

Wednesday, 10 June 2026

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

*Kaupapataka*

# Attachments Volume 6

---

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

---

*Te Wā:*  
Time: **9.00am**

---

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

---

**Watch Council meetings  
streamed live on our website  
[www.hastingsdc.govt.nz](http://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz)**

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE
<b>ANNUAL PLAN 2026/27 - CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS</b>		
	Attachment 101: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 260 Keith Newman	7
	Attachment 102: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 261 Bruce Driver	9
	Attachment 103: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 262 Alastair Chalmers	11
	Attachment 104: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 263 Emma Overend	13
	Attachment 105: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 265 Thomas Evers-Swindell	15
	Attachment 106: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 266 Helen Nyberg	17
	Attachment 107: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 268 Robin Piggot	19
	Attachment 108: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 271 Claire O'Connor	21
	Attachment 109: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 272 Iresha Kuruwita	23
	Attachment 110: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 273 Sophia Shanks	25
	Attachment 111: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 274 Di Bagshaw	27
	Attachment 112: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 277 Paul Baker	29
	Attachment 113: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 278 Isobel Coutts Weakley	31
	Attachment 114: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 282 Alison Foy	33
	Attachment 115: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 283 Ken Foy	35
	Attachment 116: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 285 Racheal Daly	37
	Attachment 117: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 286 Mike Weakley	39

Attachment 118: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 289 David Appleton	41
Attachment 119: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 291 Matthew Lloyd	43
Attachment 120: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 292 Tania Linley-Richardson	45
Attachment 121: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 293 Hawke's Bay Regional Sports Park Trust	47
Attachment 122: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 294 Adele Fitzgerald	55
Attachment 123: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 295 Sharon Sutton	57
Attachment 124: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 296 Nadia Hardie	59
Attachment 125: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 298 Vanessa Hart	61
Attachment 126: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 299 Belinda Ransfield	63
Attachment 127: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 300 Lacey Ward	65
Attachment 128: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 304 Gary Cutts Tasman Harvester Contractors	67
Attachment 129: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 305 Tim Healing	69
Attachment 130: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 307 Submission Withdrawn	71
Attachment 131: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 309 Allan Bennett	73
Attachment 132: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 310 Sarah Rodriguez	75
Attachment 133: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 313 Bruce Dockary	77
Attachment 134: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 315 Hayley Malcolm	79
Attachment 135: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 316 John Roil	81
Attachment 136: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 317 Bill Livingston	85

Attachment 137: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 318 Hastings District Landmarks Trust Inc	87
Attachment 138: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 319 Dan Ross	89
Attachment 139: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 320 Jason Gray	91
Attachment 140: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 322 Annabelle McHardy	93
Attachment 141: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 323 Sarah Thame	95
Attachment 142: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 324 Ben Greville	97
Attachment 143: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 325 Rebecca Arnet	99
Attachment 144: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 326 Matthew Arnet	101
Attachment 145: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 327 Kerry Hateley-Fletcher	103
Attachment 146: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 331 Barbara Lucas	105
Attachment 147: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 332 Richard Lindsay	107
Attachment 148: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 333 Barbara Lucas	109
Attachment 149: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 335 Moira Lindsay	111
Attachment 150: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 336 Chris Skerman	113
Attachment 151: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 337 Brett Holleron	115
Attachment 152: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 338 John Harding	117
Attachment 153: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 339 Wayne Wright	119
Attachment 154: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 341 Ann Hall	121
Attachment 155: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 342 Rayne Ellington Lawrence	123

Attachment 156: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 343 Marcus Klinge (Tumu Property)	125
Attachment 157: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 344 Jackson Hawea	131
Attachment 158: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 345 Lynette Pohio	133
Attachment 159: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 346 Leeann Pike	135
Attachment 160: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 347 Ross Derbidge	137
Attachment 161: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 348 - Withdrawn	139
Attachment 162: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 349 Elizabeth McKerras	141
Attachment 163: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 350 Ross McKerras	143
Attachment 164: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 352 David Bird	145
Attachment 165: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 356 Graham Shuker	147
Attachment 166: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 361 Russell Thorogood	149
Attachment 167: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 362 Simon Mitchell	153
Attachment 168: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 365 Jim Stewart	155
Attachment 169: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 366 James Kerr	159
Attachment 170: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 367 John Berry	161
Attachment 171: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 368 Megan Jayne Linnell	163
Attachment 172: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 369 Gareth Ellis	165
Attachment 173: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 371 Brendon Bourke (Hawkes Bay Community Fitness Centre Trust)	167
Attachment 174: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 373 Angela McFlynn	193

Attachment 175: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 374 Rhea Dasent (Federated Farmers)	197
Attachment 176: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 377 Ryan Hambleton (Sport Hawkes Bay)	205
Attachment 177: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 378 Jim Marshall	209
Attachment 178: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 379 Ben Hutton (Hawkes Bay Airport)	211
Attachment 179: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 380 Barbara Ryan	215
Attachment 180: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 382 Aleesha Giles	217
Attachment 181: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 383 Irina Konig	219
Attachment 182: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 384 Mark Cleary	221
Attachment 183: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 386 Lucinda Perry (Hastings Business Association)	223
Attachment 184: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 389 Jared Gardner (Te Aroha Hira Tapui Limited)	225
Attachment 185: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 390 Utam Floray	235
Attachment 186: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 391 Ron Wilkins (Grey Power)	243
Attachment 187: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 392 Jacqui Hartley Smith	255
Attachment 188: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 393 Creative NZ	257
Attachment 189: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 394 Trent Mabbett	263
Attachment 190: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 430 Nigel Bickle (Hastings District Council)	265
Attachment 191: Annual plan - Submissions 2026/27 - Submissions - 431 Pettigrew Green Arena	267



5/11/26, 9:13 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#260

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 9th 2026, 11:53:50 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Keith Newman

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

068750116

**\* Email**[wordman@wordworx.co.nz](mailto:wordman@wordworx.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?**

Coastal protection.

5/11/26, 9:13 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

---

**Please tell us your views below**

Hastings District council has so far been positively proactive in supporting and maintaining the rock revetment walls at Clifton and Cape View corner and the Ecoreef at Te Awanga. These were encouraging and supportive actions that have contributed to the confidence of locals that council has a long-term interest of our communities in mind.

Considering that the Clifton to Tangoio Coastal Hazards Strategy being considered by HBRC for its 2027 long-term plan is a big picture framework for coastal protection and unlikely to be resolved or acted on for another year or two after than, this leaves an interim period where Hastings can continue acting to take responsibility for the fragile Cape Coast area.

Viewing coastal protection for our area as intersecting with flood protection measures, particularly in lower Haumoana where the pump station is, and maintaining the crest at an agreed level as a buffer to the lagoons and wetlands would be valuable on going work. We are grateful to have advocates within both councils who see how important this is including having the ability to pull up gravel (only when there is plenty available on the foreshore) to create a height and width within an agreed level of service. This has worked well ahead of expected recent flooding-overtopped events and would be a major step forward to continue this work further south.

If that level of maintenance is achieved and we continue to consider protection adjacent to the Ecoreef at Te Awanga then we will be much better position to consider the proposed groynefield from the Tukituki River mouth (3 groynes) south and how the cost of that might be shared between public good and targetted rate with local residents. These conversations will eventually become part of the big picture but if Hastings is already ahead of the game, as it currently is, then there will be less likelihood of locals being concerned for protection of this area which is an important recreational and regional asset, particularly as this is such a picturesque place for cyclists, walkers, picnickers, fishing all with a clear view of Te Kauwae-a-Maui (Cape Kidnappers) the iconic land feature celebrated on Heretaunga District Council promotional material.

---

**Attach a File**

---

**Attach a File**

---

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/260>

2/2

5/11/26, 9:15 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#261

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 9th 2026, 2:57:38 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Bruce Driver

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0272895837

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

Reducing the borrowing

**Please tell us your views below**

By reducing the borrowing sooner will reduce the interest payment needed to service the borrowing, so allowing more money available in the future for the community

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



5/11/26, 9:16 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#262

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 9th 2026, 5:44:28 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Alastair Chalmers

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

02040884523

**\* Email**[alastairchalmers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alastairchalmers@hotmail.co.uk)

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

No

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

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

Neither of these options is acceptable, councillors were elected on promises of below 5% rate increases and no more borrowing, yet again vanity projects and excuses is all we get. Do not spend what is not available and increases of 9.1% are not available to ordinary people so why does the council think that it can impose this level of increases in the rates. A perfectly valid budget was proposed by Steve Gibson of 5% with no borrowing and savings of \$17million which would also reduce overall council debt. Why was this not accepted??

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/262>

1/1



5/11/26, 9:18 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#263

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 9th 2026, 7:40:43 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Emma Overend

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0275551501

**\* Email**[emmasingle@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:emmasingle@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 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 would like to hear more about the balance of the budget for 27/28 and whether we will then start to see a reduction in rates or at least no further increases. The larger compounding increases is the issue and there needs to be a direction to reduce the burden on rates payers and source revenue elsewhere

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/263>

1/1



5/11/26, 9:21 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#265

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 10th 2026, 3:46:21 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Thomas Evers-Swindell

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

02102462982

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

Successive councils have hit ratepayers hard in past 3 years with double digit rate increases far in excess of inflation. Added have been additional charges for all ratepayers to help cover costs of the 2023 cyclone and flood damage. There is a limit to this rate burden, especially for those on fixed incomes.

The Government's request to amalgamate the Hawkes Bay Councils is a huge step in the right direction of reducing, staffing and bloated Council payroll costs and allowing rates to actually go back into the community for vital infrastructure upgrades.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/265>

1/1




5/11/26, 9:23 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail


## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #266

### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 10th 2026, 4:13:20 pm

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Helen Nyberg

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0212430034

### \* Email

[helendnyberg@gmail.com](mailto:helendnyberg@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



5/11/26, 9:30 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#268

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 10th 2026, 8:37:03 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

robin piggot

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0221407721

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

I think we should pay the 9.1% increase so we don't leave more debts for our tamariki and mokopuna to have to pay.

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



5/11/26, 9:36 AM


Wufoo - Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27


COMPLETE

#271

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 11th 2026, 9:31:42 am

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Claire O'Connor

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

0276895652

#### \* Email

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




5/11/26, 3:43 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #272

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 11th 2026, 10:48:39 am

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Iresha Kuruwita

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

02108742754

#### \* Email

[cacharadon@gmail.com](mailto:cacharadon@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 are increasing massively for residential properties. But residential property valuations are also decreasing like never before in history. Inflation is increasing too. What do people get in return for all of these things? Not many improvements or benefits for the community. They are losing facilities and other benefits in return. Ex:Frimley pool, fees increasing for facilities

#### Please tell us your views below

Rates should increase on commercial properties, or on homes being used for speculative investment. Businesses should be paying more to support the communities they operate in. Larger businesses cannot easily shutter their operations due to sunk cost, and the benefits of living in Hawkes bay. So capital flight will not be an issue.

#### Attach a File

#### Attach a File




5/11/26, 3:45 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #273

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 11th 2026, 11:47:45 am

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Sophia Shanks

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0272787185

**\* Email**

sophia.shanks@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?**

Cost to ratepayers of increased rates in 2026/27

**Please tell us your views below**

I agree with Option 2 for purely financial reasons because this is the less costly option overall however I have concerns for a large cohort of Hastings ratepayers who will find this size of increase, being 9.1%, too great a burden given the high cost of fuel and associated increases impacting on us all particularly since the Iran War.

We don't know what the true impact of the War will be for people and while I personally prefer Option 2 I also think Option 1 maybe the best choice, spreading the cost of the debt to soften its impact on our locals residents.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Sophia Shanks

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**



5/11/26, 3:47 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#274

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 11th 2026, 12:18:15 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Di Bagshaw

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0274352336

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

**Please tell us your views below**

I choose rates increase of 5.9% the main reason being the continued rising of the cost of living causing hardship for many Mangarau stream - My property borders the stream which caused bank erosion during Cyclone Gabriel among more critical damage both upstream and downstream of my property While much good work has and is being done I am wondering if the bank erosion on lower Tainui Reserve beside and along my property is going to be remedied The cyclone has dumped heaps of boulders and debris on my side of the stream as well as undercutting the banks both along Tainui Reserve and by the stream bridge endangering large trees

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/274>

1/1



5/12/26, 12:18 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#277

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 11th 2026, 4:33:26 pm

## IP ADDRESS



## \* Name

Paul Baker

## Address

New Zealand

## \* Contact phone number

021818191

## \* Email

[ashmar@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ashmar@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 should not increase at all in this budget round and reductions of 5.9% should be found because:

- 1) Social, Economic, Cultural and Environmental factors all indicate a difficult context for ratepayers and Council alike.
- 2) Hastings District Council's high debt levels do not need adding to. Nor do the debt burdens of ratepayers. For this reason, tough economic decisions are required: Sell or lease off Splash Planet so that it does not remain a debt burden on ratepayers, sell or lease Frimley Park pool for the same reasons as Splash Planet, sell off the 220 Council owned rental homes and ring fence this money to reducing Council debt. Trim staff levels to meet a leaner Council range of functions.
- 3) The high cost of replacing infrastructure post natural disasters, should be a top priority for funds and actions (water, roads, sewerage) ahead of lesser Council activities such as; trampling a New Zealand flag at a Council building, paying rainbow story readers to read to children in libraries, bilingual signage etc. Maslow's hierarchy of needs should apply to Council funds instead of political correctness.
- 4) Inability to live within Council's income. Ratepayers cannot be seen as cash cows to be milked for every foreseeable project. Council must live within its budget - I will accept that "natural disasters" will tend to blow some budgets out, but living beyond ones means should not be the general rule. Eliminate budget cross subsidies.
- 5) Major warning signs of a difficult economy are readily visible nationally (unemployment, higher interest rates, credit agencies downgrading our credit rating), as are problems in the local economy (McCain Foods imminent closure, Watties peaches line terminated, their frozen food line to close, Pan Pac Forest Products having difficulty making a profit post flood and with higher electricity prices etc.) Times are tough for business.
- 6) Higher energy costs flow through to transport of goods and people elevating prices when costs are unconstrained. Ditto health costs nationally, ditto education costs, ditto food prices nationally.
- 7) High household debts for many ratepayers in the face of a tenuous business environment, reduced employment security and unstable international markets / transport routes / higher shipping costs etc make for unwelcome rates cost increases.

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/277>

1/2

5/12/26, 12:18 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

**Please tell us your views below**

---

Given the regional, national and international pressures on Hastings District's ratepayers, a 5.9% rates increase is unwise and unacceptable given that recoveries in each of the previously named sectors will take a year or more with added burdens for your ratepayers.

Rather than simply increase rates, Council should seriously action cutting losses (Splash Plant, Frimley Pool etc), charge market rates for Council rental homes in the short term (not 80% of market rates) and look to sell the homes off within a year to pay down debt. Trimming staff levels to match new structural roles and linking to "necessary available funding" is wise. To do less is fiscally irresponsible in the circumstances. Be good stewards of ratepayers' funds please. Get assured value for ratepayers' money as viewed by the ratepayer, not by an advocacy group.

