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 15th 2026, 9:50:56 am

## IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Duncan Thomas

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0225305107

### \* Email

[duncan@pwdancewear.co.nz](mailto:duncan@pwdancewear.co.nz)

Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

Yes

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

### What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme Statement of Proposal

### Please tell us your views below

I strongly object to the Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme Proposal. Please see my feedback attached.

### Attach a File

waipatiki\_waste\_water\_scheme.pdf

### Attach a File

15/5/25

D & V Thomas

Waverly Road

Meanee

Napier

My name is Duncan William Thomas, and my wife Victoria and I have been property owners at Waipatiki since 1991

We like the other residents and the wider community who visit Waipatiki see the need to protect and enhance the environmental values that make Waipatiki so special. However we do not consider the solution proposed by Council is necessarily the best for environment and residents. The proposal not adequately defined the problem or explored options. In my opinion the consultation has not been adequate. This is at a time of great uncertainty in the regulatory environment, local government and infrastructure costs and the consequences of poor decisions will be felt for many years. One of the possibly reasons why we are considering sewage treatment now may due to the hasty decision to increase subdivision at the beach without proper scrutiny. Given the experience of the sewer scheme at Lake Tarawera I have reservations about a cost estimation without a granted resource consent or performance standards that may change in the near future. The process should be delayed until there is greater certainty about what is the problem, what is the full range of options, what is the are the costs and who will be parties to the agreement.

We wish to make the following points:

There has been no assessment of what is the exact nature of the problem, the current situation is that there are a range of sewage treatment activities being undertaken and no assessment of the effectiveness of these. Is the problem the small lots closer to beach and in the current community scheme the problem. If the problem is limited to the smaller lots with no site treatment shouldn't the problem focus on these properties.

The option for people taking individual responsibility has been dismissed without adequate consultation. We believe our properly design and operated system is complaint. We have large soakage field that has been planted.

To stay Mana Whenua is supportive is not documented. I believe Mana Whenua are supportive in principal, but would need to see the detail. The experience at Lake Tarawera needs considered. At Lake Tarawera the Council's scheme had Iwi support, but still was delay and considerable additional cost was incurred as the support was not universal.

Without resource consent how can we be certain of the requirements that could be imposed and the cost implications of consent conditions.

What are the risk provisions with cost estimates, risk is particularly important at a time geopolitical instability. Is Council going to the liability of additional cost?

How do you know the designs standards for the project are appropriate when the bodies that define and implement the standards are to be changed.

**Remedy sought**

The current process be halted.

The Council better define the problem and the options. That provision of options includes consideration of the consequences of local government amalgamation, the reform of the Resource Management Act.

That consultation with Mana Whenua include local residents.

The Council undertake meaningful consultation with residents.

That the cost of defining problem and identification of solutions be borne by Council.

I wish to be heard.

Yours sincerely

Duncan Thomas




5/18/26, 11:17 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #363

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 15th 2026, 10:34:07 am

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Hamish White

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

027 4188093

**\* Email**

[hamish.white@nownz.co.nz](mailto:hamish.white@nownz.co.nz)

**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

Yes

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waipatiki Waste Water proposal

**Please tell us your views below**

As attached.

**Attach a File**

hdc\_submission\_hamish\_white.pdf

**Attach a File**

## **SUBMISSION TO HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL**

### **Waipātiki Wastewater Upgrade – 2026–27 Draft Annual Plan**

*Submitted by Hamish White, Waipātiki ratepayer*

---

#### **Position**

I do not oppose upgrading the Waipātiki wastewater system. I oppose committing funding now. This proposal, as structured, puts Council in a difficult position — legally, financially, and in terms of its standing with the community it is elected to serve.

#### **1. A Process That Falls Short of What Ratepayers Deserve**

The Local Government Act 2002 requires Council to conduct its business in a clear, transparent and democratically accountable way; to have regard to the views of all its communities; and to ensure prudent stewardship and efficient use of resources. Expenditure must be allocated after considering the beneficiary-pays and exacerbator-pays principles, and the costs and benefits of the activity.

