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Wednesday, 10 June 2026

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

*Kaupapataka*

# Attachments Volume 5

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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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5/1/26, 9:17 AM

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HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#150

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 30th 2026, 11:24:30 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?**

Rate rise levels

**Please tell us your views below**

New Zealand and Hastings Citizens and Ratepayers are presently enduring the worst level of cost/price rise and basic needs affordability for some years. It is presently exacerbated by oil price rises of uncertain duration ( but likely years given the damage to production facilities in the Middle east) leading to increased travel and food prices caused by production and delivery costs.

Residential communities face increased cost both to eat and to travel to work.The Closure of one and the partial closure of another food processing facility recently announced which are major district employers will add the misery of job and income loss to those affected directly and to those whose third party businesses will lose contracts with the processors and then likely staff.

Rural communities are facing massive increases in essential supplies of both Diesel and Fertilizer and unless they are Dairy producers do not have the luxury of significant cash injection from overseas receipts to cushion the blow.

Now is not the time for Council to utilise rate increases to better balance its budget over future years. Council should instead show a lead and minimize current rate increases in the interests of supporting its community when times are tough. I therefore support option1 and urge Council not to try to add to ratepayers financial burdens by rates increases of near 10%

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/150>

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5/1/26, 9:18 AM

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## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #151

### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
Apr 30th 2026, 11:44:33 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?

(No response)

### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

### Attach a File

### Attach a File



5/1/26, 9:19 AM

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HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#152

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 30th 2026, 11:51:59 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.

## 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?

(No response)

## Please tell us your views below

I support the Option One as it makes the most sense and keeps rates down . The Council must also find ways of reducing costs and taking a 14% increase in Councillors salaries is not one of them.  
The sooner we move to amagamation with Napier the better. For 140,000 people we do not need three Councils .  
Ian Hill

## Attach a File

## Attach a File

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/152>

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5/1/26, 9:25 AM

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HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE #153

CREATED

 PUBLIC  
Apr 30th 2026, 12:00:26 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?

HDC rate increases when compared to National levels, the need for more detail on consultancy and contracted services.

5/1/26, 9:25 AM

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**Please tell us your views below**

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft Annual Plan.

I acknowledge that our district is still recovering from Cyclone Gabrielle, and that this has created significant pressure on Council to invest in infrastructure, resilience, and recovery. These priorities are understood and supported.

At the same time, many households and businesses are facing ongoing financial pressure, making it important that Council maintains a strong focus on affordability, transparency, and careful prioritisation of spending.

I note that rates increased by 15% in 2025/26, with a further proposed increase of between 5.9% and 9.1% for 2026/27. This represents a cumulative increase of approximately 22% to over 25% across two years. While I understand that councils across New Zealand are facing similar pressures, this level of increase sits at the upper end of the national range and represents a significant impact on local ratepayers.

In this context, I also note that one of the proposed options involves borrowing \$4.8 million to fund operational costs in 2026/27. Borrowing for day-to-day expenditure highlights the importance of ensuring that all spending has been carefully reviewed and prioritised.

The Annual Plan outlines:

- Consultancy services of approximately \$5.37 million
- Contracted service costs exceeding \$50 million
- A proposed \$2.3 million office fitout (Heretaunga House)
- Ongoing investment in economic development and community programmes

I recognise that a significant portion of contracted services will relate to essential infrastructure delivery and maintenance, particularly in the post-cyclone environment. However, the level of detail provided does not clearly distinguish between essential operational expenditure and discretionary or advisory spending.

Greater transparency in this area would help ratepayers better understand how funds are being allocated and provide confidence that all reasonable cost controls have been applied before borrowing or increasing rates.

I also note that Council has taken steps to reduce reliance on consultants and identify internal efficiencies. This is a positive development and suggests there is ongoing opportunity to ensure spending remains tightly managed.

In light of the above, I would encourage Council to:

- Continue prioritising essential infrastructure and recovery-related investment
- Avoid borrowing for operational expenditure where practicable
- Provide clearer breakdowns of contracted services, distinguishing core infrastructure from discretionary or advisory work
- Continue reducing reliance on external consultants and contractors where efficiencies can be achieved
- Carefully review the timing of non-essential capital expenditure, including office fitouts
- Clearly demonstrate that all reasonable cost-saving measures have been exhausted before further rate increases

I would also appreciate further clarity on the following:

- What proportion of contracted services relates directly to core infrastructure versus advisory or non-core services?
- How has reliance on external contractors and consultants changed over recent years?
- What criteria are used to determine whether work is delivered internally or externally?
- What measurable outcomes are used to assess value from contracted services?

I appreciate the complexity of the decisions facing Council at this time. A continued focus on transparency, prioritisation, and financial discipline will be important in maintaining community confidence as the district moves through recovery.

Thank you for considering this submission.

**Attach a File**

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**Attach a File**

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<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/153>

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5/1/26, 9:26 AM

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## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#154

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 30th 2026, 12:01:47 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.**

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?**

I don't require feedback, simply acknowledgment of my views articulated below.

**Please tell us your views below**

Along with most councils in the country, HDC has for many years wasted an extraordinary amount of money on pet projects which don't greatly benefit rate payers, and on bureaucracy. That central government has largely failed to force councils to restrict their spending on core functions, is a subject for debate at central government level - and at this year's general election. (Arguably, all central government has achieved, is legislating the redundancy of regional councils). Notwithstanding, it shouldn't require central government intervention to motivate, or force councils to restrict spending. It should be blindingly obvious that rate payers are increasingly impoverished by undisciplined, unnecessary and sometimes ego driven spending. Further, it is obvious that there are too many under-worked, over paid bureaucrats employed by HDC. Simply, make dozens redundant. (I'm not interested in arguments about the social implications; there is central government welfare support). Why should hard working, increasingly cash constrained rate payers fund the lifestyles of under-employed bureaucrats, who don't add value, who actually achieve very little? This argument will - hopefully - be evident immediately after November's general election, when, because of obvious necessity (credit rating), thousands of similarly under-employed, overpaid Wellington bureaucrats are made redundant. If not at this juncture, but in November, councils should take central government's lead, in this regard. What council's and their bureaucrats may be unaware of, is that solely because of rates unaffordability, thousands of people throughout NZ are selling their homes in the cities, and re-locating to the small towns, where rates are more affordable. That people are forced to do this, is tragic and should be unnecessary.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/154>

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5/1/26, 9:27 AM

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## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#155

### CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 30th 2026, 12:07:38 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?

(No response)

### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

### Attach a File

### Attach a File

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5/1/26, 9:29 AM

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HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#156

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 30th 2026, 12:35:39 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?

Rates burden

## Please tell us your views below

As a pensioner on a limited income hammered in every direction by huge increases in prices of groceries, power, fuel, rates etc I have no option but to select the lowest possible rates increase. Suggest Council puts themselves in my shoes and try living on a Government pension!

## Attach a File

## Attach a File

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5/1/26, 9:30 AM

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HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#157

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 30th 2026, 12:45:11 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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/157>

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5/1/26, 9:33 AM

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## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#158

### CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 30th 2026, 12:47:33 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 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

The second option is 3.2% higher than option one.

### Please tell us your views below

I feel the extra percentage increase is worth it as this would result in lower borrowing and interest charges. I question though if the rates would decrease once the extra is paid for?

### Attach a File

### Attach a File



5/1/26, 9:35 AM

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## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#159

### CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 30th 2026, 12:50:18 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?

(No response)

### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

### Attach a File

### Attach a File

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/159>

1/1



5/1/26, 9:37 AM

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HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#160

CREATED



PUBLIC  
Apr 30th 2026, 1:14:35 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?

Challenging global unrest, with local & national debt contributing to increased cost of living crisis.

5/1/26, 9:37 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

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**Please tell us your views below**

Considering the global unrest and the impact this is having on current cost of living challenges and furthermore, the length of time our national economy will take to return to a surplus, I want to recommend to the council that there is "No further increase" to already overburdened community members regarding council rates.

Our rates have already been hiked up well over the rate of inflation and is hurting community members right now, let alone any further increases imposed.

The options provided are also well above the rate of inflation, which is steady and, in some quarters, has actually come down. So why are council rates going up when the rate of inflation is steady or coming down?

Rather than increasing the rates, may I kindly suggest that council take a leaf out of the central government play book and exercise an abundance of frugality and further caution around any upcoming projects in the pipeline. The nice to haves should not ever compete or even come close with the "need to haves".

If council can get the focus right and deliver the basic rateable services within the income already being derived from rates, we will all be in a much better place.

The cyclone repairs are going to be an ongoing project and any subsequent disasters which damage our existing infrastructure will only add to this. It's not a matter of when, but the fact that it's already happened and is likely to happen again to some degree, but hopefully not to the same degree.

To add some perspective, this proposed increase is happening just when it is looking somewhat manageable for families, and the local council blindsides you again with more rate increases. This is really bad timing and is unacceptable governance and quite frankly, lazy financial management behaviour.

It's just not financially viable to be weighing in so heavily on the rate payer when the repairs or planning are being so poorly executed.

I don't agree with either of the two options, and the fact is the council will never reduce rates, even when we balance the budget, so it's pointless even considering the 9.1% increase.

Obviously, the council are fixed on one option or the other.

Both proposed options in my opinion are a false economy and are just going to cause more unnecessary pain to the community families and not achieve productivity. Just more money to wastefully spend.

Understandably, we have reached this position from grossly under investing in our infrastructure when we had the money to do it, and taking into consideration the impact of Cyclone Gabrielle.

But it feels like we are now just in fix it up mode. More like a band aide type of approach, rather than a long-term solution.