Look to merging with Napier City, Central Hawkes Bay DC and Hawkes Bay Regional Council to exploit synergies of association. Amalgamate, consolidate, contract staff levels and building footprints to meet an organizational structure that will still be economically and socially viable in 2026 and in 30 years.

Do not allow "free rides" for ratepayers who do not pay rates or can get rates dispensations. Eliminate cross subsidies. Some people can get rates exemptions under current law - accordingly, they should not receive the same levels of service as other ratepayers, if they do.

Have a sharper focus on roads, potable water, stormwater, sewerage rather than other and more peripheral issues. Keep rates increases to the rate of inflation, or less, intergenerationally.

**Attach a File**

---

**Attach a File**

---

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/277>

2/2

5/12/26, 12:14 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#278

### CREATED



PUBLIC

May 11th 2026, 4:59:39 pm

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Isobel Coutts Weakley

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0272342559

### \* Email

[isobelmike2013@gmail.com](mailto:isobelmike2013@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**



5/12/26, 1:01 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#282

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 11th 2026, 7:54:31 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Alison Foy

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0274620813

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

Too many People are struggling already with the cost of living - home values down , rates up . Its too hard on all after the recent big increases . Some pensioners will have to sell up because of the rates set .  
Give us a break.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/282>

1/1



5/12/26, 3:50 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#283

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 11th 2026, 8:30:56 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Ken Foy

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0276872913

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

As a pensioner, I find the increasing costs in many areas very hard to sustain and I don't feel Council is cognisant of such challenges. This lower rate rise is one way of showing empathy for those who don't earn a lot.

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



5/12/26, 3:55 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#285

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 12th 2026, 10:04:40 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Racheal Daly

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0211181461

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

Balance the budget sooner so we can move forward quicker. Who knows when another extreme event may hit.

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




5/12/26, 3:56 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #286

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 12th 2026, 10:17:43 am

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

MIKE WEAKLEY

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

0223105994

#### \* Email

[isobelmike2013@gmail.com](mailto:isobelmike2013@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?

Rates increase

#### Please tell us your views below

I'm choosing the 5.9% increase because it's quite possible there will be significant changes to what is "HDC" in the very near future. I refer to the government's desire for NZ to have less councils (district/regional etc) as of next year. Therefore while I don't know what council will actually exist I prefer to spend less money. When we know what territorial bodies will exist in the near future I will feel more comfortable making a decision on this matter.  
Thanks for all your work on this matter.  
Mike

#### Attach a File

#### Attach a File



5/12/26, 4:00 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#289

### CREATED



PUBLIC

May 12th 2026, 12:28:56 pm

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

David Appleton

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

06 2414344

### \* Email

[davidappleton88@gmail.com](mailto:davidappleton88@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?

Future cyclone protection measures.  
Basic service maintenance.  
Pro-active planning.

### Please tell us your views below

(No response)

### Attach a File

[hdc\\_plan\\_may\\_26.pdf](#)

### Attach a File

[hdc\\_plan\\_may\\_26.pdf](#)

## SUBMISSION TOWARDS HDC ANNUAL PLAN

It is inevitable that this area will be subject to future cyclones and essential that the problems associated with Gabriella are not repeated. Are measures being undertaken to ensure that forestry slash will not again sweep down our rivers? Will residents in flood-prone areas receive prior warning of imminent river stop-bank failure? Could emergency action facilities cope with the inundation of much of low-lying residential Napier?

It seems essential to discontinue residential development on the flood-prone river plain. If not, why not?

In support of the above comments, Ground drilling at the Maraekakaho electricity sub-station site some years ago, beside highway 50, was made difficult by sub-surface, river-smoothed boulders of rugby ball size, obviously deposited there historically, by exceedingly high local river water levels, when floodwater must have inundated the river plain from hillside to hillside. Such flooding has been unknown since human occupation of this area but could well happen again, as a tropical cyclone intensity product. Under such flood conditions areas of Flaxmere and Hastings would undoubtedly be affected.

As the critical failure of the Havelock North freshwater supply illustrated, a continuous and proactive monitoring of basic services is essential. Living adjacent to a Council sewage pumping station for 26 years, a steady decline in maintenance of the facility has been observable. The access to the station and its condition has steadily deteriorated, while there used to be regular servicing of the pump and its associated radio telemetry equipment. If this is indicative of the condition of such facilities throughout the Council's area, then it is a matter of serious concern.

Several years ago, when presenting a submission to HDC on the matter of local streamway drainage channels and their gullies, I was told that the nearby Tekahika stream gully was in private ownership and therefore its vegetation overgrown condition and presence of fallen tree limbs therein the responsibility of private owners, a matter that later proved to be incorrect as the stormwater streams through residential areas are classified as open drains and Council's direct responsibility. Council's closer attention to these stream drains since Cyclone Gabrielle flooding is appreciated but was well behind time. How often do Council staff inspect these waterways?

A degree of wise pro-active planning and action is ever essential, while reactive action after a disaster is often tragic: an illustrative case being the addition of clip-on pedestrian/cycle ways to the main Havelock North bridge that crosses the Karamu Stream, only after a cyclist had been crushed and killed by a truck, yet the danger to walkers and cyclists on the narrow bridge, in the face of ever increasing transport, had been common public comment for some years.

Thank you for the opportunity to present a submission towards the Annual Plan.

David Appleton

13.5.26.


5/12/26, 4:06 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #291

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 12th 2026, 1:23:09 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Matthew Lloyd

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0272118307

**\* Email**

[matthewlloyd177@gmail.com](mailto:matthewlloyd177@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 have only chosen 5.9% rates increase as it is the lowest increase. Rates increase should match inflation with non essential services cut or reduced while the Council returns to BAU spending.

**Please tell us your views below**

As above

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**



5/12/26, 4:07 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#292

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 12th 2026, 2:06:29 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Tania Linley-Richardson

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

021301829

**\* Email**[tlrichardson@tukitukirtlb.org.nz](mailto:tlrichardson@tukitukirtlb.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 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 rises  
Maintenance of public spaces - footpaths, parks

**Please tell us your views below**

1) Annual rates rises are probably unavoidable. I accept we are still paying for Cyclone Gabrielle's destruction to our area. However, rates increases need to be manageable for home owners. Rates are now so high that for home owners it feels like we are paying our council rent to live in our own homes. I can afford (just) a higher increase, but as a professional I earn a decent salary. Not everyone is in this position.

2) A plea to council for some maintenance please to footpaths in older parts of Flaxmere, and the tarsealed track in Flaxmere Park. Currently this is in an appalling condition. It urgently needs resealing, with lots of holes that require filling. My elderly parents have lived in Flaxmere for 56 years - original residents from the late 1960s. As a family we are very appreciative of the beauty of our biggest park. Pushing our mother in her wheelchair through the park is challenging, as is using the footpaths of nearby streets in bad condition (Folkestone Drive, Deal Crescent in particular). Please plan for upgrading of these facilities.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/292>

1/1



5/12/26, 4:09 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#293

### CREATED



PUBLIC

May 12th 2026, 3:19:31 pm

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Glenn Lucas

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0274700003

### \* Email

[glennl@mitre10park.co.nz](mailto:glennl@mitre10park.co.nz)

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

Yes

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

Option 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?**

Community infrastructure, sport and recreation, operational funding sustainability, and long-term partnership delivery models.

**Please tell us your views below**

The Trust recognises the challenging financial environment facing both Council and the community.

We support an approach that maintains essential infrastructure and services in a financially sustainable way, recognising that deferring investment can create greater long-term costs and risks for the community.

As outlined in our attached submission, Mitre 10 Park is a key piece of community and regional infrastructure operating within the same constrained environment. Traditional funding sources across the sport and recreation sector - including sponsorship, gaming and community trust funding, and participant contributions - are all under increasing pressure.

In that context, Council's ongoing operational contribution remains an important part of ensuring that the facility can continue to deliver accessible sport and recreation opportunities for the community.

**Attach a File**

[hbrspt\\_hdc\\_annual\\_plan\\_submission\\_202627\\_final.pdf](#)

**Attach a File**

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/293>

1/1

### **Hawke's Bay Regional Sports Park Trust**

Mitre 10 Park  
42 Percival Road  
Hastings

24 April 2026

Hastings District Council  
Private Bag 9002  
Hastings 4156

### **Submission on Draft Annual Plan 2026/27**

#### **Introduction**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on Hastings District Council's Draft Annual Plan 2026/27.

Mitre 10 Park is a Council-owned asset, located on land owned by Hastings District Council and established through a deliberate decision to deliver the facility via a Trust model.

The Hawke's Bay Regional Sports Park Trust was created to operate and develop the Park on Council's behalf, with the intent of delivering the facility efficiently, leveraging external funding, and achieving outcomes that would be difficult to deliver through Council alone.

This model has largely been successful. The Trust has developed and now operates a significant community and regional facility, with a funding model that combines Council support, user revenue, commercial partnerships, and external funding.

However, as outlined in this submission, the operating environment has changed, and the current funding balance is under increasing pressure as the scale and complexity of the facility has grown. This submission seeks to ensure that the partnership between Council and the Trust continues to evolve to reflect that reality.

#### **Background**

Mitre 10 Park was developed in 2007/08 as a strategic investment by Hastings District Council to create a major sport and recreation facility for the district and wider region.

From the outset, Council chose to establish a Trust model to govern and operate the Park. This approach was intended to:

- enable more efficient and flexible delivery than a traditional Council model
- leverage external funding and partnerships
- support a broader range of community and regional outcomes

Since that time, the Trust has delivered on this intent, developing the Park into a high-performing facility with significant levels of participation and visitation, supported by a diverse funding model.

Over this period, the scale and complexity of the facility has continued to grow.

Council's operational funding remains a critical component of this model, but represents only part of the overall funding required to operate the facility, alongside user charges and other revenue streams.

### **The Role of Mitre 10 Park**

Mitre 10 Park is a major community and regional facility based in Hastings, delivering sport, recreation, and community outcomes across Hawke's Bay.

The Park is located on land owned by Hastings District Council, reinforcing its role as a Council asset and an integral part of the district's community infrastructure network.

The Park supports a wide range of activities including hockey, netball, touch, football, rugby, rugby league, athletics, cricket, boxing, and canoe polo, alongside informal and community use. This breadth of activity reflects the role the Park plays in enabling participation across multiple codes and age groups, from grassroots through to regional pathways and talent development.

Through this, the Park supports positive community outcomes, including increased participation in sport and active recreation, opportunities for connection and belonging, and the overall wellbeing of our communities.

The scale of use is significant, with the Park supporting between 820,000 and 1,000,000 visits per year through regular competitions, training, events, and community use.

While based in Hastings, the Park serves the wider Hawke's Bay region, reflecting its role as a key piece of regional infrastructure and the scale of activity it supports.

As a Hastings-based facility, Mitre 10 Park is a core part of the district's community infrastructure network. It provides essential services that support participation, community connection, and wellbeing, in the same way that transport, water, and other public assets support the functioning of the district.

### **The Challenge**

The sport and recreation sector is facing increasing pressure:

- Reduced gaming and community trust funding
- Declining commercial sponsorship
- Rising operating costs across utilities, maintenance, insurance, and staffing
- Financial pressure on clubs, codes, and participants

At the same time, there is limited ability to pass these costs on.

Any increase in user fees is ultimately borne by participants and families. In the current environment, this creates a real risk of reduced participation and access for the community over time.

This creates an ongoing challenge:

- reduced funding availability
- increasing operating costs
- continued expectation to maintain service levels and asset standards

As with other forms of infrastructure, these cost pressures cannot be deferred indefinitely without impacting service quality, asset condition, and community outcomes.

### **Our Response**

In response, the Trust has taken a disciplined and proactive approach:

- Undertaking a category-by-category review of expenditure to improve efficiency, including exploring alternative providers and delivery methods
- Prioritising core service delivery and critical asset maintenance, while deferring lower-priority expenditure
- Continuing to develop commercial partnerships as a longer-term approach to strengthening revenue

These actions reflect a strong focus on efficiency, sustainability, and responsible financial management.

This work is supported by our ongoing strategic planning and the Mitre 10 Park Masterplan, which is being progressed in partnership with Council and is expected to be considered for adoption in the near term. The Masterplan provides a clear framework for the future development, use, and sustainability of the facility, and ensures that both

operational and capital decisions are aligned with long-term community needs and the level of investment required to sustain the facility.

While these initiatives are improving our position, they are not sufficient on their own to offset the current gap between rising costs and what can reasonably be recovered from users.

### **The Funding Position**

The Trust has recently reviewed its budget position and confirmed a preference to operate at a level that maintains service quality and asset standards.

This reflects the reality that operating the Park at the required level has a defined cost, and that long-term sustainability requires alignment between:

- operating costs
- user revenue
- partner funding

The current funding model, while significant and valued, is under increasing pressure in the current environment.

Since the Park was established, Council's operational funding has evolved over time, including periodic adjustments reflecting growth in the facility, followed by a more recent pattern of annual CPI-based increases.

While this approach has provided consistency, there has not been a substantive reset of the funding model since around 2017, despite significant growth in the scale, use, and complexity of the facility. This growth has been supported by the development of additional facilities and expanded capability across the Park over that period.

As a result, the current funding level does not fully reflect the cost of delivering and maintaining the Park at the level now required.

### **The Request**

The Trust is seeking a targeted increase in operational funding of \$60,000 per annum.

This request is made in the context of:

- the existing partnership with Council
- the scale and importance of the facility
- the increasing gap between operating costs and recoverable revenue

It aligns with Council's broader focus on maintaining essential infrastructure and services. Mitre 10 Park is a key piece of community infrastructure, and this request reflects the need to ensure that it is funded and maintained to the same standard as other critical assets.

This request is consistent with the approach being developed through the Mitre 10 Park Masterplan, which is helping to clarify the level of investment required to sustainably operate and maintain the facility. This also reflects the need to ensure that the Trust model established by Council continues to operate effectively in the current environment.

This additional contribution would:

- support the continuation of current service levels
- reduce pressure to increase user charges
- help maintain affordable access to sport and recreation
- contribute to the sustainable operation of the facility

As with other infrastructure, maintaining service levels at the Park requires ongoing investment to avoid deferred costs and reduced outcomes over time.

This is not a request for expansion, but for alignment between the cost of delivering the facility at the required standard and the funding model that supports it.

The Trust also acknowledges Council's current approach to adjusting funding in line with inflation, and would support this continuing to ensure that operational funding remains aligned with underlying cost pressures over time.

In summary, the Trust is seeking:

- an update to Council's operational funding contribution, recognising the role the Park plays in delivering sport and recreation services that would otherwise require investment across the wider Council network; and
- for the 2026/27 Annual Plan, a targeted increase in operational funding of \$60,000.

### **Looking Ahead – Strengthening the Partnership**

The Trust is committed to continuing to work closely with Council on the long-term sustainability of Mitre 10 Park.

This includes:

- ongoing partnership on operational funding
- exploring more efficient delivery models
- strengthening alignment with regional partners
- supporting Council's broader objectives around community wellbeing and resilience

The funding of major asset renewals is an immediate and ongoing challenge. The Trust is currently unable to retain sufficient funds to cover depreciation, and there are significant renewal requirements over the coming years.