I would argue that this proposal fails those tests. The technical case is unresolved. The cost allocation ignores clear beneficiaries. The consultation process has been inadequate.

#### **2. The Campground and the Sequencing Problem**

The campground currently manages its own wastewater independently. On that narrow point, it is not a direct user of the community WWTP for sewage disposal. However, this does not mean it is unconnected from this proposal — and Council should be uncomfortable with the position it is in.

First, the campground relies on the community water treatment plant, which backflushes to the community WWTP. The campground therefore has an indirect dependency on the WWTP — one it does not currently contribute to.

Second, and more significantly, the campground was subject to an obligation to connect to the community WWTP in 2018 — an obligation that existed at the time Council purchased the campground and that has not been enforced. Its own wastewater consent was subsequently renewed to 2034 with increased camper capacity. The upgrade now proposed is partly about creating the infrastructure capacity for that eventual connection. The community is being asked to fund the enabling works while the campground's connection — and its contribution to costs — is deferred indefinitely.

Third, the pollution-potential analysis in the WCA documents shows clearly that upgrading the community WWTP in isolation delivers very small environmental improvement. Connecting the campground first, or pursuing the fully integrated solution, delivers materially better outcomes per dollar spent. There is no sound environmental or financial justification for the proposed sequence.

Council owns the campground. Council allowed the 2018 connection obligation to lapse. Council is now asking the Waipātiki community to fund infrastructure that directly enables the campground's future connection and operation, while bearing none of that cost itself. This is a conflict of interest that breaches the beneficiary-pays and exacerbator-pays principles the LGA requires Council to apply. It also undermines Council's social licence to act on behalf of this community.

### **3. The Technical Case Hasn't Been Made**

HBRC has issued a Section 92 request citing material gaps in environmental effects, overflow data, and monitoring history. Council's own reporting acknowledges the existing system is generally performing adequately. Committing \$1.2M before these gaps are filled is not prudent financial management.

The pollution-potential analysis in the WCA submission documents shows this upgrade produces very small environmental improvement in isolation. A fully integrated solution at comparable cost delivers full compliance. I am being asked to pay now for a partial fix that primarily enables future works benefiting other users — including the campground.

### **4. The Community Already Paid — and Pays Double**

Residents funded the original WWTP in 2005 at approximately \$12,000 per household, on the basis that future upgrades would be covered by rates. Waipātiki already pays double the District wastewater rate. There is no evidence of any forward planning for this consent renewal. That is a failure of stewardship, and it should not be transferred to ratepayers as a premium charge.

### **5. Costs Are Opaque and Disproportionate**

A significant portion of the project cost is geotechnical — over 90 tanalised piles to be driven in proximity to the Waipātiki Stream, which itself raises environmental concerns. No clear cost breakdown has been provided. The proposed 70% local cost share does not correspond to actual beneficiaries. The Rating Act requires that rates be set in accordance with decisions made in a transparent and consultative manner. That standard has not been met here.

### **6. Relief Sought**

I ask that Council:

1. Defer the funding proposal set out in the 2026–27 Draft Annual Plan
2. Commission an integrated review of all system components — WWTP, campground, public toilets, and water treatment plant
3. Resolve outstanding HBRC Section 92 matters before any funding commitment
4. Reassess sequencing and scale, and consider constructing all phases of the integrated solution concurrently
5. Develop a revised funding model based on actual beneficiaries — including the campground

6. Re-engage the community with a proposal that can withstand scrutiny.

I remain willing to engage constructively with Council toward a fair and well-evidenced outcome. But I am not prepared to accept a process that asks this community to subsidise an asset Council itself owns, without adequate justification, transparent costs, or meaningful consultation.