We need to reduce unnecessary spending and get rid of unnecessary and costly overheads. That may include the multitudes of consultants already engaged and other personnel or projects that are pushing up the overheads.

In the business world, there is a successful business model called, lean synchronisation. Doing away with the waste and exercising a lean and agile operating system. The aim is to achieve the highest possible level of productivity. The waste could include time, projects and the cost of expensive labour, relating to the projects. It's really just working smarter and being highly productive.

If the community could see without a shadow of doubt, that this level of productivity is being achieved by our council, then an increase could be justifiable. But the reality is, I believe there is so much wasteful spending, very little accountability and generally lacking good stewardship of council funds, which is why we have little faith in councils' ability to manage our funds or impose any future increases.

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**Attach a File**

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**Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/160>

2/2

5/1/26, 9:39 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #161

### CREATED



PUBLIC  
Apr 30th 2026, 1:21:59 pm

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Stephen Hayes

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

021666479

### \* Email

[ryms1962@gmail.com](mailto:ryms1962@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 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

(No response)

### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

### Attach a File

### Attach a File




5/1/26, 9:40 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #162

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
Apr 30th 2026, 1:27:03 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Alice Jones

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0273694476

**\* Email**

[allyandgaza@hotmail.com](mailto:allyandgaza@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:**

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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**




5/1/26, 9:43 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #163

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
Apr 30th 2026, 1:33:18 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Monique Buurmans

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0212555181

**\* Email**

[monique.buurmans@gmail.com](mailto:monique.buurmans@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 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**




5/1/26, 9:51 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #164

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
Apr 30th 2026, 1:34:40 pm

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Eugene Swanepoel

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

0221350903

#### \* Email

[swanepoelfamily@xtra.co.nz](mailto:swanepoelfamily@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:

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?

rates increases set to consumer price index

#### Please tell us your views below

As a rate payer, the cost-of-living crisis is our first priority. I would like to see Council set rates at the rate of inflation. We cannot afford these rates increases when our personal income remains stagnant. Thank you for considering my feedback.

#### Attach a File

#### Attach a File



5/1/26, 9:53 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#165

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 30th 2026, 2:09:00 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Peter Dunkerley

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

021443820

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

Option 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

This is a time of financial uncertainty. I think we must be very prudent with expenditure. No silly projects that do not have a pressing need. But pay the higher rates figure (9.1%) and then wait with higher reserves for when times are better. Time to buckle down and do some hard yards.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/165>

1/1



5/1/26, 9:54 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#166

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 30th 2026, 2:16:33 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

David van Oeveren

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

021470337

**\* Email**[david.vanoeveren@waiapu.com](mailto:david.vanoeveren@waiapu.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 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

Rates

**Please tell us your views below**

Rates are never going to be an easy topic, especially in this fiscal climate.  
The higher rate provides short term pain for long term gain.  
For me this is preferable to the extended time frame option.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/166>

1/1




5/1/26, 9:56 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #167

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
Apr 30th 2026, 2:18:46 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Grant Magon

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0273617488

**\* Email**

[grantmagon@gmail.com](mailto:grantmagon@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?**

It is time council cut its spending substantially. Spending on basics only, walking around town I see far to much spending on nice to have buildings and public spaces replacing things that were perfectly ok.

**Please tell us your views below**

Please stop unnecessary spending.

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**



5/1/26, 9:57 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#168

### CREATED



PUBLIC  
Apr 30th 2026, 2:19:58 pm

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Lisa Batenburg

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0298780024

### \* Email

[lisabatz@xtra.co.nz](mailto:lisabatz@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:

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?

(No response)

### Please tell us your views below

Council spending needs to be reigned in. No nice to haves. Just basic infrastructure with accountability by contractors.

### Attach a File

### Attach a File

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/168>

1/1



5/1/26, 9:59 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#169

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 30th 2026, 3:22:42 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Fiona Whittington

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0278293655

**\* Email**[fonaw1169@gmail.com](mailto:fonaw1169@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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

I think it's atrocious that council is asking rate payers to increase at such a high rate. Both options will add huge financial stress to an already increased financial situation due to the fuel/war/cost of living crisis.  
I understand the council need to do things to improve maintain our city but maybe look at what works can be pushed forward to help reduce spending before hammering us all financially in such an uncertain time.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/169>

1/1




5/1/26, 10:01 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #170

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
Apr 30th 2026, 3:54:06 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

trina nicholls

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0274891073

**\* Email**

[dieselndjack74@gmail.com](mailto:dieselndjack74@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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**



5/1/26, 10:03 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #171

### CREATED



PUBLIC  
Apr 30th 2026, 4:43:57 pm

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Patricia Reddt

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0212157465

### \* Email

[paddyreddy42@gmail.com](mailto:paddyreddy42@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?

Even with the rate rebate pensioners find it so very difficult to pay their rates. I pay monthly and I each month it is nearly one week of my pension taken to pay the rste instalment..

### Please tell us your views below

Please keep the at the lowest level possible.

### Attach a File

### Attach a File



5/1/26, 10:04 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#172

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 30th 2026, 5:20:40 pm

## IP ADDRESS



## \* Name

Desmond Green

## Address

New Zealand

## \* Contact phone number

0272267090

## \* Email

[dimondo@xtra.co.nz](mailto:dimondo@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:

Option 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

Inner City High Rise Apartments with a View

## Please tell us your views below

Inner city High Rise Apartments with Balcony's, for people who do NOT have any desire to live in a Retirement Village. Especially when you are required to "Pay TO Occupy"

Imagine owning an Inner City Apartment with a Balcony View looking out to Te Mata Peak or the Snow Covered Ranges in winter. Most Cities have High Rise Living and Napier has many where there is a view. As for Hastings it is time the Council got "REAL" and started building "UP" and the city needs more dwellers. New buildings should have underground parking and Apartments on the Top Floors. It is way past time the Council stopped allowing building on fertile land and with all of the empty shops, the inner City needs a makeover.

Thank you for reading this,  
Desmond and Diana Green

## Attach a File

## Attach a File

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/172>

1/1



5/1/26, 2:09 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#173

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 30th 2026, 5:39:28 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Matthew Harman

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0226008011

**\* Email**[matthew.harman@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.harman@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?**

Depth of information provided. Lack of focus on core spending.

**Please tell us your views below**

Given the scope of the rates increases our district is seeing (both past and proposed) I'm extremely disappointed by the superficial surface level nature of the consultation document provided. No attempt has been made to break down what we're getting for the proposed \$155m of operational expenditure.

Vague statements like '[reducing] the amount needing to be funded by approximately \$48 million over time' (over what time? A year, a decade, a century?) has no place in a document that is meant to provide clear information to help aid informed feedback.

For all households rates have become a significant cost. Telling us virtually nothing about the detail of what our rates are being spent on is suggests an utter contempt for your ratepayers.

If \$155m really is the best you can do - give us useful information on how that compares (per capita and per category) to peer councils. Where it's higher, why is it higher?

Based on the document provided, ratepayers can have zero confidence in council's ability to either understand where the money is spent - or how to get the spending under control. Do better.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/173>

1/1




5/1/26, 2:18 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #174

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
Apr 30th 2026, 7:01:17 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Rachel Downes

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0279311042

**\* Email**

[reachrach@hotmail.com](mailto:reachrach@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:**

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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**



5/1/26, 2:25 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#175

## CREATED



PUBLIC

Apr 30th 2026, 7:08:13 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Alan Dickinson

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0272723848

**\* Email**[alan.d@actrix.co.nz](mailto:alan.d@actrix.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?**

No rate rise above inflation is acceptable.

**Please tell us your views below**

I do not support either option. The council needs to cut its cloth to meet its income, just like anyone does on a day to day basis. The council is in some sort of dream world, where they think they think they can keep robbing their rate payers. Instead go back to the basics that councils are there for. Water, roading, rubbish, parks and reserves, done.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/175>

1/1




5/1/26, 2:27 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #176

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
Apr 30th 2026, 8:59:05 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Andrew Pattison

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

021809542

**\* Email**

[oeppattison@gmail.com](mailto:oeppattison@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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**



5/1/26, 2:28 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#177

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 1st 2026, 12:17:04 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

PHIL CARSON

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0276666149

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

Option 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

I don't believe our council should borrow for operational expense and increase debt repayment

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/177>

1/1



5/1/26, 2:31 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#178

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 1st 2026, 7:27:59 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Gaylene Lawrence

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0226748184

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

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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/178>

1/1



5/1/26, 2:33 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#179

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 1st 2026, 9:05:28 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Naomi Ioasa

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

02041689489

**\* Email**[naomi.ioasa@gmail.com](mailto:naomi.ioasa@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 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

My main areas of feedback are the fairness of rates and infrastructure investment.

I am interested in how rates are allocated following the recent property revaluations, and whether the system fairly reflects the ability of different households to pay. I recognise that revaluations change how rates are distributed, but I am concerned about the potential impact on homeowners whose property values may have increased significantly without a corresponding increase in income.

I also support continued investment in essential infrastructure, particularly roads, bridges, and water systems, as these are critical to safety, resilience, and the functioning of the district. Ensuring that infrastructure spending is prioritised appropriately, especially following cyclone damage, is important to me.

Overall, I would like to see a balance between maintaining fair and affordable rates while continuing to invest in the infrastructure our community relies on.

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/179>

1/2

5/1/26, 2:33 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

**Please tell us your views below**

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I understand the challenges Council is facing in balancing affordability with the need to invest in essential infrastructure, particularly following cyclone recovery.