The Trust would welcome the opportunity to work with Council to explore options for supporting long-term asset renewal, including mechanisms that allow for planned funding of major renewals over time, rather than reliance on one-off fundraising.

This approach would provide greater certainty, reduce risk, and support the long-term integrity of the facility.

### **Conclusion**

Mitre 10 Park is a significant community asset, underpinned by a long-standing partnership with Hastings District Council.

In a constrained financial environment, ensuring that this partnership continues to evolve is critical to maintaining service levels, protecting community access, and sustaining the facility for future generations.

We appreciate Council's ongoing support and look forward to continuing to work together to achieve positive outcomes for the Hastings community and the wider Hawke's Bay region.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this submission further.

Ngā mihi nui



Glenn Lucas  
General Manager  
Hawke's Bay Regional Sports Park Trust

glennl@mitre10park.co.nz  
027 470 0003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graeme Taylor', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Graeme Taylor  
Chairperson  
Hawke's Bay Regional Sports Park Trust

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #294

**CREATED**



PUBLIC  
May 12th 2026, 4:53:56 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Adele Fitzgerald

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

021556804

**\* Email**

adelefitz54@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



## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#295

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 12th 2026, 5:00:09 pm

## IP ADDRESS



## \* Name

Sharon Sutton

## Address

New Zealand

## \* Contact phone number

0276934686

## \* Email

shazs@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?

Affordability of Rates

Please tell us your views below

I have just received our proposed rates for the 2026 year.

This rates proposal increases our annual rates by \$725 per annum, and decreases our property value by \$40,000 dollars.

Prior to this proposed increase we have already been paying \$108 per week, and we are struggling to pay this on our income. This new proposed rates figure is unfair, that is a huge amount to try to find, particularly as our property value has dropped.

I also noticed that qv has for some reason hugely increased the value of our land, and hugely decreased the value of our

Improvements. Apparently our land is worth \$570,000. But our 3 bedroom home plus four car covered garaging and rumpus are worth a mere \$120,000. That's an interesting split, since rates are calculated on the land value.

You are pushing families and pensioners to the brink. Stop building flash award-winning Water edifices, purchasing needless spinning wooden statues, and updating perfectly adequate CBD infrastructure. You are taking food from our mouths and warmth from our homes.

Your proposed rates even without the Regional Council increase, will see us paying over \$120 in rates per week.

You should all be deeply ashamed.

Regards

Sharon Sutton

Attach a File

Attach a File



5/14/26, 9:58 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#296

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 12th 2026, 6:42:21 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Nadia Hardie

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0272721116

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

Council needs to live within their means like people have to - living in Hastings is becoming simply unaffordable for many. Too much waste is happening, lack of value for money and a bloated staff.

**Please tell us your views below**

Share more services with Napier and other councils rather than all this duplication. Stop with the vanity projects and sell assets which shouldn't be owned by council to reduce debt such as Showgrounds and splash planet. Stick to core services! These large annual rate increases are simply unaffordable especially when coupled with increasing insurance and other living costs. Great if you get lovely pay increases but most of us don't!!

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/296>

1/1



5/14/26, 10:04 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#298

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 12th 2026, 7:30:47 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Vanessa Hart

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0272531583

**\* Email**[vmhart@outlook.com](mailto:vmhart@outlook.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?**

Why in this economy you can justify any further rates increase.

**Please tell us your views below**

I am increasingly concerned at how the HDC can justify any type of rates increase, especially with the closure of McCains processing and the reduction in Watties - two of our main employers.

We, as a region are struggling financially and to add an increased debt load on anyone is completely unjustified. There seems to be an unwillingness within council to look at your own expenses, including how many staff you employ. The number of empty shops in Hastings is a good indicator of how poor we actually are. This squeezing of your ratepayers cannot go on.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/298>

1/1




5/14/26, 10:04 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #299

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 12th 2026, 8:40:54 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Belinda Ransfield

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0274762896

**\* Email**

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




5/14/26, 10:05 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #300

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 12th 2026, 9:26:06 pm

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Lacey Ward

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

0210592862

#### \* Email

[herbalromance@gmail.com](mailto:herbalromance@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

I wish there was an option for No Rates Increase.

The council should learn to be more efficient and manage its operating expenses without the answer to solve all problems of their own making to just increase rates.

#### Attach a File

#### Attach a File




5/14/26, 10:39 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #304

### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 13th 2026, 10:22:30 am

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Gary Cutts

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

021661566

### \* Email

[gary@tasmanharvesting.co.nz](mailto:gary@tasmanharvesting.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 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?

Business Rates

### Please tell us your views below

Hi, my business Tasman Harvester Contractors has been severely affected by the McCain Foods announcement of its closure. In fact our business will now close after 39 years. The council is wanting to know what is going on in the food sector and why this is happening.

So today I just checked the proposed rates on my property 2464 Omahu Road. The proposed rates increase is 30% How can this be ? I thought the proposal was either 5.9% or 9.1% Yet again it just seems to me that council does not care at all about businesses in this district and think we are all good for it and just jack up our rates by 30%

I really need to speak to someone about this as its clear to me that Hastings council is completely out of touch with whats going on in the business community.

I have had Will Foley the CHB mayor come and see me personally about the current food manufacturing situatioun but no supprises not a word from Wendy Schollum. All I have got is a massive rates increase. Thanks.

### Attach a File

### Attach a File

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/304>

1/1




5/14/26, 10:56 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #305

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 13th 2026, 11:04:14 am

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Tim Healing

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0274416993

**\* Email**

[healingfamily@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:healingfamily@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?**

(No response)

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**







5/14/26, 11:29 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#309

#### CREATED



PUBLIC

May 13th 2026, 11:39:57 am

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

0273500983

#### \* Email

[allanandgail@outlook.co.nz](mailto:allanandgail@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




5/14/26, 11:29 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #310

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 13th 2026, 11:40:55 am

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Sarah Rodriguez

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0212373068

**\* Email**

[rodriguez.family@gmx.com](mailto:rodriguez.family@gmx.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**



5/14/26, 11:43 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

# HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27


COMPLETE

#313

## CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 13th 2026, 1:18:04 pm

## IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Bruce Dockary

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0274720871

### \* Email

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

Council and Contractor inefficiencies

### Please tell us your views below

People understand that council have a wide portfolio of services that need to be maintained however the frustration is the inefficient way work is carried out or why it was needed in the first place.

Case in point is the photo in the submission form. This project down Omahu Rd would have to have some of the most inefficient and costly work I have ever seen. I work in this area and daily I see multiple workers standing around all day, the speed of work is painful and the extra cost to the ratepayer would be significant. Why are contractors not held to account.

When times are tough why do we not cancel, or delay, spending on projects not needed urgently. The Te Mata Rd roundabout would be an example of a project that could have been delayed until council finances were in a stronger position.

I urge the council to be a lot more prudent with spending as the pain you have inflicted on ratepayers over the last few years will continue into the future unabated.

### Attach a File

### Attach a File

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/313>

1/1




5/14/26, 11:45 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #315

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 13th 2026, 2:31:35 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Hayley Malcolm

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0210435275

**\* Email**

[hayleystuart84@hotmail.com](mailto:hayleystuart84@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**




5/14/26, 11:45 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

# HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #316

## CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 13th 2026, 2:44:03 pm

## IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

John roil

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0274491526

### \* Email

[john@pmhb.nz](mailto:john@pmhb.nz)

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

Yes

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

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

Whilst the 2 options provide an increase of either 5.9% - through to 9.1% are based on an average. However the increase of rates for the commercial and industrial sector of the community are showing to be in the vicinity of 30% increase. I have used our property as an example.

This level of the rates increase raises serious concerns regarding:  
affordability for industrial and commercial operators,  
impacts on business competitiveness,  
flow-on effects to employment and investment,  
and the long-term economic implications for the Hastings district.

### Please tell us your views below

See attached

### Attach a File

[industrial\\_rates\\_submission\\_section.docx](#)

### Attach a File

## Submission Section – Impact on Industrial and Business Properties

This submission section relates specifically to the impact of the Hastings District Council Draft Annual Plan 2026–2027 on industrial and commercial property owners.

### Impact on Industrial and Business Properties

While the Draft Annual Plan refers to average rates increases of 5.9% or 9.1%, the actual impact on some industrial and commercial properties appears to be substantially higher following the district-wide revaluation process.

As an example, the rates on our industrial property at 1139 Maraekakaho Road are proposed to increase from approximately \$54,667 to \$70,812 — an increase of nearly 30%.

This level of increase raises serious concerns regarding:

- affordability for industrial and commercial operators,
- impacts on business competitiveness,
- flow-on effects to employment and investment,
- and the long-term economic implications for the Hastings district.

The consultation document provides very little analysis regarding:

- how rates increases are distributed across different property sectors,
- whether industrial and business properties are now carrying a disproportionate share of Council costs,
- and what economic assessment has been undertaken regarding the impact on local businesses.

While Council notes that property revaluations affect how rates are allocated, there is insufficient transparency regarding:

- changes in rating differentials,
- sector-by-sector impacts,
- and whether commercial and industrial ratepayers are effectively subsidising broader Council expenditure.

I request Council provide:

- a detailed breakdown of rates impacts by property category,
- analysis of the cumulative impact on industrial and commercial operators,
- clarification of any changes to rating allocation methodologies,
- and greater transparency regarding how costs are distributed between residential, rural, commercial, and industrial sectors.

Industrial and commercial businesses are major contributors to employment, economic activity, and investment within Hastings. Significant rates increases of this scale risk undermining business confidence and economic growth at a time when affordability pressures are already substantial.

Yours sincerely,

John Roil



5/14/26, 11:46 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#317

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 13th 2026, 3:26:51 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Bill Livingston

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0274461029

**\* Email**[bill@conceptmb.co.nz](mailto:bill@conceptmb.co.nz)

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

Yes

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

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

proposed Rate increases for commercial property in CBD particularly,

**Please tell us your views below**

Council have advertised an Average Rate increase of either 5.9% or 9.1% neither is appropriate, nor are those figures accurate. We have taken 12 properties we own across the CBD, and the average increase is 25.7% Advertising a 9.1% increase worse case scenario is incorrect and misleading. Council officers and elected officials have a 'Duty of care' to be accurate.

Any overhead increases, in this worsen economic environment, will be destructive to our CBD. There is no point in Council funding inner-city development projects when these proposed increases will cripple small business.

It feels like Council puts a step forward and now propose two back.

It doesn't matter whether these costs are justifiable or not, they are simply not affordable for many businesses.

Council must be seen to be making focused ,aggressive cost saving to streamline their operations. Example: why have council committed to leasing a new building across the road when they cant afford it. If there are too many staff currently, make changes Lead by example.

Values of properties and the health and well being the to CBD/ community is enhanced when low vacancies exist.

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/317>

1/2



5/14/26, 11:47 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#318

### CREATED



PUBLIC

May 13th 2026, 4:18:56 pm

### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Hastings District Landmarks Trust Inc

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

022 170 8108

#### \* Email

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

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

Yes

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

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

Ongoing support for funding of Landmarks tenets.  
Ongoing support for funding of infrastructure post Cyclone Gabrielle.  
Ongoing support for Abbott Bequest  
Support to retain the share of Hawke's Bay Tourism funding to be spent locally.

5/14/26, 11:47 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

---

**Please tell us your views below**

Ongoing support for funding of Landmarks tenets.

Hastings District Landmarks Trust was formed in the 1990s in direct response to the economic downturn in Hastings, to drive quality public projects and the protection of our landscapes and heritage which provides value to our communities and our District. Over that time, Landmarks has worked closely with Hastings District Council to support and facilitate work towards our four tenets:

Landscape  
History  
Architecture  
Art in public places

We see these tenets woven through much of what Hastings District Council does today and we are proud to work alongside the Council to support and deliver projects that our community will benefit from. In the past few years, our District has suffered from the effects of Cyclone Gabrielle, economic downturns and recently the closure of McCain's and partly of Watties. The economic environment now is similar to the time when Landmarks was formed.

At a time when there is a lot of pressure on how Council spends it's money, and the cost of living is high, it will be easy to dismiss the importance of investing in our public spaces and carrying on with the long term vision for our public spaces and our communities. We support the ongoing inclusion in the budget for the funding of public projects that support our art, heritage and landscape and Landmarks Trust is committed to being a partner with Council where we can.

Ongoing support for funding of infrastructure post Cyclone Gabrielle.

We support the ongoing commitment to the funding of infrastructure projects post Cyclone Gabrielle

Ongoing support for Abbott Bequest

We support the ongoing inclusion of the Abbot Bequest in the budget and thank Council for maintaining this bequest.

Support to retain the share of Hawke's Bay Tourism funding to be spent locally.

We support Council considering how to use the share available for tourism funding, and are available to work with Council where appropriate.

---

**Attach a File**

---

**Attach a File**


5/14/26, 11:48 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


# HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #319

## CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 13th 2026, 5:32:00 pm

## IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Dan Ross

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

021363882

### \* Email

[danross190381@gmail.com](mailto:danross190381@gmail.com)

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

Yes

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

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

Rates

### Please tell us your views below

If the council spend was only on t what council is for then you wouldn't need any more money. If the CEO don't their job no wasted money would be spent. It is the councils job to do the basics first and the rest later. However it has come to pass that council no longer do what they are supposed to, but try to implement and do other things instead. The council has no longer got the trust of the people. However instead of trying to claw the trust back they continue with status quo.

### Attach a File

### Attach a File




5/14/26, 11:49 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #320

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 13th 2026, 7:24:31 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Jason Gray

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0275001182

**\* Email**

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

Core spending

**Please tell us your views below**

Council really does need to make the tough decisions and refocus on the bread and butter service provision. You must remember whose money it is you are responsible for spending. It may just mean that personal projects need to go until we are in better times.

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**



5/14/26, 11:50 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#322

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 13th 2026, 8:26:58 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Annabelle McHardy

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0274999428

**\* Email**[annabelle.mch@hotmail.com](mailto:annabelle.mch@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?**

A third option of rates increase by 5.9% and NO ADDITIONAL borrowing would be my preference.

**Please tell us your views below**

The plan doesn't detail why the council requires a rates rise of 5.9%. Other than operational spending coverage and the expense increases we all experience, the 5.9% should be sufficient to cover these. Especially given majority of large cyclone repairs are funded by central govt. Had there been zero rates increases in the last three years, I could understand a lift in rates of 5.9%. But with rates increases EVERY year it gets harder to believe they are necessary and that council is actually making cost cutting measures. My income (and surely majority of ratepayers incomes) have NOT lifted by this much so cost cutting in other areas is required. I expect the same behaviour from council.

The 9.1% increase is unacceptable and I have no trust that rates will not be lifted again next year on top of that number.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/322>

1/1




5/14/26, 11:52 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #323

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 13th 2026, 8:54:30 pm

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Sarah Thame

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

0277558486

#### \* Email

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

Yes

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

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

NO TO BOTH!