**Hamish White**

Waipātiki ratepayer

15 May 2026

5/18/26, 11:20 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#364

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 15th 2026, 11:09:06 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Amanda Holland

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

021395234

**\* Email**[amanda@smallacorns.co.nz](mailto:amanda@smallacorns.co.nz)

Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

No

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

The Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme of proposal. Although I live primarily in Wellington, I have been part of the Waipatiki community for more than 50 years, and a Waipatiki bach owner since 1998.

**Please tell us your views below**

My views are attached via the accompanying document.

**Attach a File**

amanda\_holland\_mike\_brunel\_submission\_draft.pdf

**Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/364>

1/1

**Submission on Draft Annual Plan 2026/27  
Proposed Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme**

**- Upgrade & Funding / Targeted Rate**

**To:** Hastings District Council

**Submitter:** Amanda Holland and Michael Brunel

**Address / Property:** Waipatiki Road, Valuation Number 0953025344, Waipatiki Beach 4181

**Email / Phone:** [amanda@smallacorns.co.nz](mailto:amanda@smallacorns.co.nz) / 021395234

**I wish to be heard:** No

---

## **Our Position**

We support the need to meet modern environmental standards, the importance of protecting the environment and ensuring Waipātiki and the Waipātiki community has a compliant wastewater system for the future. However, we do not support the proposed upgrade and funding approach from Hastings District Council through the 2026/27 Annual Plan in its current form.

The proposal has been advanced without enough supporting information for the community to properly understand the scale, necessity, or fairness of the project. A decision of this significance should be based on clear technical evidence, transparent costings, and meaningful consultation, none of which we believe has occurred to an acceptable standard.

Council is asking a very small community to commit to a significant financial burden without providing the information required to justify that decision.

At present, Council has not adequately demonstrated:

- that the current system is unable to meet requirements
- that the extent of the proposed works is necessary
- that the preferred option is the most practical and cost-effective solution available

The consultation process has also been inadequate. Many residents, ourselves included, only became aware of the proposal recently, despite the major long-term financial implications involved. Information has been fragmented and difficult to assess, making it challenging for residents to provide informed feedback.

We are also concerned about the proposed allocation of costs. A very small group of property owners appears to be expected to fund infrastructure that delivers broader public, environmental, and council-related benefits.

The proposed funding model places a disproportionate burden on a very small number of Waipātiki residents. Most of those residents spend less than 8 weeks a year at Waipātiki. We ourselves live in Wellington, and have been fortunate to call Waipātiki home for more than 50 years. However, our time at Waipātiki is restricted to holiday time and never long enough.

There has been little transparency around how costs have been divided or how Council determined what portion should fall on local residents. Effective consultation requires that those affected are provided with enough information to make an informed response. That has not occurred here.

The relationship between the wastewater scheme, the campground, public facilities, and other council infrastructure must also be properly considered. These are interconnected assets, and it is unreasonable for residents alone to absorb costs that may arise from wider public use and council-owned facilities.

The campground in particular is central to this issue. It is my understanding that it was purchased jointly by Councils with an obligation to connect to the community system, but it does not appear to contribute proportionately to the wastewater costs. In fact it appears that local residents are expected to pay for the Councils contribution to the scheme. This seems grossly unfair, when the campground was not originally part of the scheme.

If the campground independently managed its wastewater, it is highly likely that the scale and urgency of the proposed upgrade would be materially different.

The community should not be expected to fund infrastructure that, in part, arises from Council's own decisions, obligations, or delays.

Waipātiki residents have already contributed significantly toward the establishment and ongoing operation of the wastewater system through both capital contributions and higher wastewater rates over many years. In fact we had already invested significantly in our own self-contained Enviroflow system for our bach when the current wastewater system was proposed in 2005. We were encouraged to join the community council scheme for the benefit of the whole community, which we did, despite the significant cost. It is fair to question why further substantial costs are now being placed on ourselves and the same small community. I feel that we are being asked to pay twice for infrastructure owned and supposedly maintained by council, and this feels as though either the council is double-dipping, or the money that we have paid towards maintenance over the years, via our ongoing wastewater rates, has been applied elsewhere, perhaps outside our district. This is a question put to council that has not been adequately answered.