From my perspective, it is important that rates remain fair and manageable for households. The recent property revaluations may shift the burden between ratepayers, and I am concerned about the impact on homeowners whose property values have increased but whose incomes may not have.

At the same time, I strongly support continued investment in core infrastructure such as roads, bridges, and water services. These are critical to the safety, resilience, and day-to-day functioning of the district, and it is important that this work continues without unnecessary delays.

Overall, I would like to see Council maintain a careful balance between keeping rates increases as affordable as possible while ensuring that essential infrastructure is properly funded and maintained. I also encourage continued focus on cost control and efficient use of public funds.

**Attach a File**

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**Attach a File**

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<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/179>

2/2

5/4/26, 9:45 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#180

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 1st 2026, 3:20:06 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Andrew Pattullo

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

027 269 9559

**\* Email**[andrew.pattullo@kenso.co.nz](mailto:andrew.pattullo@kenso.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?**

Rates affordability

**Please tell us your views below**

I firmly believe that rate increases of the magnitude that we have seen over the last 4 to 5 years are simply not sustainable. 8 or 10 years ago when my rates bill came in, it was not such an issue re payment but now it is. I appreciate that cyclone Gabrielle and the Havelock North water issue placed upward pressure on Council finances, but now that those increases are locked in I ask that Council do more to live within its means; as I must, especially when it comes to paying rates.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/180>

1/1



5/4/26, 9:47 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#181

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 1st 2026, 3:53:32 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Clarissa Nichols

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0211766346

**\* Email**[guy\\_tidanichols@hotmail.com](mailto:guy_tidanichols@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?**

I cannot understand how the council thinks these rates are sustainable.  
Everyone out there is struggling with rising food and fuel prices and yet the Council just keep on spending.

5/4/26, 9:47 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

**Please tell us your views below**

---

I'm tired of bringing up the same old glaringly obvious ways that our rates are being squandered. Most of you councillors promised action when you were campaigning but nothing ever changes. From what I can see and hear there is one lone voice in Council trying to make a difference. There is so much waste but

SPLASH PLANET.....

What is being done about the spiralling costs of running that white elephant...it has never paid its way and never will. Should we be propping that up in these tough times?

THE WATER MUSEUM...

What is the cost to ratepayers of running this next white elephant?  
Several of you talked about cutting the hours of keeping it open as very few people were visiting. Has this been done?????

THE ART GALLERY..

Maybe this should just be open for special exhibitions and not full time. I've been there when there is not a sign of anybody else around.

THE CENTRE OF TOWN...

What on earth is going on there?  
My first time in there yesterday band I was appalled at the mess and the "workers" milling around not achieving very much very fast! I had no idea it was to be so extensive.  
Please provide a cost of this work.

Ratepayers should have been provided with more information on the cost of all this. I think you all forget that it is not YOUR money being spent and if it was you would be a lot more circumspect.

Council needs to be more accountable to its ratepayers!

Clarissa Nichols

---

**Attach a File**

---

**Attach a File**

---


5/4/26, 11:19 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #182

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 1st 2026, 4:39:34 pm

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Susannah Allen

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

0272732662

#### \* Email

[allens.m.91@gmail.com](mailto:allens.m.91@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?

(No response)

#### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

#### Attach a File

#### Attach a File




5/4/26, 11:21 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #183

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 1st 2026, 8:43:33 pm

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Josh Lynch

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

021730001

#### \* Email

[joshjlynch@hotmail.com](mailto:joshjlynch@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:

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?

(No response)

#### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

#### Attach a File

#### Attach a File



5/4/26, 11:51 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#184

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 1st 2026, 8:45:57 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Cameron Jones

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0211545061

**\* Email**[cam.c.jones@me.com](mailto:cam.c.jones@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:**

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?**

Rates increase.

**Please tell us your views below**

For the last 10 years as a rate payer, I have always voted to increase rates to support local amenities and reduce council debt.

However, it's reached the point where we are tapped out. We're all for supporting the community, and investing for future generations. But with a rates bill that is almost \$5,600 pa, after a period of high inflation, followed by a large spike in fuel costs... we're at our limit. I genuinely believe that the council needs to recognise the financial strain its ratepayers are under, act accordingly, and avoid justifying high rates increases by appealing to community spirit... as if those who have reached their limit lack it. I genuinely believe that a further rates rise of 9.1% is unconscionable given the context.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/184>

1/1



5/4/26, 11:55 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#185

### CREATED



PUBLIC

May 2nd 2026, 7:22:59 am

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Darryl Hibberd

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0275055450

### \* Email

[dhibberd32@gmail.com](mailto:dhibberd32@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?

I feel like increasing more money  
It's been hard.  
Increase in food power and gas and petrol

### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

### Attach a File

### Attach a File




5/4/26, 11:56 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE #186

CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 2nd 2026, 1:00:39 pm

IP ADDRESS



\* Name

Roberta Budvietas

Address

New Zealand

\* Contact phone number

0276854229

\* Email

[robertagbudvietas@gmail.com](mailto:robertagbudvietas@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?

Viability of spending and borrowing

Please tell us your views below

Truthfully, I do not approve either. I see the benefits of both BUT I don't believe you have decided what is actually needed vs not needed NOW. Areas where I see problems, staffing given use of AI to make decisions. When 6 members of staff attend meetings of 1 hr plus rather than getting reports and having a designated representative. It strikes me TRUST is lost and more and more there is a need for "back-up" Is council paying unelected people in positions where the ratepayers need accountability? Are we buying into policies that destroy ONE PEOPLE, ONE FLAG, ONE LAW, Yes the cyclone still has work to do but....are we getting the best deals or is council seen to be a mug? There is evidence of this? And why should you actually be trusted to not borrow more?

Attach a File

Attach a File



5/4/26, 11:57 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #187

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 2nd 2026, 4:15:59 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Elise Cox

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

021710450

**\* Email**

[ebcoax@gmail.com](mailto:ebcoax@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 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**



5/4/26, 11:58 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#188

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 2nd 2026, 5:22:27 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Helena Van't Sant

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0279241246

**\* Email**[helenaholtstag@gmail.com](mailto:helenaholtstag@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?**

The rates increase.

**Please tell us your views below**

My husband (he's an Electrician) and I (I'm a Recruiter) have lived in Akina for 5 years, and in the last year our rates have increased 50% (from \$3.3k in 2025 to \$5k in 2026).

We have 2 boys under 3 and at multiple points each year have to reassess finances, cut costs and find cheaper providers for our key expenses. After reading the proposal, we feel council is still spending far too much on Consultants, environmental projects, and cultural advisors/kaimatua/projects.

That is why we vote to keep the rates increase as low as possible. Council needs to cut further costs so that ratepayers stop being detrimentally impacted, and actually have spending money leftover to renovate their homes or spend at the shops and businesses in town instead.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/188>

1/1




5/4/26, 12:00 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE #189

CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 3rd 2026, 8:22:22 am

IP ADDRESS



\* Name

Faye Berry

Address

New Zealand

\* Contact phone number

0279308621

\* Email

[fayepattison50@gmail.com](mailto:fayepattison50@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?

Rates increase

Please tell us your views below

The cost of living is hurting all families and now you're going to increase rates once again financially myself and families won't be able to afford another rates rise. I understand you have to get the \$ from somewhere but hitting the families once again is very sad 😞

Attach a File

Attach a File




5/4/26, 12:01 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #190

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 3rd 2026, 10:56:18 am

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Rebekah Whittaker

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0211068780

**\* Email**

[jrhcw4@gmail.com](mailto:jrhcw4@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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**




5/4/26, 12:02 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail


HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE #191

CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 3rd 2026, 11:44:34 am

IP ADDRESS



\* Name

Richard Reiter

Address

New Zealand

\* Contact phone number

0211334712

\* Email

[rick.reiter@gmail.com](mailto:rick.reiter@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?

Rates

Please tell us your views below

The council needs to learn to manage within its means, like the rest of us. Rate increases have been rampant in the last few years.

Attach a File

Attach a File




5/4/26, 12:08 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #192

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 3rd 2026, 1:47:11 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

PETER KELLY

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0274571318

**\* Email**

[hbroaster@gmail.com](mailto:hbroaster@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 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**




5/4/26, 12:09 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #193

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 3rd 2026, 2:26:27 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Rob Harbers

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0273537110

**\* Email**

[icyredv2@gmail.com](mailto:icyredv2@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?**

Staff costs

**Please tell us your views below**

Please take all steps necessary towards institution of a living wage for all employees

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**



5/4/26, 12:18 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#194

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 3rd 2026, 4:33:35 pm

## IP ADDRESS



## \* Name

John Bullot

## Address

New Zealand

## \* Contact phone number

0274449093

## \* Email

[jbulot@gmail.com](mailto:jbulot@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?

Heretaunga House Fit-out — \$2.3 million

Sponsorships and Grants — \$6.9 million

## Please tell us your views below

Heretaunga House Fit-out — \$2.3 million

It is concerning that approximately half of the proposed borrowing relates to a previously unbudgeted \$2.3 million for the Heretaunga House fit-out, which was not included in the Long-Term Plan (LTP). The LTP was approved by Council in June 2024. However, the call for registrations of interest for the 300 Lyndon Road East redevelopment was issued in February 2024, several months earlier.

If the need for this fit-out was known prior to the LTP being adopted, it should have been incorporated into that plan. On this basis, it should not be characterised as expenditure “beyond the plan”.

Rather than being treated as additional to the LTP, this cost should be offset through savings elsewhere in council expenditure. Doing so would reduce the proposed borrowing under Option 1 to \$2.5 million.