**Please tell us your views below**

Are you actually joking? You people rape and pillage US of our money! How about you get rid of some the time wasters in the council and save some money that way.  
Disgusting. You should be cutting our rates not proposing FURTHER INCREASES

DISGUSTING

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**



5/14/26, 11:53 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#324

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 6:06:49 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Ben Greville

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

278249049

**\* Email**[bolts.rainy.4o@icloud.com](mailto:bolts.rainy.4o@icloud.com)

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

No

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

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 changes

**Please tell us your views below**

While I would love to see us reduce debt levels, you can see how tough high costs are for people in recent times. So reluctantly going for the lower option.

I might've missed this in the proposal but consider the interest costs of option 1 in your decision and if that outweighs the money you'll get from option 2.

Finally I implore you guys to use our people's money carefully and respectfully. Focus on the basics and do them well, avoid side projects that don't impact the majority.

Thank you and the team for your mahi.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/324>

1/1



5/14/26, 11:53 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#325

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 7:55:03 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Rebecca Arnet

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

021756552

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



5/14/26, 11:54 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#326

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 8:39:05 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Matthew Arnet

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0220498413

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

I don't want us borrowing more because it ends up costing us more in the long run.

**Please tell us your views below**

Why has council not set up funds to pay for inevitable infrastructure upgrades? Setting aside some money that gets put into a growth fund for 20-50years when the money is needed would save everyone money. I would like to see some future thinking, not just fighting fires now. There needs to be some legal framework around this money so that it is ringfenced properly and can not be reallocated when priorities change or a new mayor is elected.  
E.g. any new subdivisions going in. Charge developers a fee that sets up a fund to upgrade infrastructure when required in the future.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/326>

1/1



5/14/26, 11:55 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#327

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 8:42:29 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Kerry Hateley-Fletcher

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0212352318

**\* Email**[thepower-ofone@hotmail.com](mailto:thepower-ofone@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.**

**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?**

Over spending.

**Please tell us your views below**

Your fiscal management is appalling. No more new projects until existing debt repaid.

I am tired of the lip service: identifying financial hardships ratepayers face and then you carry on your spending spree.

Wendy Schollum became mayor by default- Marcus Buddo and Steve Gibson, were against rate increases and together their poles surpassed her polling. The people have spoken. Do the right thing.

I do not go to the bank to borrow money.... If I don't have the money, I don't spend. How about adopting that approach, because that is my expectation!

Your rate increases mean less food on the plate.

Stop increasing rate payers burden. Your excuse, it was voted for in such and such plan whenever, doesn't mean it has to go ahead- revisiting plans and in some cases abandoning them, is the right thing to do at this time. Are you listening and comprehending?

No more spending until existing debt repaid.

**Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/327>

1/2



5/14/26, 11:57 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#331

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 10:43:11 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Barbara Lucas

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0272441794

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

Lack of Inner city seating in the west blocks.

**Please tell us your views below**

As a senior citizen with mobility issues I find like a lot of older people that the inner city blocks west of the railway line do not offer anywhere to sit for a few minutes. This would make a huge difference for everyone who just needs to sit a while when they are in town. More seating please.

The other area is around Westerman's and The Doctors. This is always a problem as there are not enough Mobility Card parks for cars. The parking area supports two very busy businesses with The Doctors sure to have a lot of patients who have mobility issues unable to find parks near to their Doctors.

Review of the amount of mobility parks in this area please.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/331>

1/1



HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE #332

CREATED

IP ADDRESS



PUBLIC  
May 14th 2026, 11:18:16 am



\* Name

Richard Lindsay

Address

New Zealand

\* Contact phone number

0274 843281

\* Email

richamanda2024@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?

Productivity

Please tell us your views below

Introduce the 5.9% rate rise this year but look harder to trim costs so we don't have to borrow more. Are we getting value for money from every employee at HDC and if not, some could go. In tough times the council should just focus on the core items, roading, water etc and cut out spending on arts and other "nice to haves". Everyone having to pay for one group to display their items so they can make money isn't fair. No special favors/ financing should be given to any one group.

Ensure that every dollar spent is only done so after considering if we will get value from it and that value is spread over the whole region.

Attach a File

Attach a File



## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#333

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 12:16:16 pm

## IP ADDRESS



## \* Name

Barbara Lucas

## Address

New Zealand

## \* Contact phone number

0272441794

## \* Email

biddycat@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?

Rates increase

Please tell us your views below

The problem with the council arriving at two options for either a low rates increase or a high increase with more borrowing is

1. The council has for too long expected that if they increase the rates, the ratepayers will just automatically absorb the extra.
2. When you are on a fixed income where is the extra going to come from? Most fixed income ratepayers have a very tight budget with no wriggle room to come up with the extra. The miniscule increase we get to our super each year does not cover all the greedy price increases in food, power, phone, mortgage interest rates going up and now especially the rates being increased as well.
3. It ends up meaning we have to reduce our own expenditure which often means going without. After paying taxes all our working lives and now we are asked to forget that because councils or governments think we should go on paying increases at their leisure. It sure leaves a bad taste.
4. Are you really going to stand by the statement that rates are not determined by valuation of our properties. Really. We have had that rammed down our throats for decades. This seems to me to be the less than subtle slide from accountability to doing what the council likes.

Attach a File

Attach a File



### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #335

**CREATED**



PUBLIC  
May 14th 2026, 12:46:59 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Moira Lindsay

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0272733093

**\* Email**

milindsay@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



### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #336

**CREATED**



**PUBLIC**  
May 14th 2026, 1:11:53 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Chris Skerman

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0274417793

**\* Email**

c.skerman@xtra.co.nz

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

Yes

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

What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

Commercial Rate increases

Please tell us your views below

The proposed commercial rate increases in Hastings for already struggling businesses may well be the last straw for many. As a property owner and investor, I will be reluctant to grow or improve current buildings. Effectively all rates and insurance are taken into account when assessing rent. These substantial increases devalue the investment so to see our rates go up so much and valuations go up as well is a totally false economy. Put on top of that the millions spent on upgrading the CBD for unsustainable businesses. Please get some commercial thinking around this race to the bottom approach. This is short-term thinking to solve financial shortfalls that will ultimately have serious long-term consequences long after the current decision makers have gone.

Regards

Chris Skerman.

Attach a File

Attach a File



## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#337

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 1:22:11 pm

## IP ADDRESS



## \* Name

Brett Holleron

## Address

New Zealand

## \* Contact phone number

0274873302

## \* Email

brettjames@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

Respectfully I am sure Council could find \$4.8m across all of expense accounts to avoid borrowing to fund operational costs. The pencil needs to be sharpened, hard negotiations with contractors on tenders of capital projects, improvement in productivity in operations and performance review pruning of the organisational structure to ensure it's fit for purpose and carries no dead wood.

Attach a File

Attach a File



### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #338

**CREATED**



**PUBLIC**  
May 14th 2026, 1:48:56 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

John Harding

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0272355683

**\* Email**

johnhardingservices@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?

Option 2

Please tell us your views below

It looks like the Council will be borrowing to balance the books anyway.  
The less that is borrowed the better.

Attach a File

Attach a File



## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#339

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 1:51:39 pm

## IP ADDRESS



## \* Name

Wayne Wright

## Address

New Zealand

## \* Contact phone number

0272945065

## \* Email

wwright@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?

Council spending

Please tell us your views below

Council should be undertaking a proper, robust business evaluation into the costs associated with running Council including staffing, projects, consulting and the provision of essential services v discretionary spending. I was a local government management employee for around 15 years and know that (despite good intentions) elected representatives have little control over expenditure with almost all decisions made by Council bureaucrats, out of sight and oversight of Councillors. There will be waste in terms of operating costs, staffing levels and operational inefficiencies. Central Government has indicated a desire to legislate to limit rates increases, there is a valid reason for this, you are spending beyond our means and despite several of the councillors being elected to curb expenditure, they have failed to deliver on the promises that hot many elected.

Attach a File

Attach a File



### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #341

**CREATED**



PUBLIC  
May 14th 2026, 2:38:41 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Ann Hall

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

068767795

**\* Email**

buz4us@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



5/18/26, 12:40 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#342

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 4:55:59 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Rayne Ellington Lawrence

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0272365155

**\* Email**[rayne@thinkvetwise.com](mailto:rayne@thinkvetwise.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 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?**

Raising of rates now is essential as we head into a possible major conflict.

**Please tell us your views below**

We are facing likely a prolonged global conflict that will have vast implications on world supply chains. Costs are only going to go up so borrowing from this year's budget in the face of the still ongoing reconstruction efforts from the last cyclone in 23 is short sighted. We all need to pitch in to make our district resilient to climate change. It's not a matter of if the next storm comes, but when.

Forestry has still not been regulated enough and the ongoing changes with central governments response to the cyclone regarding slash are laughable. The other primary place in the world that the level of steep topography where forestry is practiced is Washington state in the US. They have considerably more regulations than we do and to my understanding do not have nearly the level land slip and slash issues we have.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/342>

1/1



HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#343

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 4:56:51 pm

## IP ADDRESS



## \* Name

Marcus Klinge

## Address

## \* Contact phone number

0210564600

## \* Email

marcus.klinge@tumu.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?**

Differences between the headline rates increase and actual property-level impacts  
How rates increases relate to underlying land value movements  
Allocation of rates across property sectors (residential vs commercial/industrial)  
Transparency of sector-level impacts and distribution of the rates burden  
Economic and affordability considerations  
Clarity of information provided to support informed consultation

---

**Please tell us your views below**

---

We appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft Annual Plan 2026/27 and recognise the importance of continued investment in infrastructure, resilience, and community services.

Having reviewed the proposal and the projected impacts across our portfolio, we would like to share some observations and seek further clarity on a few key areas.

Firstly, while the Plan refers to an average rates increase of 5.9% (or 9.1%), our portfolio-level analysis indicates a higher overall increase, with some individual properties experiencing materially larger changes. We would be interested in understanding how the headline averages are derived, and how impacts differ across property types and sectors.

Secondly, when comparing land value movements with proposed rates, there appears to be a gap between relatively modest valuation changes and more significant rates increases. This suggests that factors beyond valuation may be influencing outcomes. We would appreciate further explanation of how valuation changes, differential factors, and other rating components interact to produce the final result.

We are also interested in better understanding how the overall rates burden is distributed across sectors. In particular, whether recent changes have shifted a greater proportion of costs toward commercial and industrial properties, and what the rationale may be for this.

From a practical perspective, increases of this scale can have flow-on effects for business costs, tenant affordability, and investment decisions. We would be interested in how these considerations have been taken into account in shaping the proposed approach.

Overall, additional transparency around sector-level impacts and the drivers of change would be helpful in supporting a more informed understanding of the proposal.

At this stage, based on the information available, we have some difficulty supporting either of the proposed options, and would welcome the opportunity for further clarification and dialogue.

We appreciate the work undertaken to develop the Plan and remain open to continued engagement.

---

**Attach a File**

---

submission\_on\_draft\_annual\_plan\_2026.27\_rates\_increases.pdf

---

**Attach a File**

---



Tumu Property  
24 Porter Drive  
Havelock North

4130

Mobile: 021 056 4600  
Email: marcus.klinge@tumu.co.nz

14 May 2026

Hastings District Council  
Private Bag 9002  
Hastings 4156

Attention: Mayor Wendy Schollum and Councillors

**Re: Draft Annual Plan 2026/27 – Rates Increase Submission**

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

**Submission on Proposed Rates Increases – Draft Annual Plan 2026/27**

We write on behalf of the Tumu Group of Companies, representing a collective portfolio of industrial, commercial, and residential property interests across the Hastings District.

At the outset, we acknowledge the importance of continued investment in infrastructure, resilience, and community services, and we appreciate the work that has gone into preparing the Draft Annual Plan. We also value the ongoing relationship we have with Council and the opportunity to provide feedback.

Having reviewed the Draft Annual Plan and the associated property-level impacts across our portfolio, we would like to share some observations and seek further clarity on several aspects of the proposed rates increases

### **1. OBSERVED DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HEADLINE AND PROPERTY-LEVEL IMPACTS**

The Plan refers to an average rates increase of 5.9% (or 9.1% under the alternative option). However, based on our analysis of our portfolio:

- The overall rates increase is approximately 20+%
- Individual properties are experiencing increases of up to 40%

This appears to be materially higher than the headline figures presented in the consultation material. We are interested in understanding how these averages have been calculated, and how impacts are expected to vary across different sectors and property types. Greater visibility of this would be very helpful in enabling ratepayers to better understand the practical implications.

## 2. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LAND VALUE MOVEMENTS AND RATES

We also undertook a comparison between recent land value changes and the proposed rates for our industrial properties.

Broadly:

Land values have increased in the range of approximately 5%–10%  
Rates increases for the same properties are generally between 20%–40%

For example:

- 1175 Maraekakaho Road: Land +9.6%, Rates +29%
- 1215 Maraekakaho Road: Land +4.8%, Rates +25%
- 500 Coventry Road: Land +9.9%, Rates +23%
- 2 Tumu Way: Land +5.0%, Rates +21%
- 2 Martin Place: Land: -0.8%, Rates +14%

We also note instances where land values have remained static or decreased, while rates have still increased. From our perspective, this suggests that factors other than valuation movements are driving outcomes. We would appreciate any further explanation Council can provide on how valuation changes feed through to rating outcomes, and the role of other allocation settings.

## 3. UNDERSTANDING ALLOCATION ACROSS PROPERTY TYPES

The Plan notes that rating is influenced by land value, differential factors, and a mix of general and targeted rates, and that commercial and industrial properties contribute a higher share overall. However, it is not entirely clear from the material provided how the latest revaluation and rating adjustments have shifted the distribution of the rates burden between sectors.

It would be helpful to better understand:

- How impacts differ across residential, commercial, and industrial sectors
- Whether there has been a reallocation of the rates burden on commercial and industrial property, and if so, to what extent
- The reasoning behind any such changes

Additional transparency in this area would assist in building a clearer picture of the overall intent and outcome.

## 4. POTENTIAL ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS

From a practical perspective, increases of the scale outlined above can influence business costs, tenant affordability, and investment decisions.

We are mindful that:

- Many costs cannot easily be passed through
- Larger increases can place pressure on tenants and occupancy
- Investment and development decisions are sensitive to ongoing holding costs
- Existing cost pressures are already forcing local business closures, and further increases in rates would intensify inflationary pressures, jeopardise business sustainability, place additional strain on employment, and negatively impact the wider community

We would welcome any insight Council can share on how these factors have been considered in shaping the proposed approach.

#### 5. AFFORDABILITY AND CONSULTATION

We acknowledge Council's efforts to reduce the headline increase. However, the variation between average figures and property-level outcomes makes it more challenging to assess how affordability objectives are being achieved in practice.

We also consider that further information - particularly around sector-level impacts and distributional changes - would support a more informed understanding of the proposal

#### 6. OPTIONS PRESENTED

Based on the current information available, we have some difficulty supporting either Option 1 (5.9%) or Option 2 (9.1%), as neither appears to fully reflect the distribution of impacts we are seeing.