If a targeted rate is introduced, the repayment period should better reflect the long-term life of the infrastructure and consent. A 10-year repayment timeframe places unnecessary pressure on property owners. A longer-term approach would be more reasonable and equitable.

We ask Council to:

1. Delay the proposal until further information and analysis is available and remove or defer the Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme proposal from the 2026/27 Annual Plan
2. Provide detailed and transparent cost breakdowns and technical justification
3. Review the wider wastewater network, including council-owned and public-use assets
4. Reconsider the funding model to ensure costs are shared fairly

5. Undertake a more comprehensive and genuine consultation process with the community

We are not opposed to investment in essential infrastructure. However, the current proposal does not provide sufficient transparency, evidence, or fairness to justify proceeding as proposed.

Mike Brunel and Amanda Holland

15 May 2026

5/18/26, 11:38 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#370

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 15th 2026, 1:25:02 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Rodney Earnshaw

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0274440648

**\* Email**[spitfiredreams@xtra.co.nz](mailto:spitfiredreams@xtra.co.nz)

Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waipatiki Waste Water

**Please tell us your views below**

I understand that there are several private properties which are not currently connected to the town system. I believe now is the opportunity to ensure that ALL houses, the public toilets and the camping ground are united under a single system. Perhaps HDCC could provide lending support for the few non compliant private owners?

I accept that upgrading the system is necessary and 35 years consent should be the target, I would expect that reasonable shared expense will be incurred. However, the current proposal seems unnecessarily / excessive

In summary I support the broad recommendations made in the WCA (5) submission.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/370>

1/1




5/18/26, 11:47 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #372

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 15th 2026, 1:37:54 pm

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Lyndal Staples

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

0220372189

#### \* Email

[lyndal.staples@gmail.com](mailto:lyndal.staples@gmail.com)

**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

No

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

#### What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme Statement of Proposal - Opposed in its current form

#### Please tell us your views below

Please see attachment.

#### Attach a File

20260515\_submission\_to\_hdc\_annual\_plan\_consultation.docx

#### Attach a File

**Submission to Hastings District Council Annual Plan Consultation – Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme**

**Submitter:** Lyndal Staples

**Position:** Opposed in its current form

I support the need to maintain appropriate wastewater treatment standards and recognise that investment in infrastructure may be required over time to protect public health and the environment.

However, I do **not support the Waipātiki wastewater proposal in its current form** and respectfully request that Council **defer the proposal to allow for more meaningful consultation, greater transparency, and reassessment of costs and funding arrangements.**

My reasons are outlined below.

**Key concerns**

- **My property is not currently connected to the wastewater scheme**, although wastewater infrastructure has been installed on site. I do not foresee connection occurring in the near future. In this context, **it is difficult to accept the proposed cost burden for a system that I do not currently use.**
- **Affordability is a significant concern.** The proposed cost of **~\$16,700 per household** is substantial and would place financial pressure on many property owners.
- **The consultation process has not been sufficiently clear, transparent, or adequate for a proposal of this scale.** Despite the information provided, key questions regarding need, cost, alternatives, proportionality, and fairness remain unresolved.
- **Based on the information provided to the community, the current wastewater scheme appears to be functioning for the number of connected properties.** While I acknowledge the need to meet updated wastewater standards and obtain a new long-term resource consent for the scheme, it has not been clearly demonstrated why the proposed scale, timing, and urgency of upgrade are proportionate, particularly when the existing system appears to be operating for current demand.
- **The overall cost of the proposed upgrade has not been sufficiently explained.** While information has been provided regarding key cost components, it remains unclear whether the scale of the proposed expenditure, particularly the substantial engineering and geotechnical works, is proportionate to the level of demonstrated need and risk.
- **While alternative approaches have been outlined, it remains unclear whether lower-cost, staged, or more proportionate options have been adequately explored or assessed against the preferred approach.** Given the significant financial implications for a small community, clearer justification is needed for why the preferred

option represents the most appropriate balance of cost, risk, environmental outcomes, and long-term benefit.