Sponsorships and Grants — \$6.9 million

The proposed \$6.9 million allocation for sponsorships and grants is a significant and striking increase. The LTP forecast for the year was \$2.9 million, making the Annual Plan figure an increase of \$4 million, with no clear explanation provided in the consultation material.

Spending on sponsorships and grants is discretionary by nature and should be subject to close scrutiny, particularly in the context of wider fiscal constraints. No information is provided on which organisations or programmes will receive this funding.

Greater transparency is required to justify this substantial increase in discretionary spending.

## Attach a File

## Attach a File

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/194>

1/1




5/4/26, 12:25 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE #195

CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 4th 2026, 8:45:28 am

IP ADDRESS



\* Name

Sam Vernon

Address

New Zealand

\* Contact phone number

0274247424

\* Email

[samantha.vernon@outlook.co.nz](mailto:samantha.vernon@outlook.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?

(No response)

Please tell us your views below

(No response)

Attach a File

Attach a File




5/4/26, 12:48 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail


# HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #196

## CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 4th 2026, 8:56:03 am

## IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Blain Vernon

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

02108793321

### \* Email

[blainvernon@gmail.com](mailto:blainvernon@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?

(No response)

### Please tell us your views below

Given the current global climate, including ongoing conflict and the increasing cost of essential goods such as fuel, many households and businesses are already under significant financial pressure. In this context, and with limited relief being provided at central government level, I believe it would be irresponsible for the local council to impose a 9.1% rates increase on the community.

### Attach a File

### Attach a File



5/4/26, 12:49 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#197

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 4th 2026, 9:25:59 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

M Green

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

068728713

**\* Email**[mgreen@weledatrust.org.nz](mailto:mgreen@weledatrust.org.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?**

Rates increase

**Please tell us your views below**

HDC rates increases continually outpace CPI increases. This is unsustainable for our community, many of whom rely on a fixed income. Living in our community is becoming unaffordable and for many it is unaffordable already.

The HDC is so reluctant to cut things out of its budget. With the current rampant cost increases and the projected cost increases in future, the HDC needs to take a line item look at its budget and seriously do some hard work to keep our rates in line with the CPI.

Do more than give lip service to acknowledging the current economic challenges and do something to ease those challenges for rate payers.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/197>

1/1




5/4/26, 3:42 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #200

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 4th 2026, 10:03:45 am

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

grant morton

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

021429823

**\* Email**

[grantmorton@xtra.co.nz](mailto:grantmorton@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:**

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?**

three waters

**Please tell us your views below**

abolish this rubbish...

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**



5/4/26, 3:45 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#201

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 4th 2026, 10:23:48 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Michelle Livingston

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0272238761

**\* Email**[michelle@epplett.co.nz](mailto:michelle@epplett.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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/201>

1/1



5/4/26, 3:47 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#202

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 4th 2026, 11:39:12 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Mark Mitchell

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0275389843

**\* Email**[mitchell.ms@gmail.com](mailto:mitchell.ms@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?**

There needs to be a third option, being a slow down in some capital projects to help cover the \$4.8m shortfall.

**Please tell us your views below**

I acknowledge that HDC has undertaken a process to reduce its internal costs which is appreciated. However, a 9.1% rates increase is simply not affordable right now. Ratepayers in our community are hurting, including businesses (see latest State of Business Poll).

Borrowing is also not a good option, as this just pushes costs down the road. I am very concerned to see 33.78% of the costs will be covered by loan funding.

Given the current financial challenges, and likely future challenges around the corner, I strongly urge council to look closely at pausing some of its capital investment. We are all having to make tough calls, Council needs to do the same.

I ask that council, through the AP or LTP process, provides options on pausing or stopping some of its capital investment, stating the impact of this and potential reduction on rate increases. The same approach could be taken with some of its operational programmes.

Thanks, Mark

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/202>

1/1



5/4/26, 3:49 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#203

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 4th 2026, 11:41:12 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Evan Price

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

027 322 9500

**\* Email**[debbieevanprice@gmail.com](mailto:debbieevanprice@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?**

Civil Defence / Emergency Management targeted rate

**Please tell us your views below**

Does the Council liaise with what other District Councils plans/ submissions are in regard to emergency management plans they have or have been implemented?

Palmerston North have instigated the use of portable, relocatable and inflatable army tents able to be used in emergencies, possibly as hubs or command centres, this could reduce cost of the \$1.6 million targeted rate increase that the Council intend imposing on ratepayers, of which a large proportion are pensioners.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/203>

1/1



5/4/26, 3:50 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#204

### CREATED



PUBLIC

May 4th 2026, 2:50:35 pm

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Jeanette Kelly

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0274413755

### \* Email

[arabicadesign@xtra.co.nz](mailto:arabicadesign@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?

(No response)

Please tell us your views below

(No response)

Attach a File

Attach a File



5/4/26, 3:52 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#205

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 4th 2026, 2:51:38 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Jeanette Kelly

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0274413755

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

Option 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File****Attach a File**



5/4/26, 3:54 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#206

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 4th 2026, 2:58:39 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Bronwyn Watkins

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0275240899

**\* Email**[bronwyn.watkins@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bronwyn.watkins@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:**

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?**

Rates increase sounds horrible

**Please tell us your views below**

However, if you're thinking about transport I love all the bike paths.

We need a cycle path the length of St Georges Road please.

There is a great cycle path on the Karamu Rd end. Another good one from Crosses Rd to Havelock Rd. Then nothing from Havelock Rd to Te Aute. There is no space for a cyclist wanting to connect to School Rd. School Rd would be another good place for a cycle path.

Also Havelock North needs a year round public pool. I believe the main custom base at the Flaxmere Pool is people from here travelling over with kids.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/206>

1/1




5/5/26, 7:52 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #208

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 4th 2026, 4:12:10 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

ANTHONY HARTING

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

02102831354

**\* Email**

[adharting@xtra.co.nz](mailto:adharting@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:**

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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**




5/5/26, 7:54 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #209

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 4th 2026, 6:35:32 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Natalie Cornelius

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0204165592

**\* Email**

[n.corneliu88@gmail.com](mailto:n.corneliu88@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?**

Living wage for councillors  
Safer strets in flaxmere, more speed bumps etc

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**




5/5/26, 7:56 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #210

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 4th 2026, 6:56:57 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Philip Hunter

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0276561455

**\* Email**

[philiphunter783@gmail.com](mailto:philiphunter783@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?**

I don't support HDC funding tourism HB

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**



5/5/26, 7:57 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#211

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 5th 2026, 5:55:21 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Michael Anderton

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0221280596

**\* Email**[kiwidub@gmail.com](mailto:kiwidub@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?**

Rate increases and the unnecessary waste of ratepayers money.

**Please tell us your views below**

I object to the increase in rates as a whole, I believe that with more effort and determination savings could be found to reduce costs to the ratepayer.

Rates are already way too high on property and I don't agree that council should keep increasing them the way they are.

I'm shocked and dismayed at the recent scandalous behaviour of the new mayor in allowing a woke activist artist to exhibit at our community funded art gallery and for her support of said art exhibition when there was public outcry. I don't agree the ratepayers should be funding a community art gallery. This would save ratepayers 2 million/ year.

I'm sure there are many other savings to be found to stop rates increases. The council has failed to read the room as far as the public outcry of ballooning rates, they are still not taking balancing the books seriously enough.

I also object to the mayors recent decision to hold a council planning meeting at Waiohiki Marae.

Marae's should never be a location for council planning business as they are not part of the council.

I object to the use of ratepayers money to fund this meeting with associated gift fee instead of using already paid for and free council buildings. This is completely out of step with any cost saving initiatives.

I have been watching council meetings online and I'm dismayed at the new Mayors bullying manner while chairing meetings, I'm surprised other councilors can sit there and be spoken to like children, they appear to be too scared to speak up. This is not a healthy culture and I hope this can be addressed.

Thanks.

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/211>

1/2

5/5/26, 7:57 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/211>

2/2

5/5/26, 8:00 AM


Wufoo · Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27


COMPLETE

#212

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 5th 2026, 7:46:21 am

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Paul O

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

0277039393

#### \* Email

[Palaaq@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Palaaq@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:

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?

(No response)

#### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

#### Attach a File

#### Attach a File



5/5/26, 8:01 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#213

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 5th 2026, 7:48:05 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Harris Dowson

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

02102637292

**\* Email**[Harris.Dowson@gmail.com](mailto:Harris.Dowson@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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/213>

1/1



5/6/26, 3:11 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#214

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 5th 2026, 9:55:56 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Richard Hibbert

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

02040844762

**\* Email**[hibbert.family@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:hibbert.family@slingshot.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?**

Council staff and elected officials continue to ignore the rate payers and spend money on projects that are not necessarily needed. Their needs to be more accountability.

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File****Attach a File**



5/6/26, 3:26 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#216

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 5th 2026, 10:06:54 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Susan Palmer

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0210514660

**\* Email**[susan@5162.co.nz](mailto:susan@5162.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?**

Single home owners on fixed incomes are already struggling to pay the current HDC Rates as well as the District Council Rates even with the full rebate . It is totally non sustainable for one income owners to carry on even owning a property. I will end up having to sell my home and rent at the way things are going.

**Please tell us your views below**

A small group of the population are penalised in every direction...you build or buy in a non flood zone area and you haven't been affected by Cyclone Gabrielle to prove it , and you have scrimped and saved all your working life and you are single ...yet ...you get discriminated against ....slammed for higher insurance costs , soaring rates , Cyclone subsidy added on. There is actually no incentive to live in Hawkes Bay with the outrageous Rates increases to subsidise people who still live it up, have spent to the max all their life and plead poverty...and contribute absolutely nothing.  
Single , fixed income owners cannot cope with these outrageous and unfair increases!