#### 7. SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS

In the spirit of constructive engagement, we would welcome Council's consideration of the following:

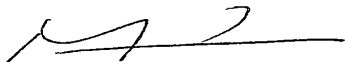
- Providing more detailed breakdowns of impacts across property sectors
- Clarifying how valuation changes and rating settings interact
- Reviewing the distribution of increases to ensure alignment with principles of fairness and transparency
- Continuing engagement with affected groups to better understand on-the-ground impacts

#### 8. CLOSING

We remain supportive of Council's long-term objectives and the need for sustainable investment. Our intent in providing this feedback is to better understand how the proposed outcomes have been arrived at, and to ensure they are clearly communicated and broadly understood.

We appreciate the opportunity to contribute and would be very open to further discussion.

Yours sincerely,



Marcus Klinge  
Property Manager

Submitted on behalf of:

Longlands Properties Limited  
Tumac Holdings Limited  
Tumu Property Holdings Limited  
Navilluso Holdings Limited  
Rathmore Properties Limited  
Tumu Community Housing Limited  
Peakviews Village Limited

Poporo Properties Limited  
BBI Wood Products Limited  
Nga Whare Tipu Limited  
Tumu Developments Limited




5/18/26, 12:41 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

# HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #344

## CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 14th 2026, 4:59:35 pm

## IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Jackson HAWEA

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

021904837

### \* Email

[jackson.hawea@gmail.com](mailto:jackson.hawea@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?

Calculating rates.

### Please tell us your views below

Cost of living is through the roof everything has gone up but not wages how are we supposed to try get ahead.

Why are the new home owners having to fork out for infrastructure that needs repairs when the new home's infrastructure is new? Why have so much wasteful spending still going on now? Looks at all the shops in town %60 of them are empty what are you doing to combat this?

Calculated rates how are these done is it by land size or?

### Attach a File

### Attach a File




5/18/26, 12:41 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #345

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 14th 2026, 5:13:23 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Lynette Pohio

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

021527665

**\* Email**

[lynettepohio@yahoo.com](mailto:lynettepohio@yahoo.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?**

Rates increases

**Please tell us your views below**

Can not support any increase at the moment with the crippling costs that we are facing in every area at the moment. An increase would be inappropriate

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**



5/18/26, 12:41 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#346

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 5:16:21 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Leeann Pike

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

021644410

**\* Email**[leeann@pike.net.nz](mailto:leeann@pike.net.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?**

Proposed rates increase

**Please tell us your views below**

Totally inappropriate to increase at this time with the current economic crisis. People are really struggling and cannot afford to pay more.

Suggestions above CPI are too much.

If you cannot afford a project defer it or cut your costs and lay off staff like struggling ratepayers have to

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/346>

1/1



5/18/26, 10:40 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#347

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 14th 2026, 6:00:43 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Ross Derbidge

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

021447951

**\* Email**[rossderb@outlook.com](mailto:rossderb@outlook.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**

While I have ticked the box for the 5.9% option in reality I believe there should be an option for a zero rate increase in the current financial climate. It seems to me you have not worked hard enough to cut costs. There are a lot of low income earners paying rates in the HDC area and they are on the bones of their arses. What do you want them to do ? Sell up in a depressed market and move out of the area ? I think this is what many will do after not being able to pay their rates. This week I saw a complete waste of money on Te Mata Mangateretere rd with about a kilometer of cones surrounding a digger and a truck scraping grass off the side of the road for God knows what purpose. Surely this could have been cancelled with some savings made.

Please consider the low paid and the pensioners as these people have no way of handling a 5.9% rise let alone 10%.

The councilors need to take control and cut the expenses to suit the situation as that is what a majority of you were elected to do. Thank you

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/347>

1/1





5/22/26, 8:42 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

Please tell us your views below

---

Attach a File

---

Attach a File

---


5/18/26, 10:43 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #349

### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 14th 2026, 6:25:09 pm

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Elizabeth McKerras

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

02102301732

### \* Email

[mckerras@gmail.com](mailto:mckerras@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



5/18/26, 10:44 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #350

### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 14th 2026, 6:27:36 pm

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Ross McKerras

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0220901499

### \* Email

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




5/18/26, 10:51 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #352

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 14th 2026, 7:51:05 pm

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

David Bird

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

068735533

#### \* Email

[davidbirdonline@gmail.com](mailto:davidbirdonline@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




5/18/26, 11:00 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #356

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 14th 2026, 10:22:35 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Graham Shuker

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

021643607

**\* Email**

[graham.shuker@xtra.co.nz](mailto:graham.shuker@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

**Please tell us your views below**

The cost of living is so high for many people I think rates increases need to be as low as possible. I think the borrowing proposed is acceptable.

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**



5/18/26, 11:05 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#361

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 15th 2026, 9:59:34 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Russell Thorogood

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

+64272408185

**\* Email**[russell@getroutered.com](mailto:russell@getroutered.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?**

Disproportionate rates increases.

**Please tell us your views below**

How can you justify a 20% increase in our rates at 58 Irongate Road, a jump from \$21,558.08 to \$29,301.91. Granted that the value has gone up, but the increases based on last years value are at 20%. The difference between last year and this coming year is a 36% increase.

The general rate increase on this property is at 20%, far beyond your 5.9 or 9.1%.

This is actually fraudulent and a blatant theft.

How are businesses in probably New Zealands biggest ever recession able to afford these massive increases???

**Attach a File**

submission\_section\_rates\_2027.docx

**Attach a File**

submission\_section\_rates\_2027.docx

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/361>

1/1

## Submission Section – Impact on Industrial and Business Properties

This submission section relates specifically to the impact of the Hastings District Council Draft Annual Plan 2026–2027 on industrial and commercial property owners.

### Impact on Industrial and Business Properties

The Draft Annual Plan refers to average rates increases of 5.9% or 9.1%, the actual impact on some industrial and commercial properties appears to be substantially higher following the district-wide revaluation process.

An example, the rates on our industrial property at 58 Irongate Road, East are proposed to increase from approximately \$21,558.08 to \$29,301.91 — an increase of 36%.

This level of increase raises serious concerns regarding:

- affordability for industrial and commercial operators,
- impacts on business competitiveness,
- flow-on effects to employment and investment,
- and the long-term economic implications for the Hastings district.

The consultation document provides very little analysis regarding:

- how rates increases are distributed across different property sectors,
- whether industrial and business properties are now carrying a disproportionate share of Council costs,
- and what economic assessment has been undertaken regarding the impact on local businesses.

While Council notes that property revaluations affect how rates are allocated, there is insufficient transparency regarding:

- changes in rating differentials,
- sector-by-sector impacts,
- and whether commercial and industrial ratepayers are effectively subsidising broader Council expenditure.

I request Council provide:

- a detailed breakdown of rates impacts by property category,
- analysis of the cumulative impact on industrial and commercial operators,
- clarification of any changes to rating allocation methodologies,
- and greater transparency regarding how costs are distributed between residential, rural, commercial, and industrial sectors.

Industrial and commercial businesses are major contributors to employment, economic activity, and investment within Hastings. Significant rates increases of this scale risk undermining business confidence and economic growth at a time when affordability pressures are already substantial.

Yours sincerely,

Russell Thorogood



5/18/26, 11:16 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#362

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 15th 2026, 10:33:18 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Simon Mitchell

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

02108505761

**\* Email**[westgate806@gmail.com](mailto:westgate806@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?**

Council Spending; Rate Increases in excess of inflation; Only Options to increase rates are offered.

**Please tell us your views below**

Council have increased rates year on year by large amounts. While justification for such increases has been made, I believe council can do more to limit or reduce expenditure on services, projects or personnel that are non-essential to the core function of a local authority, which I understand to be the provision and maintenance of core services. For example, I do not regard the art gallery as a core service but rather a nice to have and therefore not something we should be borrowing money to provide. I think the notion that rate increases should be limited to the rate of annual inflation is reasonable and I would like the council to have included this as an option, alongside an option of no rate increase with an outline of what we would forfeit. Our region is about fourth from the bottom on the list of GDP per capita. We simply can't afford continued rate increases which put our region at one of the most expensive in terms of rates in all of the country.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/362>

1/1



5/20/26, 2:24 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#365

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 15th 2026, 11:26:50 am

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Jim Stewart

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

027 673 5559

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

- 1] NEW TARGETED RATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT WORKFORCE
- 2] TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT COSTS

5/20/26, 2:24 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

---

**Please tell us your views below**

## 1] NEW TARGETED RATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT WORKFORCE

The Draft Annual Plan Consultation Document details :-

Training existing staff volunteers for emergency roles & Emergency exercises FY26/27 Funding \$585,000

My Hastings May 2026 Issue explains very fully how the "Council's Emergency Response goes into action when an emergency hits". In conclusion it states "Together, these systems, people & partnerships help ensure that when emergencies happen, Hastings is ready to respond - and recover - as a community."

I fully support the existing Staff Volunteers being adequately trained.

However one would expect the Senior personnel in the Councils Emergency Response Team to be able to do the training & this to take place during the Staff's normal working hours

Thus I am unable to understand how this very substantial expenditure is warranted?

Please revisit with the objective of eliminating or substantially reducing?

## 2] TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT COSTS

On 26th March whilst walking along Brookvale Road on a 210 metre section between St Hill Lane & Guthrie Park I counted the Road Cones being used for Traffic Management during the Drinking Water Mains Renewals

There were 86 in total.

[Refer attached photos].

The placement by the contractor HiViz seemed excessive & an unnecessary cost for the works.

Many people talk about the excessive use of Road Cones!

I was in Melbourne recently & stayed on Malvern Road. One morning there was a broken water main outside where I was staying. Whilst the break was close to the kerb, the repair team carried out their work with only 3 Road Cones + a Truck with Flashing amber lights on its cab roof. Malvern Road with both Light Rail & Vehicles is a very busy road with many, many times the volume of traffic of Brookvale Road!

I Implore Council Senior Management to address the issue of over use of Road Cones & the resulting unnecessary costs to Ratepayers.

Thank you for taking the time to read & consider my Submissions.

Jim Stewart

---

**Attach a File**

[img\\_9102.png](#)

---

**Attach a File**

[img\\_8997.jpeg.jpg](#)

3:46 5G Guthrie Park

- St Hill Ln & Brookvale Rd
- ⋮
- 📍 28 Brookvale Road

1 min

Drive

🚗 1 min   🚏 —   🚶 3 min   🚲 1 min   ✈️ —

✓ Avoid freeways

**1 min** Arrive 3:47 PM · Fastest route, the usual traffic  
210 m

➤ Preview   ➕ Add stops   📌 Save




5/18/26, 11:29 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


# HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #366

## CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 15th 2026, 12:02:10 pm

## IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

James Kerr

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

021 129 8897

### \* Email

[BigJimbo1958@outlook.com](mailto:BigJimbo1958@outlook.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 reject Options 1 & 2 and instead support Option 3 - a Zero increase in spending/rates for the 2026/27 Financial year. I voted for Steve Gibson who 'lobbied' for such and I read his piece in the Bay-Buzz a month or two back supporting the same and suggesting how it could be achieved. It would seem he is alone within HDC Council ranks in 'Reading the Room' - be that an Internal or External Financial Crisis with has created a 'Cost of Living' nightmare for most New Zealanders. The Central Government have foreshadowed the demise of Regional and District Councils - prior to the next round of elections. LGNZ and it's current proponents have clearly lead NZ 'down a garden path' that is not sustainable and I would suggest HDC (from my four decades of Retail Banking & Finance experience) is 'TECHNICALLY INSOLVENT'. Hence the need to keep raising Rate payers Levies & Contributions. Whether it's CEO Nigel Bickle and cohorts pulling the wool over Elected Members eyes - I do not know but it would seem this situation we have reached now - with Operating Expenditure being \$155m and THREE TIMES HIGHER per ratepayer than any other council in New Zealand...Thus, the rate hikes since the day Mr Bickel took up his position on 11 February 2019 - aided no doubt by the virtual ignorance (hopefully that was all it was from my outside looking in observations) of the outgoing Mayor 'Hazelhurst'. Sadly, the new incumbent seems to have similar traits.

5/18/26, 11:29 AM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

---

**Please tell us your views below**

I suggest the information that has been supplied on the 8 A4 sized pages of Draft Annual Plan advices does not show the true picture at all. Most likely HDC has reached, or has been at it's 'Borrowing Cap' for some years now - hence the fact my rates have doubled since 2022-23. My reading of the 3 'pie graphs' within 'The Year Ahead' page, is showing a 'Wish List' of spending, how they intend funding that spending and where it will come from. If we indeed have little or no 'borrowing capacity' (as I suspect the Consolidated Balance Sheet will show), then I would say I have seen this many times before in a 'Failing Business'. My assumption is that Mr Bickle plans to repay debt of \$96m (even though like the Central Government he has no 'surplus' from which to do so), giving himself a small margin of leeway to re-borrow the 33.78% (Graph 3) as Loans and the interest will be covered by \$23m Financing Costs (Graph 2). Thus he keeps himself afloat by 'Robbing Peter to pay Paul' as the saying goes...So, what should HDC do? Firstly, Read the Room, Central Govt have passed law to 'fire a warning shot' to Councils - spend within your means like your Ratepayers are all having to do. Firstly, irrespective of what the 10 year Plan might suggest in Year 3, again, READ THE ROOM. Cut back anything that is not 'bare essential'. If I read somewhere that 'pavements' are planned to be 'relayed or repaired' - defer that work. It is not essential. I have no idea what the Transportation 'Investment' covers but if it is a 'Long Term' asset then it should be financed as such (Lending 101) and amortised over the expected life of the asset. Three Waters should be addressed similarly, especially given the knowledge that both assets and related debt will likely be transferred to a single entity outside HDC direct Finances and again, structure debt repayment over long terms. Let's face it, we have ample water within the Region, we just need bureaucrats to 'get with the plan', gain some vision and put infrastructure in place to harness this FREE ASSET within NZ. It IS TRULY A SUSTAINABLE ASSET. Lastly, the Operating Expenditure & Financing cost should be as such that there remains sufficient to provide 'essential services' the Rate payer deserves and expects. \$155m needs to be pruned by reducing Employee numbers (as your only other Fixed Cost is the buildings) which have also ballooned since Mr Bickle arrived under Mayor Hazelhurst' '9 year watch', I have no doubt. Oh, one last point - scrap the intended \$1.6m spend on NEW TARGETTED RATES - CD & Emergency Management. The Hubs land (as has been hap-hazzardly created without proper community consultation), the land has no legal title to the assets being placed upon it (to be paid for by Rural Rate payers no doubt) and then if they are to proceed, I suggest Council should await a 'NATIONAL' legislation which hopefully will see these 'Hubs' be set up legally (with appropriate Easements over land involved) and a true NPO Community structure - one which will enable all hubs to apply for funding via Lotto, Red Cross and other organisations that help communities become resilient to whatever is thrown at them by Mother Nature. Placement of said hubs will need to be well thought through - not just where Gabrielle may have hinted...Disaster may well strike in a different form at a different place next time. Well, that's my opinion for the ELECTED PEOPLE of HDC to consider.