- **The proposed expenditure on strengthening the plant against potential future natural hazards appears disproportionate to the demonstrated risk.** While resilience is important, the scale of cost proposed for a risk that may never eventuate does not appear balanced or well justified.
- **I also have concerns about the potential environmental implications of the proposed geotechnical works.** The proposed use of driven treated timber piles near the Waipātiki Stream could create a potential leaching risk, yet it is unclear how these environmental effects have been assessed or weighed against alternative approaches. Greater transparency is needed regarding why this approach is considered necessary and proportionate.
- **The proposed funding model does not appear equitable.** Any upgrade to the wastewater treatment plant would benefit not only Waipātiki residents, but also publicly owned facilities and broader community users, including the campground and public toilet facilities.
- **The campground is a publicly owned asset that stands to directly benefit from upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant.** The proposal identifies the campground as a future beneficiary of the upgraded system. In addition, Hastings District Council recognises a broader public benefit associated with connected public toilet facilities and the recreational value of Waipātiki Beach. In this context, it seems unfair that the majority of the proposed community wastewater cost would fall on the small number of properties connected or with the ability to connect to the wastewater treatment scheme (~80 properties). **A more equitable approach would involve a much greater contribution from the wider ratepayer base and other beneficiaries of the scheme, reflecting the broader public benefit of the proposed investment.**

#### Relief sought

I respectfully ask Council to:

- **Defer the current proposal** to allow for genuine and meaningful consultation with the Waipātiki community.
- **Provide greater transparency around the need for the upgrade, the basis for the proposed costs, and key cost drivers.**
- **Provide clearer justification for why the preferred approach is considered the most proportionate and cost-effective option.**
- **Review the funding model** so that costs are shared more equitably across the wider ratepayer community, with a materially greater contribution reflecting the broader public benefit of any upgraded infrastructure, including public facilities and the campground.

- **Re-engage with the community** once a revised proposal has been developed.

Kind regards,  
Lyndal Staples

5/18/26, 11:51 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#375

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 15th 2026, 1:46:11 pm

## IP ADDRESS



## \* Name

Sam Staples

## Address

New Zealand

## \* Contact phone number

0277059593

## \* Email

[s\\_f\\_n\\_s@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:s_f_n_s@yahoo.co.uk)

Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

No

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

## What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

Submission to Hastings District Council  
Annual Plan Consultation - Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme

## Please tell us your views below

Submission to Hastings District Council  
Annual Plan Consultation - Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme

Submitter: Sam Staples  
Position: Opposed in its current form

I do not support the Waipātiki wastewater proposal in its current form and ask Council to defer the proposal to allow for better consultation and reconsideration of costs and funding.

## Key concerns

My property is not connected to the wastewater scheme, despite infrastructure being installed on site. I do not expect to connect in the near future, so it is difficult to accept a significant cost burden for a system that I do not currently use.

Affordability is a major concern. A cost of approximately \$16,700 per household is substantial.

I am not convinced the scale, urgency, and cost of the proposed upgrade have been clearly justified, particularly when the current system appears to be functioning for existing demand.

The proposed funding model does not appear fair. The upgraded system would benefit public facilities and the campground, so a greater contribution from the wider ratepayer base and other beneficiaries seems appropriate.

I respectfully ask council to defer the proposal, provide clearer justification for the preferred approach and costs, and reconsider how the scheme is funded.