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/216>

1/1




5/6/26, 3:28 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #217

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 5th 2026, 12:30:04 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

RODGER PILBROW

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0272483165

**\* Email**

[rodger.pilbrow@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rodger.pilbrow@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:**

Option 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

Rate increase

**Please tell us your views below**

I believe we all must pay our bills and not leave outstanding debt

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**




5/6/26, 3:30 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #218

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 5th 2026, 1:58:05 pm

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Frederickk Pulford

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

068768290

#### \* Email

[ross.pulford@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ross.pulford@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:

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?

(No response)

#### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

#### Attach a File

#### Attach a File



5/6/26, 3:32 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#219

CREATED



PUBLIC

May 5th 2026, 2:09:16 pm

IP ADDRESS



\* Name

Frederick Pulford

Address

New Zealand

\* Contact phone number

8768290

\* Email

[ross.pulford@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ross.pulford@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:

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?

(No response)

Please tell us your views below

(No response)

Attach a File

Attach a File



5/6/26, 3:35 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#221

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 5th 2026, 4:03:05 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Roger Fannin

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0274468625

**\* Email**[roger.jane@hotmail.com](mailto:roger.jane@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?**

Neither option is acceptable to me until the Council targets first and foremost the most basic and essential services such as water, sewerage and storm water. These are the most basic and urgent services requiring remedial action in Hastings. No more money is to be budgeted for "nice to have" projects such as the remodelling of the fountains near the railway, the renovating of the Library, the building of a Museum in Queen street East, etc etc etc.

**Please tell us your views below**

I have little faith in the Council's (i.e.the Mayor, CEO, and Councillors) ability to reign in the expenditure that has been levelled upon the Ratepayers of Hastings. Successive councils are responsible for the massive increase in this expenditure and it is incumbent on this council to put a stop to it.

Clearly this new Council appears not to be sufficiently qualified to stop this increase given a projected 5.9% to 9.1% increase to rates is in the offing.

I for one am against any increase in the rates demand for 2027/28 and strongly urge the Mayor, CEO and Councillors to revisit their analysis. Review each Council department's expenses line by line and do not stop until a nil rates increase is achieved. Place a ceiling on any further staffing increases and forget about any further "nice to haves" (of which there are many over recent years), then report back to Ratepayers with an entirely new projection.

These projections should also take account of the impact that the closure of McKains and downsizing of Watties will have on the Hastings economy, as it is clearly apparent that no account has been taken of it to date.

Goodness knows how low income families are expected to cope with a further increase in rates, particularly given Hastings record highs of recent years. I fear for my own young family members who will struggle to cope with another increase cost to their already stretched budgets.

Councillors must take note of any pledges they gave during the election process, and have the intestinal fortitude to push back against these projected increases.

In addition they (councillors) should reach out to suitably qualified people who are more than ready to help (Reference Nick Stewart's article "A canny view" dated 24 April)

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/221>

1/2

5/6/26, 3:35 PM

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/221>

2/2

5/6/26, 3:36 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#222

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 5th 2026, 4:25:02 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Margaret McLeay

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0276359943

**\* Email**[avos4me@gmail.com](mailto:avos4me@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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/222>

1/1




5/6/26, 3:38 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #223

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 5th 2026, 4:41:31 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Jeanette Gifkins

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

+64279174631

**\* Email**

[gifkeys1@gmail.com](mailto:gifkeys1@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?**

The exorbitant proposed increase in rates

**Please tell us your views below**

My question is where does the council expect people to get, at the lowest 5.9%, which is 5 times more than the average pay increase. The councilors gave themselves a much heftier pay increase at my expense as a rate payer. You are asking people on already stretched to the limit budgets to did for more money that they haven't got, no thought given as to where is going to come from, most likely the food budget. Our elderly are already going without proper heating, and proper food and you're asking them to dig deeper and find more money on their meager fixed income. Families ate also asked to dig for more. What you are asking for is simply mean and greedy. Sharpen your pencils more and come back with something better.

Jeanette Gifkins

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**




5/6/26, 3:39 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


# HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #224

## CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 5th 2026, 5:17:56 pm

## IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Paul Rogers

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0274342330

### \* Email

[pwrogers3@gmail.com](mailto:pwrogers3@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 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

Rates Increase - Whilst I would be pleased to have a lower Rate increase it makes sense to for the higher provide there is no further borrowing and rates are guaranteed to be held below the 5% in future.

### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

### Attach a File

### Attach a File



5/6/26, 3:40 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#225

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 5th 2026, 9:42:09 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Andy Vautier

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0274579777

**\* Email**[andy0336@gmail.com](mailto:andy0336@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 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File****Attach a File**



5/6/26, 3:41 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#226

### CREATED



PUBLIC

May 6th 2026, 8:10:08 am

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Alison Mackenzie

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

02102586068

### \* Email

[alisonwonderlandnz@gmail.com](mailto:alisonwonderlandnz@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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**




5/6/26, 3:42 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #227

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 6th 2026, 2:58:37 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Noeline Black

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0210303957

**\* Email**

[tainuiblacks@xtra.co.nz](mailto:tainuiblacks@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:**

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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**



5/7/26, 12:15 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#232

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 6th 2026, 9:32:25 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Cynthia Anderson Anderson

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

027 200 9766

**\* Email**[cynbill2@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cynbill2@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:**

Option 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

I realise it will be hard this year but we have to trust the Council that this is the better move as it will save costs in the long run we are told

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/232>

1/1



5/7/26, 12:18 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#233

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 6th 2026, 10:24:07 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Steve Field

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0272766795

**\* Email**[fieldboysfamily@gmail.com](mailto:fieldboysfamily@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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

I think that there are more areas the Council can cut back on, to reduce spending. That should be the first step to controlling rates rises. Why do we need to have flowers and plants in round-a-bouts and in the concrete islands around the city. The constant gardening, planting and re-planting is unnecessary.

There must also be rationalisation that can be made in the number of council staff roles.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/233>

1/1




5/7/26, 12:20 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #234

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 7th 2026, 9:10:38 am

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Viv Foster

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0274712375

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[viv.foster123@gmail.com](mailto:viv.foster123@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 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**




5/7/26, 12:22 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #235

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 7th 2026, 10:23:53 am

**IP ADDRESS**



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021998499

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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 current rates in our region.

**Please tell us your views below**

With the cost of living so high and all the challenges we're dealing with in our community, many of us struggle to put food on the table, the last thing we need is another rates increase.

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**



5/7/26, 12:24 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#236

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 7th 2026, 11:31:10 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

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**\* Contact phone number**

0273377527

**\* Email**[taryn.pell@gmail.com](mailto:taryn.pell@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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

5.9% is already going to be a struggle enough, we don't need it any higher

**Attach a File****Attach a File**



5/7/26, 12:29 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#237

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 7th 2026, 11:55:41 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?**

Proposed rates increase options

**Please tell us your views below**

In the current financial situation ratepayers are experiencing, there is only one sensible option and that is Option 1. Ratepayers have experienced significant rate increases over recent years and even an increase of 5.9% will cause hardship for many. Better to defer a higher increase at this time and borrow the \$4.8M for the sake of achieving a balanced budget in the 2027/28 financial year.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/237>

1/1



5/7/26, 4:13 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#238

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 7th 2026, 1:06:19 pm

## IP ADDRESS

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0266000888

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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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File****Attach a File**




5/8/26, 1:09 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #240

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 7th 2026, 5:41:39 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Jack Mains

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**\* Contact phone number**

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**\* Email**

[jack@mainmech.co.nz](mailto:jack@mainmech.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 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

Rates increase

**Please tell us your views below**

Better to hit this sooner rather than later and reduce borrowing.

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**




5/8/26, 1:12 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

# HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #241

## CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 7th 2026, 10:17:43 pm

## IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Ray Barber

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

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### \* Email

[raykiwibarber@gmail.com](mailto:raykiwibarber@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 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

My thoughts are in the attached document.

### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

### Attach a File

annual\_plan\_response\_ray\_barber.pdf

### Attach a File

**HERETAUNGA  
HASTINGS** DISTRICT COUNCIL

# MAHERE Ā-TAU HUKIHUKI DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN

Consultation document



As a result of all of the savings, the original forecast of a 10 per cent rates increase and an \$8.4 million shortfall has been reduced. Council is now consulting on two options:

**A 5.9 per cent rates increase**, which would involve borrowing the remaining \$4.8 million shortfall this year and returning to a balanced budget in 2027/28.

**A 9.1 per cent rates increase**, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

## FROM THE MAYOR

**Rates are not just numbers on a page. They sit alongside groceries, power bills and insurance payments in the weekly household budget. For many households and businesses, that balance is tight. That pressure sits at the centre of every decision we make. It is also why we have worked to reduce what was originally forecast.**

When the community was consulted through the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan, this year was forecast to include a 10 per cent rates increase and an \$8.4 million shortfall. That reflected the ongoing cost of rebuilding essential infrastructure across our district following Cyclone Gabrielle. Following last year's election, the new Council focused first on reducing internal costs. We limited reliance on consultants, did not replace some roles, tightened purchasing practices and brought forward major cyclone recovery projects to secure enhanced Government subsidies.

That has reduced the amount needing to be funded locally by approximately \$48 million over time. That has had a direct impact on the cyclone recovery rate; reducing it by 2.1 per cent, and on the wider general rates.

Neither option involves major changes to day-to-day services and facilities. The difference is about timing; how much pressure is felt this year and how quickly borrowing is reduced.