---

**Attach a File**

---

**Attach a File**

---

<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/366>

2/2


5/18/26, 11:35 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #367

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 15th 2026, 12:08:23 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

John Berry

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0273760996

**\* Email**

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




5/18/26, 11:36 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail


### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #368

**CREATED**

 PUBLIC  
May 15th 2026, 12:26:17 pm

**IP ADDRESS**



**\* Name**

Megan Jayne Linnell

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

275424001

**\* Email**

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

This is not a consultation document - this is a document that's asks for an opinion- they are 2 very different formats. Please do not confuse the two

**Please tell us your views below**

(No response)

**Attach a File**

**Attach a File**



5/18/26, 11:37 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#369

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 15th 2026, 12:59:41 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Gareth Ellis

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0272572410

**\* Email**[gareth.ellis@hotmail.com](mailto:gareth.ellis@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 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?**

Continued efforts to keep rates down, absolutely NO unnecessary spending or nice to haves.

**Please tell us your views below**

I'm reluctantly accepting this 9.1% to be fiscally responsible and not further indebt the region. However, I would expect the council to continue it's efforts to further reduce rate increases next year and would be livid if it is up around the 10% mark.  
Thank you.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/369>

1/1



5/18/26, 11:42 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE #371

CREATED



PUBLIC  
May 15th 2026, 1:27:42 pm

IP ADDRESS



\* Name

Brendan Bourke

Address

\* Contact phone number

0275525296

\* Email

[brendan@hbcfct.org.nz](mailto:brendan@hbcfct.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.

Yes

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

What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

An annual grant be provided to the Hawke's Bay Community Fitness Centre Trust of:  
\$300,000 + GST for Opex  
\$100,000 + GST for Capex

Please tell us your views below

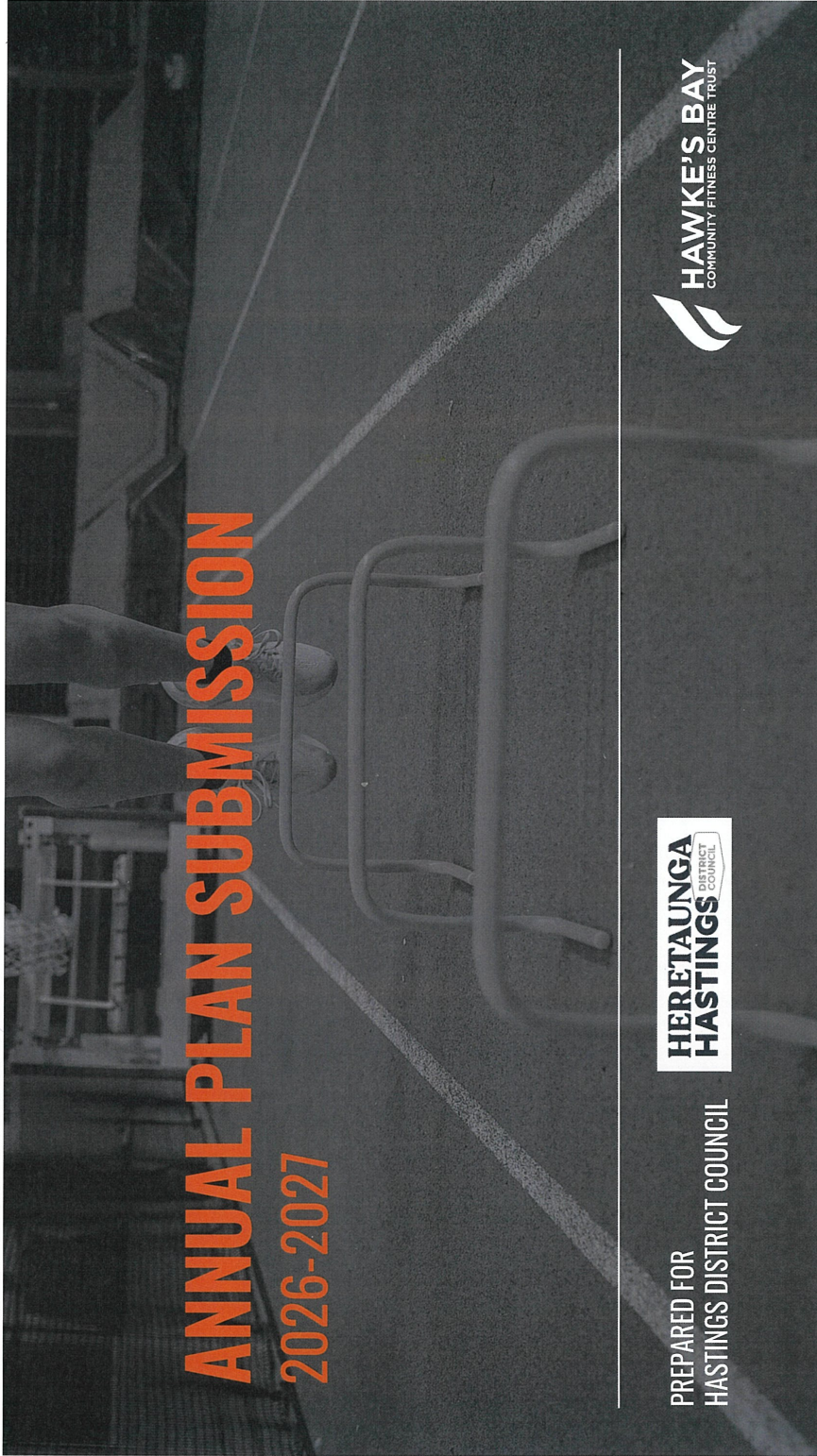
The detail that sits behind this request is summarised in the document attached.  
I, Brendan Bourke, as General Manager of HBCFCT, would like to speak to Council in regards to this feedback.

Kind regards  
Brendan

Attach a File

[hbcfct\\_hdc\\_annual\\_plan\\_submission\\_may\\_2026\\_1.pdf](#)

Attach a File



# CONTENTS

03	ABOUT US
05	OUR IMPACT
15	SUBMISSION OVERVIEW
16	SUBMISSION DETAILS
24	SUMMARY

---

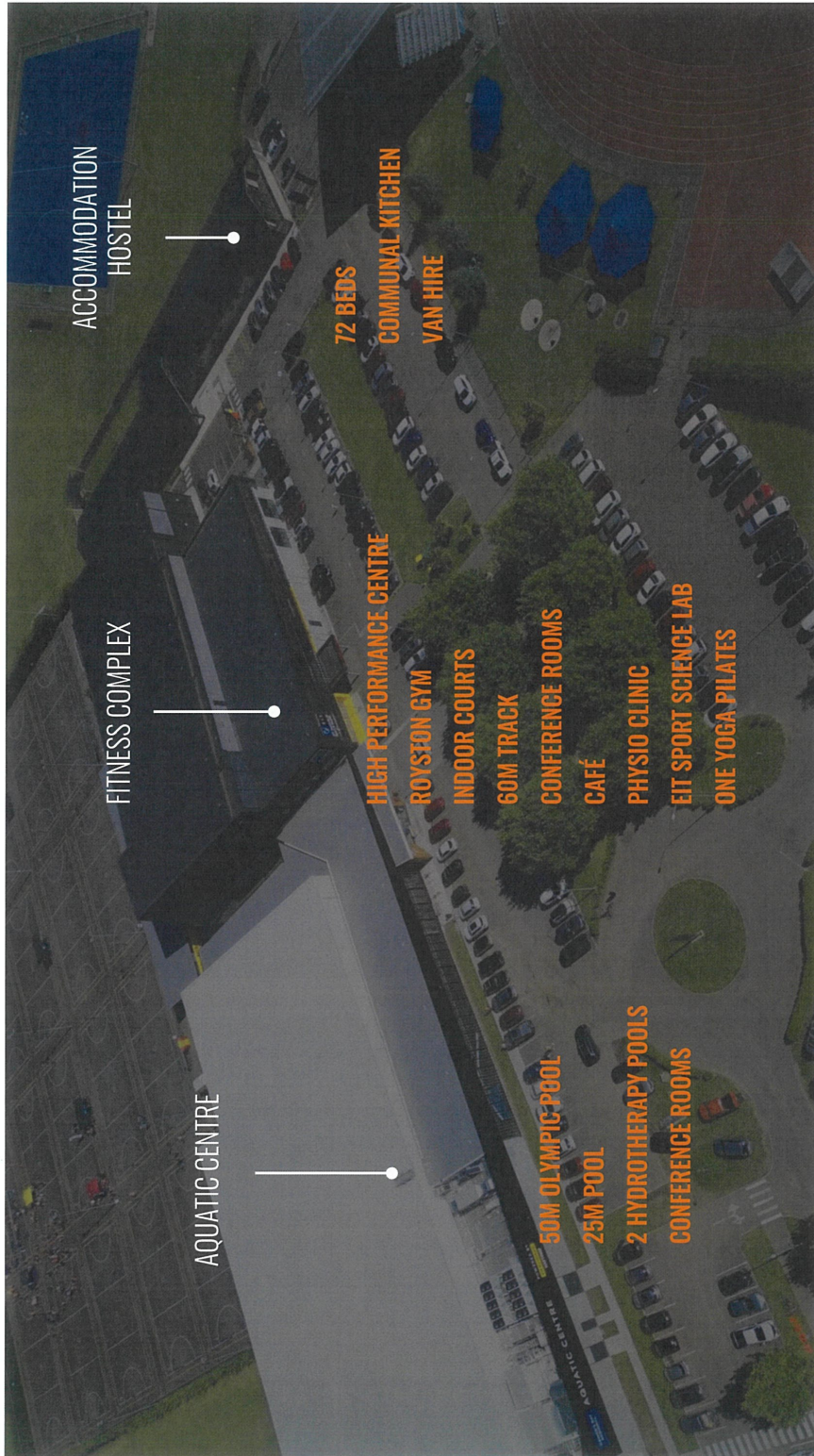


**WHO WE ARE**

**WE DELIVER SPECIALISED PROGRAMMES AND PREMIUM TRAINING FACILITIES FOR EVERY SPORT, AGE, FITNESS LEVEL OR GOAL**

We're Hawke's Bays flagship destination for sport and fitness, located at Mitre10 Park. Featuring a state of the art gym, aquatic centre, athlete performance centre, accommodation hostel, conference rooms and indoor courts, we provide a place where athletes and community can train side by side.

[WWW.HBCFCT.ORG.NZ](http://WWW.HBCFCT.ORG.NZ)






**OUR PILLARS**

**ASPIRE. TRAIN. SWIM. CONNECT**

Our four pillars reflect our commitment to providing a **diverse and inclusive environment**. Showcasing the **expanse of sport and fitness for athletes, youth, and everyday community**. Ensuring we provide a place where **people come to connect, grow and belong.**



**DELIVERY FOCUS**

**ASPIRE**  
**Building pathways for growth**, from education outside the classroom to coaching aspiring athletes. We nurture our youth, empower rising talent, and inspire future Olympians right here in our own backyard.

**TRAIN**  
**Delivering premium training facilities for athletes and everyday community**. From the big milestone moments to everyday fitness, our gym represents a place for where community can aspire, train, and enhance wellbeing together.

**SWIM**  
**A space where community, sport, and performance come together**. Our aquatic centre empowers growth at every age - where learning to swim, rehabilitation, and chasing personal bests happen in the same lane.

**CONNECT**  
**Creating a place of wellbeing and connection through sport, health and fitness**. Our conference rooms, accommodation hostel, and courts, tie together our fitness complex by creating spaces where people can connect.

# PILLAR ONE ASPIRE

Building pathways for growth. Our Athlete and Education Outside the Classroom programmes are modeled to deliver long-term success, growth, and resilience - from youth through to aspiring and professional athletes.

In a safe environment we teach more than just training and physical movement, we focus on mental resilience and wellbeing through the five pillars of hauora.



## DELIVERY

- Youth Athlete Pathways
- Athlete Development
- EOTC Programme
- Sports Teams and Schools
- Wellbeing Education
- Testing and Profiling
- Remote Programme Delivery

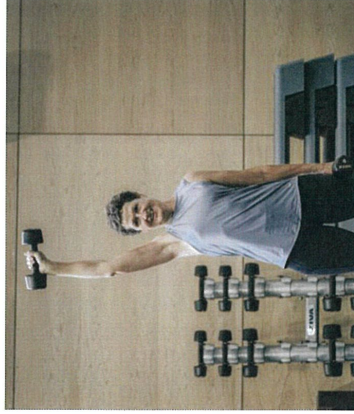
## IMPACT

- Building resilience, teamwork, and communication
- Education on wellbeing
- Injury prevention and recovery
- Developing life skills

## PILLAR TWO TRAIN

Delivering premium training facilities for athletes and everyday community. While the roots of this pillar tie back most strongly to our gym facilities, the aquatic centre offers training facilities that are world-class in the New Zealand environment.

From the big milestone moments to everyday fitness, our gym and pool represent a place for where community can aspire, train, and enhance wellbeing together.



### DELIVERY

- Royston Gym
- Group Fitness Classes
- Aquarobics
- Athlete Performance Centre
- Swim Clubs
- Water Polo

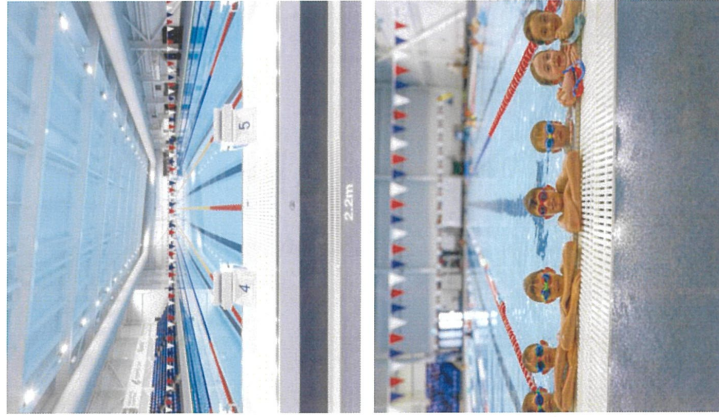
### IMPACT

- Community-focused environment
- In-house fitness challenges
- DHB - Cardiac Group users
- DHB - Better Breathing Group users
- Fitness Passport memberships

## PILLAR THREE SWIM

A space where community, sport, and performance come together. This three-year old facility has attracted significant numbers of patrons across swimming, water polo, flippa ball, aquarobics and swim school / water safety programmes. It has quickly established itself as the backbone of HBCFCT.

Our swim school programmes, cater to ages from 3 months through to 16+ years and adults, meaning our aquatic centre has become a place for all levels of water confidence and age groups.



### DELIVERY

- Public Swimming
- Aquarobics
- Water Safety
- Learn to Swim / Swim School
- Swim Clubs
- Water Polo
- Championships and Events
- Rehab and Hydrotherapy

### IMPACT

- Health and wellbeing
- Fitness
- Safety and confidence
- Competition
- Post injury rehabilitation



## PILLAR FOUR CONNECT

Creating a place of wellbeing and connection through sport, health and fitness. Our conference rooms, accommodation hostel, and courts, tie together our fitness complex by creating spaces where people can connect. Only a stones throw from Hastings, and 20 mins to Napier, our offerings suit a raft of local businesses for off-site workshops, team building days or simply meetings.


Our accommodation hostel also provides a place for touring sports teams and schools, putting Hawke's Bay on the map as a destination for national and groups.