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/375>

1/2

5/18/26, 11:51 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

Attach a File

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Attach a File

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<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/375>

2/2

5/18/26, 11:57 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#376

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 15th 2026, 1:57:31 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Robyn McLean

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

021848481

**\* Email**[robymclean@xtra.co.nz](mailto:robymclean@xtra.co.nz)

**Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.**

Yes

**Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:**

Option 1: Set a rates increase of 5.9%, which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

**What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?**

Waipatiki Waste Scheme

**Please tell us your views below**

- It is a huge burden on homeowners and the balance between contribution from homeowners / campground and members of the public who use the toilet facilities has not been adequately or fairly assessed.

- Waipatiki is mainly holiday homes. The wastewater system is used by a small number of people in a limited capacity. No information has been provided on the use of the public toilet facilities and campground facilities in relation to homeowner use.

- There is a conflict of interest because the campground is owned by the Councils and will benefit the most from the upgrade which they can 'tap' into when it is complete. The campground / general rate payer should be contributing a higher proportion for the system if it proceeds.

- If the system proceeds, it is highly likely a significant number of residents will revert to having their own individual septic systems in protest. What will happen then? There is no information on how the council will manage this or how they will distribute the costs.

- There is not nearly enough information or transparency on the decision making and processes behind this proposal. Council staff have not been able to adequately answer or address residents concerns or questions to date.

- Plans need to be postponed until a proper case is developed that addresses all the concerns raised by the residents around use ratios, costs, consenting, camp ground use of the system. If the scheme goes ahead in the future, homeowners should be give 20 years at a minimum to pay off the asset as this is being forced upon land owners, many of whom are retired, during a cost of living crisis.

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/376>

1/2

5/18/26, 11:57 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

Attach a File

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Attach a File

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<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/376>

2/2


5/18/26, 12:11 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #381

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 15th 2026, 2:58:27 pm

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Eva Brunel

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

0275350244

#### \* Email

[evabrunel44@gmail.com](mailto:evabrunel44@gmail.com)

Please indicate whether or not you wish to speak to Council in regard to your feedback on 10 June 2026. Note: If your feedback relates to a rural matter, it will also be discussed at a Rural Community Board Meeting in June.

No

Tick the box below to indicate your preference for the proposed rates increase:

#### What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

(No response)

#### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

#### Attach a File

submission\_on\_draft\_annual\_plan\_2026\_27.docx

#### Attach a File

**Submission on Draft Annual Plan 2026/27  
Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme Upgrade and Proposed Targeted Rate**

To: Hastings District Council

Submitters: Mike Brunel and Amanda Holland

Property: \_\_\_\_\_ Waipātiki Beach

We support the importance of protecting the environment and ensuring Waipātiki has a compliant wastewater system for the future. However, we do not support the proposed upgrade and funding approach in its current form.

The proposal has been advanced without enough supporting information for the community to properly understand the scale, necessity, or fairness of the project. A decision of this significance should be based on clear technical evidence, transparent costings, and meaningful consultation, none of which we believe has occurred to an acceptable standard.

At present, Council has not adequately demonstrated:

- that the current system is unable to meet requirements
- that the extent of the proposed works is necessary
- that the preferred option is the most practical and cost-effective solution available

The consultation process has also been inadequate. Many residents only became aware of the proposal recently, despite the major long-term financial implications involved. Information has been fragmented and difficult to assess, making it challenging for residents to provide informed feedback.

We are also concerned about the proposed allocation of costs. A very small group of property owners appears to be expected to fund infrastructure that delivers broader public, environmental, and council-related benefits. There has been little transparency around how costs have been divided or how Council determined what portion should fall on local residents.

The relationship between the wastewater scheme, the campground, public facilities, and other council infrastructure must also be properly considered. These are interconnected assets, and it is unreasonable for residents alone to absorb costs that may arise from wider public use and council-owned facilities.

Waipātiki residents have already contributed significantly toward the establishment and ongoing operation of the wastewater system through both capital contributions and higher wastewater rates over many years. It is fair to question why further substantial costs are now being placed on the same small community.