For both options, investment in infrastructure remains the priority. Our roads, bridges, water networks and community facilities are fundamental to safety, resilience and economic activity. We are also strengthening Civil Defence capability in response to clearer national expectations and the lessons learned from recent events.

This is the first stage of restoring long-term financial stability. Broader decisions about service levels, smarter ways of delivering services and regional collaboration will be considered next year through the 2027-2037 Long Term Plan. Those conversations affect the shape of the services and facilities people rely on and must give our community the opportunity to make their views heard.

There are no simple choices in the current environment, but there is a clear path forward. This consultation sets out the trade-offs for the year ahead transparently. I encourage you to take part and help shape the final decision.

**Submissions close 15 May, 2026**

# Ō KŌWHIRINGA YOUR CHOICE

Council has heard the voice of residents during the election process, especially concerns around rates affordability.

Council is proposing two options for residents to choose from.

The first is an average rate increase of 5.9 per cent, down from the forecast 10 per cent in this year of the Long Term Plan. This option balances rates affordability with the significant ongoing funding challenges ahead. However, it requires borrowing for operational costs in the 2026/27 financial year, before returning to a balanced budget the following year.

The second option is an average increase of 9.1 per cent. It means Council could pay back debt quicker and balance its budget in the 2026/27 year, rather than the 2027/28 year, as set out in the Long Term Plan.

Both these options are below the 10 per cent forecast for this year (Year 3) in the Long Term Plan. The reduction is possible because of operational savings and the bringing forward of major cyclone recovery projects to attract the highest possible Government funding support, the latter trimming 2.1 per cent off the cyclone recovery rate.

### What setting a rates increase of 5.9% would mean:

- a balance between community affordability and financial prudence
- borrowing \$4.8M for operations in 26/27 (with a balanced budget in 27/28)
- adhering to key financial strategy metrics in the Long Term Plan
- allowing sufficient headroom to borrow for unforeseen circumstances in 2026/27
- a continued focus on expenditure cuts in anticipation of rates capping legislation in future years.

### What setting a rates increase of 9.1% would mean:

- no additional borrowing for operational expenditure in 2026/27
- improvements in Council's balance sheet, liquidity and net debt to revenue ratios
- improvement in Council resilience and ability to debt fund unexpected costs
- debt is at lower levels.

**Have your say at [myvoicemychoice.co.nz](http://myvoicemychoice.co.nz) or by free-posting the tear-off slip on this summary, by 15 May 2026.**

# NGĀ PĀPATANGA NUI, NGĀ TĀRA NUI BIG IMPACTS, BIG DOLLARS

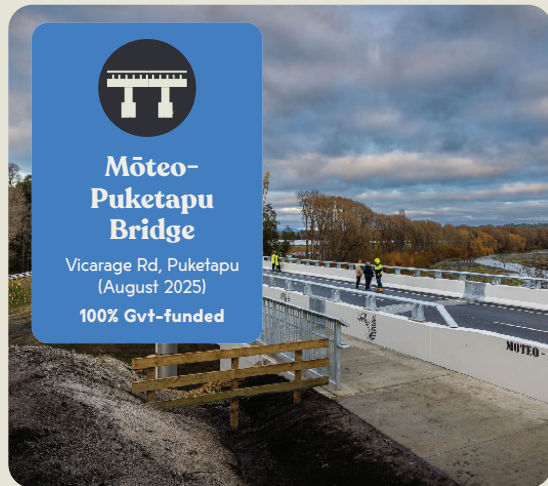
## Programme and funding changes impacting 2026/27 financial year

A major contributor to the proposed lower rates figures is Council's ability to commit to completing major cyclone-damaged bridge and culvert rebuilds within the next three years. That move secures enhanced Government funding for most of those rebuilds, reducing the average cyclone recovery rate by 2.1 per cent.

The overall programme will be advanced by about two years to secure the additional funding.

Outlined below are some of the key project completions along with key works for the coming financial year.

### Key project completions:





**Kererū Gorge Culvert**  
 Kererū Rd, Kererū  
 (April 2025)  
**100% Gvt-funded**

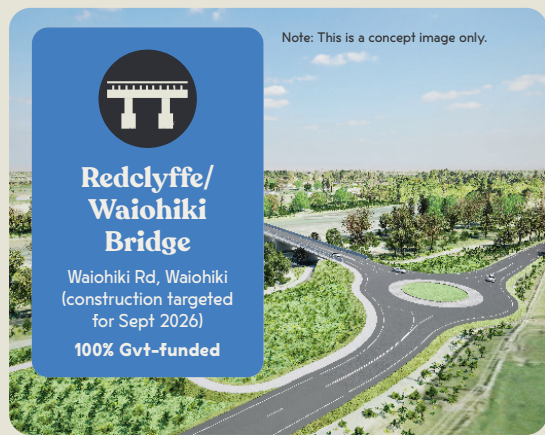
**Other key bridges and culverts completed:**

- **McVicars Culvert and spillway**  
 McVicar Rd, Te Haroto (January 2026)  
**100% Gvt-funded**
- **Patoka Culvert (formerly Hendleys)**  
 Hendley Rd, Patoka (August 2025)  
**83% Gvt-funded**
- **Kaiwaka No.2 Culvert**  
 McIntyres Rd, Kaiwaka (August 2025)  
**83% Gvt-funded**
- **Chrystal Culvert**  
 Matahorua Rd, Tūtira (July 2024)  
**100% Gvt-funded**

**Key projects in construction or design:**



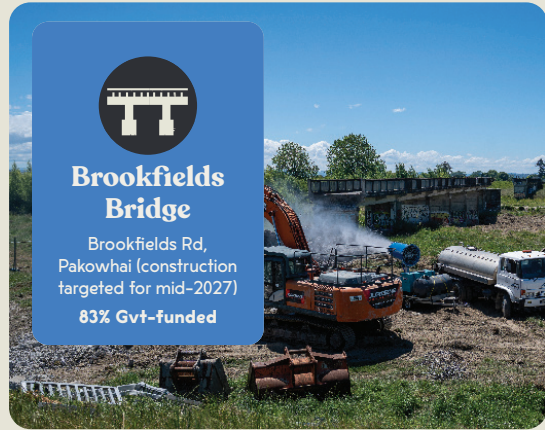
**Rissington Bridge**  
 Puketitiri Rd, Rissington  
 (completion expected Sept 2026)  
**100% Gvt-funded**



**Redclyffe/Waiohiki Bridge**  
 Waiohiki Rd, Waiohiki  
 (construction targeted for Sept 2026)  
**100% Gvt-funded**



**Dartmoor Bridge**  
 Dartmoor Rd, Dartmoor  
 (completion expected Feb 2027)  
**100% Gvt-funded**



**Brookfields Bridge**  
 Brookfields Rd, Pakowhai  
 (construction targeted for mid-2027)  
**83% Gvt-funded**

**Other key bridges and culverts in construction or design:**

- **Arapawanui Bridge**  
 Aropaonui Rd, Tangoio  
 (construction to begin late 2026)  
**100% Gvt-funded**
- **Whanawhana Bridge**  
 Whanawhana Rd, Whanawhana  
 (construction targeted for late 2026)  
**100% Gvt-funded**
- **Kahika No.1 Culvert**  
 Kahika Rd, Pūtōrino  
 (completion expected early 2026)  
**100% Gvt-funded**
- **Willowford Culvert**  
 Taihape Rd, Waiwhare  
 (completion expected April 2026)  
**100% Gvt-funded**

# RĒTI WHĀITI HOU NEW TARGETED RATES

## Civil Defence/Emergency Management targeted rate

A new rate would position us to respond to future climatic events and be more resilient to shocks and hazards. A new targeted rate of \$60 is proposed to be ringfenced and used for this purpose, levied to all properties in the district. The funds would be allocated as follows:

ACTIVITY	DELIVERABLES	FY 26/27 FUNDING
<b>Community Resilience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set of further emergency hubs</li> <li>• Annual hub checks</li> <li>• Management of and supplies for existing community hub</li> <li>• Management and review of existing resilience plans</li> <li>• Set of further resilience plans</li> </ul>	<b>\$400,000</b>
<b>Iwi Māori Engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enabling marae emergency hub readiness</li> <li>• Annual marae hub checks and supply of hub kits</li> <li>• Iwi Māori relationship management and ongoing support</li> </ul>	
<b>Response Framework</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Configure two emergency operations centres</li> <li>• Embedding IT operating systems</li> </ul>	<b>\$370,000</b>
<b>Welfare Support</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteer manager</li> <li>• Maintaining welfare plans and support networks</li> <li>• Maintaining evacuation centres</li> <li>• Training existing staff/volunteers for welfare roles</li> </ul>	
<b>Emergency Management Workforce</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training existing staff/volunteers for emergency management roles</li> <li>• Emergency exercises</li> </ul>	<b>\$585,000</b>
<b>Hazard Planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing new emergency response and hazard plans</li> <li>• Maintaining and updating business continuity plans</li> <li>• Public education campaign</li> </ul>	<b>\$250,000</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,605,000</b>



### Whakatū West stormwater

Properties located within the Whakatū West Industrial area are being separately consulted on a proposed stormwater solution for the area. This would consist of a new pipe, pump station and detention area.

Affected properties are being communicated with directly regarding the detail and implications of the proposal.



### Waipātiki wastewater treatment

Properties connected to the wastewater system in Waipātiki are being separately consulted on a proposed upgrade to the community wastewater treatment system.

Affected properties are being communicated with directly regarding the detail and implications of the proposal.