### DELIVERY

Conference Rooms  
Indoor courts  
Accommodation  
Sponsorships  
School Programmes

### IMPACT

Community wide engagement  
Affordable and diverse offerings for local businesses  
Meaningful investment to operate programmes  
Hawke's Bay tourism



**THE IMPACT**

**Health and wellbeing**  
Participation in physical activity at our facility reduces health risks and promotes overall physical and mental well-being among users, particularly in mobility and strength-based exercises. This is delivered across various fitness classes, rehabilitation access, community programmes and initiatives.

**Inclusivity for all ages**  
Beginning from 3 months old at our water babies swim lessons to our go-steady and aquarobics classes catered to 60+ years, we provide a full circle of activity and exercise to all demographics of memberships across the Hawke's Bay region. This is seen in an even distribution of membership reports. We cater to all our community, not just one specific group.

# OUR AUDIENCE

With our diversification and increased accessibility, the Hawke's Bay Community Fitness Centre Trust reaches a significant domestic audience and is quickly growing national and international patronage, with school sports teams from Argentina staying in 2025 and 2026, and more South American teams all but confirmed for 2027.

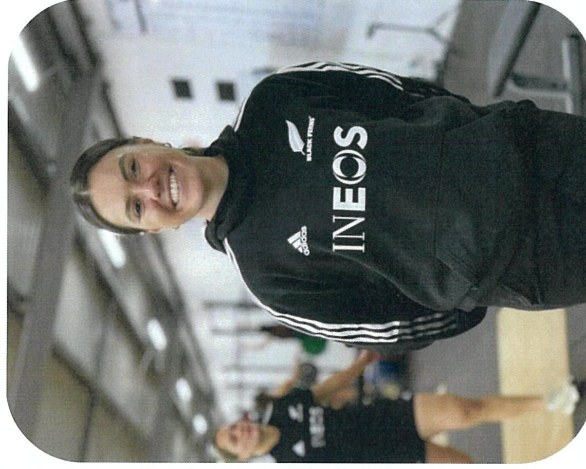
The Trust is focused on community health and well-being, and youth development programmes, while also working with high performance and aspiring athletes looking to make their name on the international stage.

## COMMUNITY

- General public
- Local youth
- Schools
- Students (EIT & University)
- Community & Corporate groups
- Business groups
- Rehabilitation patients

## SPORTS

- Local and regional sporting codes
- National Sporting Organisations
- International athletes and teams
- High Performance athletes



# MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

MEMBERSHIPS	NUMBER	HASTINGS DOMICILED
Royston Gym only	315	89 %
Aquatics only	121	84 %
Swim + Gym	985	74 %
Athlete Performance Centre	65	60 %
EOTC	15 Schools	53 %
Swim Clubs	4	50%
Swim School enrolments	1,142	75 %
Swim School lessons delivered (2025)	19,968	75%
Water Safety lessons delivered (2025)	22,400	80%
Water Polo games played (2025)	745	

• Data as of 1 Mar 2026

## SUBMISSION OVERVIEW

The HBCFCT Board and General Manager Brendon Bourke, representing the Hawke's Bay Community Fitness Centre Trust (HBCFCT), respectfully submit this proposal for your consideration for the Hastings District Council (HDC) Annual Plan 2026-2027.

A successful submission will allow HBCFCT to deliver sustainable operations over the coming 12 months and enable enhanced programmes and services for the benefit of Hastings domiciled residents.

Through our programmes and services, we create significant economic value to the HDC catchment and wider region, although unlike RSPT, PGA Trust and Sport Hawke's Bay, our Trust receives no annual operational or programme grant funding from any Local Authority or Government Agency, nor do we share any spoils of the economic impact.

We note and sincerely thank HDC for the recent \$150,000 grant received in April this year to allow the Trust to make payments to outstanding creditors.

We are seeking consideration of an annual grant of **\$300,000** tagged to **Operating Expenditure**. We are seeking consideration of an annual grant of **\$100,000** tagged to **Capital Expenditure**.



**BRENDAN BOURKE**

General Manager  
brendan@hbcfct.org.nz

## 2025-2026 COMMUNITY GRANT

- HBCFCT acknowledges that it received \$150,000 + GST from HDC in April 2026, to fund general operational expenditure.
- This was received with thanks and enabled the Trust to make payments to outstanding creditors immediately.
- The week it was received, the Trust made \$321,000 in payments. This would not have been possible without the Community Grant.



## THE CHALLENGES

### Why is it imperative we receive HDC funding

2025 has seen new or increased costs passed on by Regional Sports Park Trust for power and water. 2026 HBRC Rates have increased by over 150%.

District Health Board has recently exited their contract for lease of the Hydrotherapy Pools 17 months early, leaving us a \$110,000 hole in revenue for 2026 FY.

Sponsorship is getting more difficult to obtain, even with increased local businesses through the doors. We have provided more sponsorship proposals over the last 6 months than the previous 2 years.

Significant staffing is required across the facility to deliver programmes and safety in the pool. Staff wages and salaries in 2025 was over \$2.4M. Memberships and sponsorships are not enough to cover these costs, so additional support is sought.

Interest on loans and other associated banking costs means cashflow is always very tight. This has been the case for the last 24 months.

### Why we cannot get this funding elsewhere

Grant funding for 2025 was \$50,000 down from 2024 and is proving more challenging to obtain due to less venues in the HDC & NCC regions. 2024 saw \$70,000 from Air Rescue Services but only \$20,000 in 2025. All Air Rescue Services venues in Hawke's Bay are now closed meaning 2026 will be \$0.

Royston Health Trust has reduced their funding from \$264,000 in 2025 to \$185,000 in 2026 (with \$105,000 in 2027 and \$25,000 in 2028).

### Risk assessment

An annual OpEx and CapEx grant from HDC would enable HBCFCT to continue to deliver what it currently does. Without additional support, HBCFCT's position would mean refining and reducing its operations to ensure a more sustainable model can be delivered. Resulting refinements would affect the wider Hawke's Bay community.

# GRANT USAGE – OPEX – \$300,000

<p><b>General operating costs</b> Including wages and salaries (see next page for breakdown)</p>	<p>2025 FY: \$4.2m in operating expenses \$440K in facility expenses \$490K in Gym &amp; Performance Centre expenses \$2.7m in Aquatics expenses (incl \$1.5m in staff costs - reception, lifeguards, swim instructors, management) 2025: Total staff expenses of \$2.4m (incl \$370K in Corporate). We have less than 20FTE staff, ~100 staff on the books, with most casual lifeguard and swim instructors.</p>
<p><b>Facility insurance</b> For Aquatics Centre power</p>	<p>Insurance per year – circa \$350,000 Aquatics Power – 2024: \$660,000, ex GST; 2025: \$640,000, ex GST We have reduced power expenses by \$20K over the last year. We are on track to reduce by at least another \$10K this year due to better practices.</p>
<p><b>Lane hire rates shortfall</b></p>	<p>Reduction in grant funding across Hawke's Bay (for local clubs) and nationally (for Swimming NZ) means that our lane hire costs must be reduced to allow clubs to afford the significant hire durations they need. Lane Hire rates for events such as National Age Group Swim Champs mean we lose money for hosting them as Swimming NZ has significant funding challenges as well. Hostel revenue brings it back to a small surplus.</p>
<p><b>Repairs and maintenance</b> On EIT Institute building and HBRAC annual maintenance and general expenses</p>	<p>EIT building (phase 1 build) is coming up 10 years with some aspects requiring replacement due to faults / end of life. HBRAC building is 4 years in August with annual maintenance to keep minimum standard operating is significant (\$130K in 2025). \$100k in 2025 on chemicals and hygiene requirements.</p>
<p><b>Targeted Marketing</b> Campaigns to raise awareness and profile of the facility</p>	<p>HBCFCT suffers from locals not knowing what we deliver and who we are. A targeted marketing campaign is needed to showcase this facility and to educate people of Hawke's Bay how lucky we are to have this place. Not a significant spend, but a healthy return if implemented smartly.</p>

# STAFF COSTS

## Statement of Financial Performance Hawke's Bay Community Fitness Centre Trust For the year ended 31 December 2025

Account	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance	% of Costs	% of Costs
HBRAC - lifeguard	(589,132)	(511,000)	(78,132)	24%	24%
HBRAC - management	(278,919)	(237,000)	(41,919)	11%	11%
HBRAC - reception	(165,295)	(171,300)	6,005	7%	62%
HBRAC - swim school	(507,472)	(423,024)	(84,448)	20%	20%
Royston Gym	(239,834)	(237,000)	(2,834)	10%	10%
Athlete Performance Centre	(235,153)	(333,698)	98,545	9%	9%
EOTC	(66,629)	0	(66,629)	3%	3%
Hostel	(40,017)	(37,812)	(2,205)	2%	2%
Corporate	(369,532)	(314,186)	(55,346)	15%	15%
	<b>(2,491,983)</b>	<b>(2,265,020)</b>	<b>(226,963)</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

### REGIONAL AQUATIC CENTRE (HBRAC)

62% of staffing costs  
24% attributed to Lifeguards

### OTHER BUSINESS UNITS

15% on Corporate  
10% on Gym

### STAFF RESTRUCTURE

In Q1 2026, the Trust started a staffing restructure process.

This resulted in two staff losing their jobs, including the Aquatics Manager, who was an employee since the Trust's inception in 2018. Two staff who recently resigned were also not replaced.

This will result, from June, in a ~\$120,000 savings for the rest of the 2026 FY. This was a necessity to ensure we can continue to operate as sustainably as possible.

## GRANT USAGE – CAPEX - \$100,000

<p><b>Rebuild of leaking Hydrotherapy Pools</b> To enable DHB affiliated users, water babies classes and physio rehab use</p>	<p>\$160,000 project with \$105,000 secured through ECCT, Frimley Foundation and The Lion Foundation. \$55K shortfall, with this being actively sought through other funders and givers. Having these pools out of order means casual users (through physios and Enliven clients) need to go to Napier for these hydro services.</p>
<p><b>Installation of Solar Energy</b> Install on the roof of the Aquatic Centre will drastically reduce the annual power bills</p>	<p>The electricity costs in the Aquatic Centre are reducing due to excellent daily management of the operation. In May 2027, the 5-year agreement with Genesis Energy expires, and higher rates are forecast. Independent reports provided by Renewable Energy Consultants (HDC has a copy) suggest a \$100K saving annually based on a 420kWp PV system being installed. This would allow almost 15% of our energy being generated from solar.</p>
<p><b>Gym Equipment</b></p>	<p>After close to 10 years in operation, some key equipment in the Royston Gym is failing, with replacement costs for Watt Bikes over \$30K. The Trust needs to look at grant funding applications carefully to ensure the most in-demand requirements are applied for - i.e. insurance / power costs vs equipment that members have high use of, such as bikes and other cardio or strength equipment.</p>

## OPERATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS

### Staffing and Collaboration

- With a dedicated team of lifeguards, swim instructors, fitness and programme coaches, strength and conditioning coaches and office-based staff, we ensure the highest level of standards and service delivery across all areas of the business. With schools, clubs, NSO's such as Swimming NZ and Water Polo NZ, plus High Performance Sport NZ, we can enhance the reach and impact of our programmes through our connections.

### Event Hosting

- Annually hosting of Swimming NZ and Water Polo NZ events, showcasing our region as a premier sporting destination and contributing significantly to local businesses and tourism in Hastings. Sponsorship to Swimming NZ for National Age Group Swimming Champs from Napier City Council and HDC goes directly to Swimming NZ, while our venue runs at a loss for this event.

### Founding Home

- Of Hawke's Bay Water Polo, boasting over 2,050 playing members and 177 teams. Home to Heretaunga Sun Devils and performance training facility of Clive-based Trojans, Napier Aquahawks and Greendale swim clubs.



## MEMBER FEEDBACK

I'd have to say the difference in my rehab from open heart surgery and a pacemaker has been the facilities at the Sports Park (HBCFCT). From cardiac rehab for 6 weeks under the hospital, then going to strengthening and mobility and having the physio on site. I'm nine months in now and compared to my last open-heart surgery 18 years ago I am in a much better position fitness wise than I was back then. Thank you to you and your team, it has made a huge difference in my life. My specialist in Auckland was really impressed with the wellness team around me.

Susan S, Aquatic and Gym Member

The team who ran the testing and the S&C sessions were epic and adjusted to our wide range of age and stage perfectly so that everyone took something away - including our elites and coaches! Super grateful for the groups experience and we are keen to book it in again for next year!

Holly Fletcher, NZ SLS Performance Pathways Lead

Amazing facilities with excellent staff. Very grateful to have this on our doorstep. I hope that they build on some community initiatives, particularly for young families. Some combination of baby/toddler swimming classes plus sensory play and outdoor activities to bring families together would be awesome. I've seen the swim classes and they look great. But I think with this facility and its location it's setup to do more than just swimming classes. We will be regulars here.

Darragh L, Aquatic Member

**STRATEGIC DIRECTION OVERVIEW**

**OUR MISSION**  
We exist to make a difference - connecting people through sport and fitness. We deliver specialised programmes and premium training facilities for every sport, age, fitness level or goal.

**OUR VALUES**  
**Aspirational. Community. Wellbeing. Excellence. Trail Blazers.**  
We champion growth, connection, wellbeing, and excellence by leading with courage and setting new standards for our community.

**OUR PILLARS**  
**Aspire. Train. Swim. Connect.**  
Our four pillars represent more than just our physical service offering. They reflect our commitment to providing a diverse and inclusive environment. Showcasing the expanse of sport and fitness for athletes, youth, and everyday community. These pillars ensure we stay true to our values and uphold our mission to connect people through sport and fitness - ultimately improving the wellbeing of our community.

## FUNDING SOUGHT & CONCLUSION

**Annual Grants of:**

- Operating Expenditure Grant - \$300,000
- Capital Expenditure Grant - \$100,000

Noting that currently, the HBCFCT receives zero programme, operational or capital grants from any Local Authority in the region, or from any Government Agency, nor shares in the significant added economic value we create for Hastings and the wider region.