If a targeted rate is introduced, the repayment period should better reflect the long-term life of the infrastructure and consent. A 10-year repayment timeframe places unnecessary pressure on property owners. A longer-term approach would be more reasonable and equitable.

We ask Council to:

1. Delay the proposal until further information and analysis is available

2. Provide detailed and transparent cost breakdowns and technical justification
3. Review the wider wastewater network, including council-owned and public-use assets
4. Reconsider the funding model to ensure costs are shared fairly
5. Undertake a more comprehensive and genuine consultation process with the community

We are not opposed to investment in essential infrastructure. However, the current proposal does not provide sufficient transparency, evidence, or fairness to justify proceeding as proposed.

Mike Brunel and Amanda Holland  
15 May 2026



**Lex F. Verhoeven**

---

**From:** Simon Tremain <simon.tremain@rebl.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 14 May 2026 2:05 PM  
**To:** Lex F. Verhoeven  
**Subject:** Submission Waipatiki Waste Water scheme

To whom it may concern,

We oppose the proposal in its current form.

We do not agree to contribute to the capital costs in its current form.

We have all paid significant costs to the wastewater system in 2005 when we were supposedly all made to join the council wastewater scheme. We believed at this time that it was a one-off capital contribution.

We currently pay an additional \$1000 per annum to the council as a targeted 'sewer rate' for maintenance and operation.

Regards

Simon Tremain  
15 Tangitu Drive  
Waipatiki



**Simon Tremain**  
Managing Director  
Real Estate Brands Management Limited  
P. +64 6 834 2963  
M. +64 27 447 8174

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**Lex F. Verhoeven**

---

**From:** James Horn <jimmyt07@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, 15 May 2026 9:44 PM  
**To:** Lex F. Verhoeven  
**Subject:** Submission for Waipatiki Wastewater Scheme

To whom it may concern,

This submission is made on behalf of James & Chanelle Horn whose interest relates to 601 Waipatiki Rd.

We oppose the Scheme in its current proposed form.

In saying this, we are in favour of upgrades to the treatment plan to meet new resource consent rules. Namely the additional filtration and UV light requirements.

Our issues are largely with the geotechnical report findings on a HDC owned asset. We would like to know if a geotechnical report was carried out as part of the due diligence in the initial site selection process, that we were not part of but ultimately asked to contribute to. We believe responsibility for remediation that is a result of poor site selection rests solely with the council. We also question the level of spending allocated relative to the risk level assessment, given we have no information regarding any subsidence at the current site and the low probability events the council is allowing for.

We believe any costs associated with an increase in capacity at the wastewater treatment plant required for the water treatment plant backwashing and the addition of the campground should be solely the responsibility of HDC, HBRC & NCC as owners of these. The reasoning is that when we paid the initial "one off" payment of \$10700 we believed it was for the benefit of the community and the council gave assurances that at the time it was for the residents 76 connections only.

Yours sincerely,  
James & Chanelle Horn

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**Submission on Waipātiki Wastewater Scheme Statement of Proposal (2026/27 Annual Plan)**

**To:** Hastings District Council

**From:** Paulina Wilhelm, landowner, Titoki Place Waipātiki Beach

**Position:** Oppose as proposed / Support deferral

**Wish to be heard:** Yes

I am a landowner at Waipatiki Beach and wish to submit in opposition to the proposed wastewater scheme upgrade and associated targeted rate outlined in the consultation document.

My property is an older batch in Titoki Place that is used only sporadically during summer months. I acknowledge the importance of environmental protection and appropriate wastewater management. However, I do not support proceeding with a major infrastructure investment and long-term targeted rate at this time due to the significant uncertainty surrounding the future regulatory, governance, and funding environment in New Zealand local government and resource management.

**1. Significant National Reform Creates Major Uncertainty**

The Government has clearly signalled that the Resource Management Act (RMA) will be replaced with new legislation. This reform is expected to substantially change the framework governing wastewater, drinking water, and stormwater consents and standards.