For any further details about these two targeted rates, email Steve Cave, Three Waters Manager: [stevec@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:stevec@hdc.govt.nz) and have your say at [myvoicemychoice.co.nz](http://myvoicemychoice.co.nz).

# PĀNGA O TE AROMĀTAI HOU O NGĀ WHARE Ā-ROHE IMPACT OF DISTRICT PROPERTY REVALUATION

Rating valuations are fit-for-purpose valuations carried out on all properties in New Zealand once every three years to help Councils allocate rates. The three-yearly revaluation is a legal requirement.

This year's property valuations will include the impact of cyclone damage on affected properties.

Hastings property owners can expect to receive their new valuations from 29 April, with these new values being used to allocate rates over the next three years.

## Property revaluations

Three-yearly property revaluations can change the share of rates you pay, however Council does not collect more rates overall from the revaluation. It's not something Council can control, and revaluations do tend to even out over time.

The proposed rate increase is always an average, and there will be differing impacts for property owners depending on the valuation of their property, both up and down.

## View your rates online

The proposed rates for your property for the 2026/27 year, based on your new valuation, are expected to be available to view from 1 May on Council's website [hastingsdc.govt.nz/my-property](http://hastingsdc.govt.nz/my-property)

For further information, you can contact the rates team on (06) 871 5000 or email [rates@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:rates@hdc.govt.nz)

See all the Annual Plan info and make a formal submission at [myvoicemychoice.co.nz](http://myvoicemychoice.co.nz)



CUT HERE



## Have your say

Once you've read through this document, let us know what you think of the plan. You can have your say online at [www.myvoicemychoice.co.nz](http://www.myvoicemychoice.co.nz) or by free-posting the feedback form below.

To read the full Draft Annual Plan (and supporting Long Term Plan 2024-2034), visit [myvoicemychoice.nz](http://myvoicemychoice.nz) or you will find printed copies at the Hastings District Council Service Centre, Lyndon Road East or your local library. To have a copy posted to you, phone (06) 871 5000.

Tick the box below to indicate your preference.



**Option 1:**  
**Set a rates increase of 5.9%,**

which would involve borrowing \$4.8M this year and returning to balanced budget in 2027/28.



**Option 2:**  
**Set a rates increase of 9.1%,**

which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

## Share your thoughts ....

My preference is certainly for paying off the debt earlier for those that can afford to help us do so. More than happy to pay my share. I do not think government organisations should lean heavily on debt. Having public organisations using private money whereby they gain income from interest that is then being paid by all of us just doesn't make sense to me, we should avoid it. When exceptional costs such as the cyclone appear i expect central government to step in and help support local/regional councils, either through interest free loans or from funds for this purpose, if they exist.

## Formal submissions

This form provides informal feedback that will be developed into themes for councillors to consider. To make a formal submission (with the option of speaking to your submission) see: [myvoicemychoice.co.nz](http://myvoicemychoice.co.nz)

# HE KŌRERO ĀPITI MORE INFORMATION



## Tourism funding

Last year, the Hastings, Napier, and Central Hawke’s Bay councils made a short-term decision to provide limited funding to Hawke’s Bay Tourism, following the Hawke’s Bay Regional Council’s decision to no longer fund it.

Since that time the councils have considered the future of Hawke’s Bay Tourism Limited (HBT) which has been responsible for marketing the region. This is destination marketing, encouraging people to visit the region; not advertising specific private attractions or businesses.

Whilst Hastings District Council sees value in the ongoing operation of Hawke’s Bay Tourism, the funding model is not sustainable if left for Hastings alone. This budget retains Hastings’ funding share, with options for the use of that funding refined in the coming months, depending on the decisions made by the councils.

## Havelock North dams and streams

Building on work already undertaken through the Havelock North Streams Catchment Management Plan (CMP), further capital works are scheduled in response to lessons from Cyclone Gabrielle, updated technical assessments, and evolving regulatory requirements.

The Havelock North catchment is protected by five flood detention dams and an interconnected stream and pipe network. Post-cyclone assessments identified dam safety regulatory requirements, increased flood and erosion risks, ageing and undersized stormwater pipes, and ecological degradation and stream instability.

To progress priority works, \$5M is allocated in 2026/27 (up from \$1.5M), including for dam upgrades to meet regulatory standards, targeted stream corridor work in high-risk locations, stormwater pipe upgrades, and detailed investigations, design and consenting.

These projects will reduce flood risk and protect homes and infrastructure.

From 1 July 2027, responsibility for ongoing water infrastructure investment is expected to transfer to the new water services entity. This funding addresses priority risks now while informing future planning and investment.

CUT HERE

**Your  
Feedback  
Form**



TAPE CLOSED HERE

**Submissions to the draft Annual Plan close on 15 May 2026.**

**Make your submission by:**

- Visiting [myvoicemychoice.co.nz](http://myvoicemychoice.co.nz)
- Returning this reply-paid feedback form

Hearings are scheduled to commence on 10 June 2026.

FOLD HERE



Hastings District Council  
ReplyPaid Authority 226

Hastings District Council  
Private Bag 9002  
Hastings 4156

# HAUMĪTANGA ANGA MATUA

## SIGNIFICANT INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

### Three waters and housing

Housing development across Hastings, Flaxmere and Havelock North remains strong. Council’s role is to put the essential infrastructure in place – roads, drinking water, wastewater and stormwater – so new neighbourhoods can grow safely and sustainably.

Infrastructure already built is supporting hundreds of new homes under construction, including affordable, rental and market housing. Te Pā Harakeke, Council’s 39-unit elder housing development, is due for completion in June.

In Havelock North, roading safety improvements and extensions to drinking and wastewater services are continuing off Middle Road to support new housing. Upgrades to the drinking water trunk main along Ōmāhu Rd and a new wastewater pipeline along SH2 from Flaxmere to Waipatu will strengthen supply to current homes plus enable growth.



### Landfill

Stage 1 of the Ōmarunui Landfill expansion is now complete. The previous filling area is expected to reach capacity next year. The new stage provides around 30 years of additional capacity at current fill rates. Council continues to promote waste reduction programmes, mainly funded from the Government’s waste levy, to reduce the amount going to landfill and extend its lifespan.

### Road safety

While most major road projects are related to cyclone recovery, the maintenance and projects on the existing network continue. In January, work began on a new roundabout at the intersection of Te Mata/Te Mata Mangateretere roads; one of the district’s highest-risk intersections. The project includes a new roundabout, full road reconstruction, heavy-vehicle design improvements, drainage upgrades, and relocation of power and telecommunications services. It is expected to be completed in May 2026.

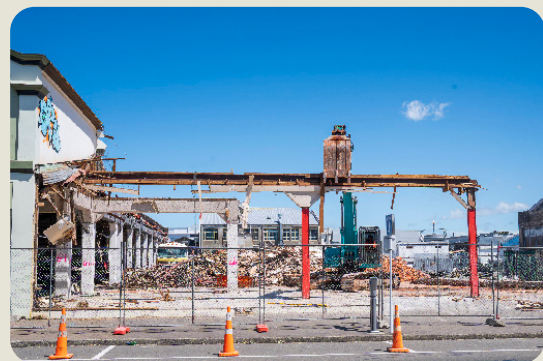
### Central city

Construction began in February on the rail safety and city centre project in Hastings city. KiwiRail required the rail line through the city centre to be fenced after it had identified it as the highest-risk pedestrian crossing on its national network. Fencing is now being installed, at KiwiRail’s cost, to improve safety.

At the same time, Council is replacing the water feature which is at its end of life and had developed unmanageable leak issues, and improving accessibility and upgrading the paving and landscaping. Doing this work at the same time as the KiwiRail project removes cost duplications that would occur if done separately.



Demolition of the former Farmers’ Co-operative building at 206 Queen Street West began in January. The site is being redeveloped by local developer Mike Walker. Plans include commercial space, heritage features and inner-city housing. Council will develop a public green space in the first phase of the project.



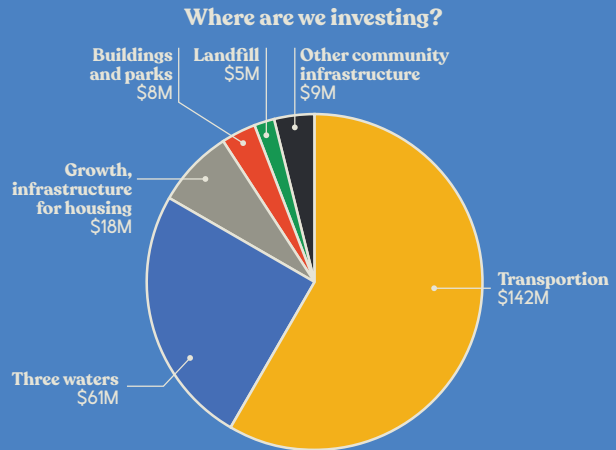
These projects support Council’s long-term goal of creating a more vibrant city centre where people live, work, visit and connect.

# TE TAU KEI MUA I TE AROARO THE YEAR AHEAD

## Where are we investing?

Year three of the Long Term Plan (which this Annual Plan is based on) is heavily focused on critical infrastructure, including the ongoing repair of our roads and bridges post-Cyclone Gabrielle – in total a \$243M capital investment package.

The capital projects are developed to meet the needs of residents, with a particular focus in the Long Term Plan on our rural community, where using the cyclone-damaged transport network remains challenging.

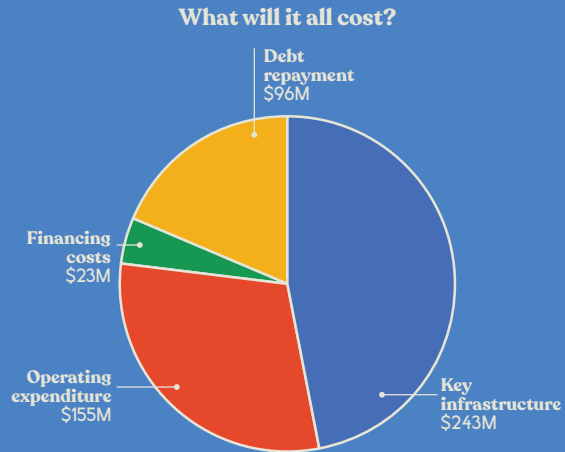


## Delivering services to the community

As well as upgrading and maintaining our assets (capital expenditure) a significant proportion of the annual budget is spent on delivering a wide range of services (operating expenditure).

These range from regulatory activities required by Government Acts, (governing land use and building standards, public safety monitoring and enforcement of noise, food and dogs) and collecting rubbish and recycling, to keeping public toilets clean, and the day-to-day maintenance of our roads and three waters infrastructure.

Included in this is the management of community facilities, including parks and reserves, libraries, pools, community centres, and arts and events venues.

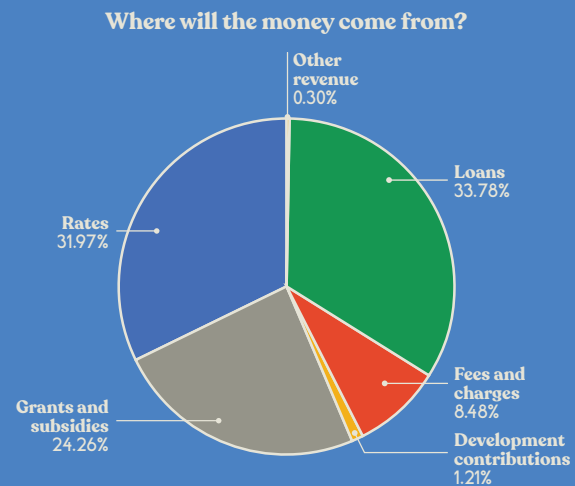


## What will it all cost?

The estimated cost for the 2026/27 financial year of looking after our infrastructure, upgrading community assets, building new ones and providing a broad range of services is \$517M.

## Where will the money come from?

The income from rates is not enough to cover the costs of all of Council's work. Council uses loans to fund capital projects (including cyclone recovery) and our strategy is to maximise funding from other sources, such as Government, wherever possible. An example is the cyclone recovery, which has an estimated full cost of \$863M, with Council funding \$182M of that, and Government supplying the balance.



These graphs are based on the 5.9% increase option.




5/8/26, 1:25 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


# HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #242

## CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 8th 2026, 7:03:31 am

## IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Benjamin Orcheski

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

021317403

### \* Email

[bbo5@cornell.edu](mailto:bbo5@cornell.edu)

**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 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

(No response)

### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

### Attach a File

### Attach a File



5/8/26, 1:28 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#243

### CREATED



PUBLIC

May 8th 2026, 7:30:51 am

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Dharini Marinkovich

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0278027608

### \* Email

[dharini.marinkovich@gmail.com](mailto:dharini.marinkovich@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 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**




5/8/26, 1:30 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


# HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #244

## CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 8th 2026, 7:42:52 am

## IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Isaac Smith

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0221061239

### \* Email

[isaac.smith@gsilimited.com](mailto:isaac.smith@gsilimited.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 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

(No response)

### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

### Attach a File

### Attach a File




5/8/26, 1:33 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #245

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 8th 2026, 12:22:23 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Lucy Fergus

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0277056915

**\* Email**

[ljrfergus@gmail.com](mailto:ljrfergus@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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**




5/8/26, 1:35 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


# HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #246

## CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 8th 2026, 1:04:47 pm

## IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Nicole Shotter

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0278462340

### \* Email

[chrisnicole88@gmail.com](mailto:chrisnicole88@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.**

### 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?

Ridiculous rate increases

### Please tell us your views below

A 9.6% increase is really hard to swallow when wage growth in NZ is sitting around 2.4%. That's rates going up four times faster than most people's pay. What makes this harder is that the council is already carrying significant debt, and now we're facing the loss of major employers like McCain and reduced operations at Wattie's. As those businesses go, the commercial rating base shrinks — and that burden falls on residential ratepayers like me. I'd really like to see the council look at reducing spending rather than continuing to pass increasing costs onto homeowners who are already stretched.

### Attach a File

### Attach a File




5/11/26, 8:43 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #247

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 8th 2026, 3:54:46 pm

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Tessa Beaver

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

021914426

#### \* Email

[tessandgav@gmail.com](mailto:tessandgav@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 2: Set a rates increase of 9.1%, which would balance the budget immediately and reduce borrowing sooner.

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

(No response)

#### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

#### Attach a File

#### Attach a File



5/11/26, 8:45 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#248

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 8th 2026, 4:19:57 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Nicholas Bell

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0275184508

**\* Email**[njd.bell@gmail.com](mailto:njd.bell@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?**

Option 1

**Please tell us your views below**

Firstly. If the council forced the roading companies to sharpen their pencil to do it once and right then, the council would save significantly more than 5 million just from that. The amount of time they wast by going slowly and having to redo the same job multiple times racks up their bill to line their already well-off balance sheets.

Secondly. Why is the CEO on \$435,880.00 a year? He is not publicly accountable, so he does not deserve a wage anywhere near that! There are many overpaid staff in the HDC, cut their salaries to a more respectable level and update their employment contracts to prioritise cost effectiveness.

Finally. When the new RMA legislation is passed, I expect the council to fully and immediately adopt it, with no excuses or delay.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/248>

1/1



5/11/26, 8:47 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#249

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 8th 2026, 6:34:06 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Naiane Naik

**Address**

16 Horton Close

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0277810017

**\* Email**[vinai@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:vinai@hotmail.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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/249>

1/1



5/11/26, 8:49 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#250

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 8th 2026, 6:44:09 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Naiane Naik

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0277810017

**\* Email**[vinai@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:vinai@hotmail.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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/250>

1/1




5/11/26, 8:55 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #251

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 8th 2026, 6:45:17 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Naiane Naik

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0277810017

**\* Email**

[vinai@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:vinai@hotmail.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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**




5/11/26, 8:56 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #252

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 8th 2026, 6:46:42 pm

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Naiane Naik

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

0277810017

#### \* Email

[vinai@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:vinai@hotmail.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?

(No response)

#### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

#### Attach a File

#### Attach a File




5/11/26, 8:59 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #253

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 8th 2026, 6:47:33 pm

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Naiane Naik

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

0277810017

#### \* Email

[vinai@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:vinai@hotmail.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?

(No response)

#### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

#### Attach a File

#### Attach a File



5/11/26, 9:01 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#254

### CREATED



PUBLIC

May 8th 2026, 6:48:30 pm

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Naiane Naik

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0277810017

### \* Email

[vinai@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:vinai@hotmail.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?

(No response)

### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

### Attach a File

### Attach a File



5/11/26, 9:03 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#255

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 8th 2026, 7:33:26 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Cassie Kinghorn

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0220972974

**\* Email**[cassie.kinghorn@outlook.co.nz](mailto:cassie.kinghorn@outlook.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?**

The cost of living has increased too much. Rates has already increased to a ridiculous amount over the past 3 years

**Please tell us your views below**

Borrow the money. Stop spending so much. Dont take more than the people can afford

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/255>

1/1




5/11/26, 9:05 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #256

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 8th 2026, 10:36:01 pm

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Chris Lucy

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

0273176258

#### \* Email

[chris\\_lucy@live.com](mailto:chris_lucy@live.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?

Stop wasting money, let's see some cuts!!

#### Please tell us your views below

Over spending!!

#### Attach a File

#### Attach a File



5/11/26, 9:06 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#257

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 9th 2026, 8:11:54 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Ann Elizabeth Bennett Redstone

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0273867907

**\* Email**[agoodin53@gmail.com](mailto:agoodin53@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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

In this current economic environment I think council needs to keep the rates increase as low as possible. Ratepayers who are on a pension are already paying around \$100 a week or 20% of their income on rates.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/257>

1/1



5/11/26, 9:08 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#258

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 9th 2026, 9:13:11 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Joyce Calder

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

022 166 1403

**\* Email**[joycecalder@gmail.com](mailto:joycecalder@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?**

Rates expenses for the average resident are getting close too, beyond there means,  
Collaborate on the best Amalgamation plan with Napier, CHB, HB Regional, Wairoa and Hastings Councils.  
Focus on old and badly neglected infrastructure.  
Assets Maintenance of Council buildings - sale if not required.  
Use Council Buildings for Office space, not leased buildings  
Focus on Council day to day reduction of expenditure - meetings, hospitality, transport, community grants, Arts, Tourism etc.  
Keep streets and City Clean and tidy - looking shabby.

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File****Attach a File**




5/11/26, 9:10 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE #259

CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 9th 2026, 10:56:53 am

IP ADDRESS



\* Name

Anita Downey

Address

New Zealand

\* Contact phone number

0274859055

\* Email

[downeyclannz@gmail.com](mailto:downeyclannz@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?

Rates

Please tell us your views below

Valuations have gone down but rates have increased, the general rate has had a substantial increase which is based on the valuation. Why do you keep adding additional charges? Now paying a civil defence levy, wasn't this already included in the general rate? Why are there two Gabrielle rates, how long are we expected to pay this? With more housses being built rates should be coming down.

Attach a File

Attach a File

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/259>

1/1