At the same time, the Government has announced major reforms under its "Simplifying Local Government" programme, which includes proposals affecting the structure and responsibilities of regional councils and territorial authorities.

In this context, it is premature and inappropriate for HDC to commit the Waipatiki community to substantial capital expenditure and a 10-year targeted rate before:

- the replacement legislation for the RMA is enacted,
- future environmental standards are known,
- future consent requirements are clarified,
- and the future structure and funding arrangements of local government are settled.

The current proposal risks locking the community into an expensive solution that may not align with future national direction.

**2. Existing Consents Are Already Being Automatically Extended**

The Government has already introduced legislation automatically extending many existing resource consents while reforms are underway. HBRC confirms these extensions are intended to provide certainty during the transition to the new system.

HBRC has specifically noted:

- that consent extensions now apply automatically in many cases,
- that the Government has proposed further extensions during transition periods,
- and that the wider reform process remains unresolved.

Given this situation, there is no urgent justification for imposing significant financial burdens on Waipatiki property owners before the future legislative framework becomes clear.

A prudent and fiscally responsible approach would be to maintain the current system while monitoring the outcome of national reforms.

### 3. Future Consent Standards Are Likely to Change

The proposed upgrade appears heavily driven by current consent requirements and assumptions about future compliance obligations.

However, if the RMA is replaced and associated environmental standards are amended, the technical requirements for wastewater systems may change materially over the next few years. This raises a serious concern that:

- the proposed infrastructure may not reflect future regulatory expectations,
- further upgrades may later be required,
- or significant investment may be made unnecessarily.

Proceeding now creates a real risk of stranded or inefficient investment.

Council should avoid committing ratepayers to expensive infrastructure decisions while the national regulatory environment is fundamentally uncertain.

### 4. The Public Good Contribution Is Too Low

The proposal allocates only 10% of project costs to the public good component. I believe this is too low.

Waipatiki Beach is increasingly used and enjoyed by:

- day visitors,
- campers,
- tourists,
- and recreational users within the wider Hawkes Bay region.

Visitor numbers to coastal destinations across Hawke's Bay have increased over time due to population growth, domestic tourism, improved access, and the popularity of coastal recreation. Waipatiki is no longer simply a small settlement serving only local landowners.

The environmental, recreational, and public health benefits arising from wastewater improvements extend well beyond the directly rated properties.

A substantially larger public good allocation, in the order of 25-30%, would therefore be more equitable and better reflect the broader community benefit derived from this infrastructure.

This is particularly relevant given:

- the high proportion of non-permanent residents,
- seasonal occupancy patterns,
- and the increasing use of the beach by visitors who contribute to system pressures without directly contributing through the targeted rate.

### 5. Concerns About Long-Term Resilience and Location

The proposal also raises concerns regarding resilience.

Investing heavily in wastewater infrastructure located in a flood-prone and environmentally vulnerable area does not appear to represent a sound long-term strategy. Climate-related risks, severe weather events, and flood exposure are expected to increase over time.

Before significant investment proceeds, Council could continue investigating:

- alternative locations,
- decentralised systems,
- staged approaches,
- or different technological solutions that may provide greater long-term resilience and lower lifecycle costs.

The community should not be placed in a position where substantial sums are paid now only to discover in future years that the system remains vulnerable and requires further major investment.

**6. Preferred Option: Do Nothing Until National Reform Is Settled**

My preferred option is the "do nothing" approach until:

- the future of local government structures is clear,
- funding responsibilities are clarified,
- the replacement for the RMA is enacted,
- and future wastewater consent standards are known.

Delaying major investment for several years would:

- reduce the risk of unnecessary or duplicated expenditure,
- allow decisions to align with the new legislative framework,
- provide greater certainty to ratepayers,
- and enable a more informed discussion with the community about future options.

Proceeding now is premature given the scale of national reform underway.

Thank you for considering this submission.

Paulina Wilhelm