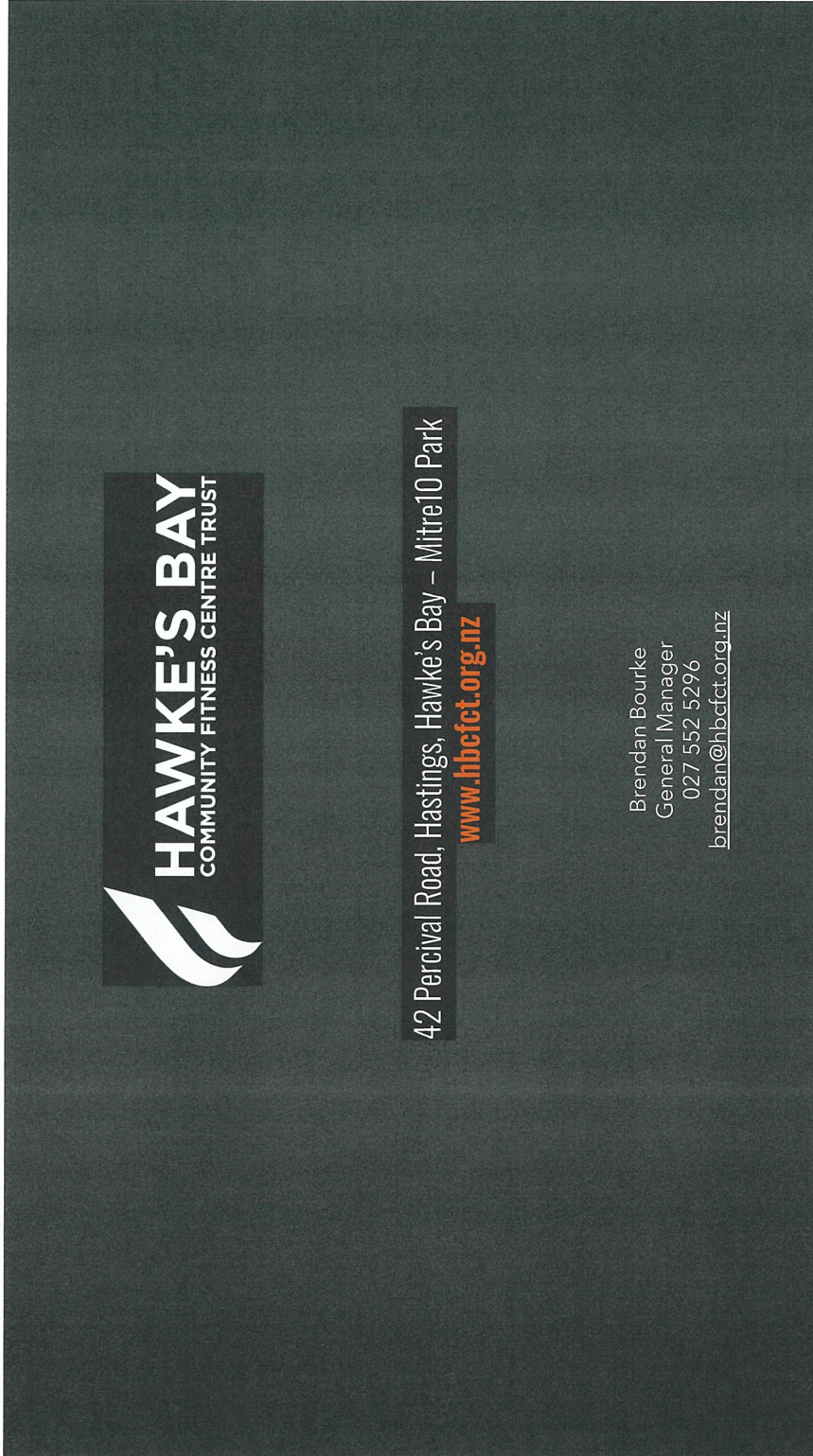
Thank you for your consideration. I am happy to discuss any information in this paper at an opportune time

Kind regards



**Brendan Bourke**  
**General Manager - Hawke's Bay Community Fitness Centre Trust**

For further statistics on our delivery this year, you can view our  
2025 At A Glance booklet [here](#):



5/18/26, 11:48 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#373

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 15th 2026, 1:38:45 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Angela McFlynn

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0225687750

**\* Email**[angela@mcflynnsurveying.co.nz](mailto:angela@mcflynnsurveying.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 support for rates increase; Resource Management Act fees and charges

**Please tell us your views below**

refer to attached document

**Attach a File**

hdc\_annual\_plan\_submission.pdf

**Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/373>

1/1

**Proposed Rates Increase**

The consultation document does not present a genuine range of options. Both options assume that the proposed level of expenditure is fixed and unavoidable, differing only in the timing of funding through increased rates or additional borrowing. No option is provided that considers reprioritisation of projects, deferral of non-essential expenditure, or operating within existing financial means.

This is a fundamental flaw in the consultation process. Meaningful consultation requires the community to be given a genuine opportunity to influence not just how decisions are funded, but whether the underlying level of expenditure and prioritisation of projects is appropriate. That opportunity has not been provided here.

Council refers to internal cost reductions, including limiting consultants, not replacing some roles, and tightening purchasing practices. However, no detail is provided on what expenditure has actually been reduced, what efficiencies have been achieved, or what trade-offs have been made. Without that transparency, it is impossible to assess whether all reasonable steps have been taken to manage costs before increasing rates.

Similarly, the statement that neither option involves changes to service levels confirms that the underlying cost structure has been treated as fixed. Maintaining current service levels is itself a policy choice with direct financial consequences for ratepayers, yet that choice has not been opened up for consultation.

The options presented require the community to absorb increased costs, either through higher rates now or increased borrowing. That approach is not sustainable.

The proposed increases come at a time when many households are already under significant financial pressure, with rising living costs forcing difficult choices between basic needs such as food and heating. This is further compounded by recent and anticipated job losses across the district, many of which are occurring in sectors already under pressure. Rising operating costs, including rates, are a direct contributor to those pressures for local businesses, increasing the risk of further job losses and placing additional strain on affected families already dealing with reduced income and financial uncertainty.

In that context, presenting only options that increase the financial burden on the community, without any meaningful consideration of reducing or reprioritising expenditure, reflects a significant disconnect from the realities facing residents and businesses.

The distinction between the two options is also presented as a matter of timing, when in reality the proposal to borrow to fund operational expenditure is a substantive financial decision with intergenerational implications. This is not a minor variation and should be presented as such.

The financial summary indicates a significant existing reliance on borrowing to fund Council activities. In that context, further increases in rates alongside continued borrowing raise legitimate questions about the sustainability of the current financial approach.

In the current financial environment, greater emphasis should be placed on core infrastructure and essential services, with non-essential or discretionary projects deferred wherever possible. Increasing rates to fund discretionary amenity or enhancement projects risks reducing the disposable income available to households and local businesses, undermining the very economic activity those investments may be intended to support.

The proposed introduction of new targeted rates further reinforces the concern that additional expenditure is being accommodated through new or increased charges, rather than through reprioritisation within existing budgets.

A third option should have been presented: maintaining current rates levels and requiring Council to adjust its expenditure and programme accordingly. The absence of this option means the consultation does not enable meaningful community input on the fundamental question of what Council should be spending.

Council must recognise that its decisions have real and immediate consequences for the wellbeing and resilience of the community, and should not assume those impacts can continue to be absorbed.

### **RMA Objection Fee**

The continued inclusion of a \$1,200 lodgement fee or deposit for objections under sections 357–358 of the Resource Management Act 1991 is not supported by section 36 of the Act and is inconsistent with both the statutory framework and Council's own stated position.

Section 36 does not authorise a blanket upfront lodgement fee or deposit for objections of this kind. The only express objection-specific charging provision relates to commissioner-heard objections. If Council relies on some other charging power, the statutory basis should be clearly identified.

A fundamental distinction also needs to be maintained between the ability to fix charges and the ability to recover actual and reasonable costs. Section 36 allows councils to fix charges of specified kinds in advance, and separately provides for recovery of actual costs where those fixed charges are insufficient (section 36(5)). The existence of a cost recovery mechanism does not create a corresponding power to impose an upfront fixed charge or deposit for that same process. Even if Council is entitled to recover the actual and reasonable costs of determining an objection, that does not entitle it to require a \$1,200 deposit as a precondition to lodging that objection.

Council's own position further undermines the basis for this charge. Council has stated that the processing of an objection forms part of its statutory functions associated with the receiving, processing, and granting of resource consents. If that is accepted, then the costs associated with considering an objection are already capable of being recovered through the existing resource consent charging framework, including additional time-costed recovery where appropriate. There is no justification for requiring those costs to be paid again, in advance, part way through the same process.

The current approach therefore operates as a form of double recovery: the applicant funds the processing of the application and is then required to pay a further upfront deposit to access the statutory objection process. That is not contemplated by section 36.

Even on a cost recovery basis, the approach is flawed. The outcome of an objection is inherently uncertain. Where an objection is upheld, it calls into question the appropriateness of requiring the objector to bear the costs of correcting or reconsidering Council's original decision. It is not reasonable to assume, at the point of lodgement, that the objector should fund that process. Imposing a fixed upfront deposit presumes liability for costs before the objection has even been considered.

More fundamentally, the requirement to pay a substantial upfront deposit to lodge an objection operates as a barrier to the exercise of a statutory right. Sections 357–358 provide an important accountability mechanism within the Act. It is inappropriate, and legally questionable, to use the threat of a significant upfront cost to discourage objections and limit scrutiny of Council decision-making.

In the absence of a clear and specific statutory basis, the objection fee should be removed.

#### **Permitted Boundary Activity Fee**

The proposed \$750 fee for a permitted boundary activity (PBA) is not consistent with the statutory framework or the nature of the process under the Resource Management Act 1991.

A PBA under section 87BA is a deliberately constrained and streamlined process. It is non-notified, involves no discretion beyond the prescribed statutory tests, and does not require a full assessment of environmental effects. The role of the consent authority is limited to confirming whether the activity meets the criteria set out in the Act, including the receipt of written approvals from relevant parties.

Section 36 requires that any fixed charge represents a reasonable estimate of the actual and reasonable costs of carrying out the relevant function. Comparative charging data suggests that, where PBAs are processed efficiently and in accordance with their intended statutory scope, actual charges are materially lower than the proposed fee.

The proposed fee of \$750 implies a level of processing input that appears disproportionate to the limited statutory scope of the process. This suggests that the charge is not based on a genuine estimate of typical processing costs, but instead reflects internal inefficiencies, over-processing, or a conservative cost-recovery buffer. Section 36 does not provide for the recovery of inefficiency or the pre-emptive loading of costs. It is limited to actual and reasonable costs associated with carrying out the function.

While Council is entitled to recover any additional costs actually incurred through section 36(5), that mechanism already addresses situations where a particular application requires more time than usual. There is no justification for inflating the baseline fixed fee to account for atypical or inefficient processing.

Accordingly, the proposed PBA fee should be reduced to a level that more accurately reflects the limited statutory scope and typical processing costs associated with these applications.


5/18/26, 11:49 AM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #374

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 15th 2026, 1:44:04 pm

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Rhea Dasent

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

021501817

#### \* Email

[rdasent@fedfarm.org.nz](mailto:rdasent@fedfarm.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.**

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?

please see attached submission from Federated Farmers

#### Please tell us your views below

please see attached submission from Federated Farmers

#### Attach a File

ffnz\_submission\_hastings\_ap\_2026.docx

#### Attach a File

# SUBMISSION

TELEPHONE 0800 327 646 | WEBSITE [WWW.FEDFARM.ORG.NZ](http://WWW.FEDFARM.ORG.NZ)



To: Hastings District Council

Submission on: **Draft Annual Plan 2026-2027**

Date: 15 May 2024

Submission by: Hawke's Bay Federated Farmers

**ANTHEA YULE**  
HAWKE'S BAY PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT  
Federated Farmers of New Zealand  
E [anthea@paranui.co.nz](mailto:anthea@paranui.co.nz)

Address for service: **RHEA DASENT**  
SENIOR POLICY ADVISOR  
Federated Farmers of New Zealand  
Ph 021 501 817  
E [rdasent@fedfarm.org.nz](mailto:rdasent@fedfarm.org.nz)

## INTRODUCTION

Hawkes Bay Federated Farmers welcomes the opportunity to submit to Hastings District Council on its *Annual Plan 2026-2027 Consultation Document*.

Federated Farmers has submitted on Hastings Annual Plans and Long-term Plans every year since at least 2008, which is as far back as our electronic records go, and we likely have been submitting for longer. We have great respect for long serving Hastings staff member Lex Verhoeven who has a fantastic knowledge of rating systems.

Federated Farmers' feedback represents the views of farming members and rate payers from the Hastings District.

We acknowledge any submissions from individual members of Federated Farmers.

Federated Farmers is focused on the transparency of rate setting, rates equity and both the overall and relative cost of local government on rural ratepayers. Rates are a significant expenditure for our members and value for their money is paramount.

Federated Farmers requests the opportunity to discuss this submission with the Council during the hearing process.

#### SUBMISSION SUMMARY

1. Federated Farmers prefers option 1 for a 5.9% average rate increase for the year ahead.
2. More needs to be done to reduce spending or even cancel non-core activities to ensure the financial resources available can cover core functions.
3. Federated Farmers strongly supports the two Rating Areas plus land use differentials that Hastings District Council employs for its General Rate.
4. These General Rate differentials provide better alignment between costs and benefits; an accurate reflection of land use impacts on council services; are less vulnerable to big valuation changes; and provide excellent transparency so ratepayers know where their money is going.
5. We submit that the Council investigates a swap from land value to capital value as a basis to strike the General Rate to ensure that all properties are paying more proportionality towards district services on their capital asset which more closely aligns with their use and benefit derived.

#### AVERAGE RATES INCREASES

Last time we submitted to Hastings District Council on its 2024 Long Term Plan, we expressed great concern at the astronomical and unacceptable 24% average rates increase for farms in Rating Area 2. At that time, it appeared that this 24% rates increase was attributed to a combination of the 2023 revaluations and the massive district-wide 58% CV increase coming into effect and impacting the General Rate, and the new Cyclone Gabrielle rates. That year, Hawkes Bay Regional Council rates were also going up an average of 19.6% so ratepayers were facing a double-whammy from both councils in 2024 - pushing the limits of affordability, especially when services are signalled to remain the same or even decline.

Federated Farmers is therefore more amenable to the option 1 of 5.9% average increase over option 2 at 9.1%. With the Regional Council applying a similar 5.2% average rates increase for the 2026-27 year rather than the 8.5% that was forecast in the Long Term Plan, ratepayers will be relieved that their councils are putting in some effort to respond to financial pressures and not further fuelling the inflation fire.

#### Submission:

1. Federated Farmers prefers option 1 for a 5.9% average rate increase for the year ahead.
2. More needs to be done to reduce spending or even cancel non-core activities to ensure the financial resources available can cover core functions.

### RATING AREAS

Federated Farmers strongly encourages the Council to retain its unique and sophisticated differential system with the two rating areas plus land uses within those areas.

We frequently uphold Hastings as a good example for other district councils to follow.

Federated Farmers is a strong supporter of the two rating areas because this system enables the Council to better match who pays with where costs are generated. This strengthens the “benefit principle” and transparency of general rating

Urban areas typically demand more intensive services such as urban-quality roads, stormwater, drinking water, and footpaths. Rural areas receive fewer network services like water, wastewater, household rubbish and recycling collection. Rural rating area two also has different infrastructure cost drivers such as length of roads rather than their density.

Using distinct rating areas that ring fence the rates collected from each area to be spent in that area, reduces cross-subsidisation between urban and rural. This also assures ratepayers that their rates are going towards services they directly benefit from and see operating in their neighbourhoods and communities.

The land use categories within the rating areas also have distinct advantages. The type of land use places very different demands on council services and generates different levels of traffic, stormwater runoff, and different demands on council compliance and regulation.

Federated Farmers considers that the Hastings District Council has an innovative and advanced method of striking the General Rate that provides benefits for both the Council and ratepayers.

#### Submission:

3. Federated Farmers strongly supports the two Rating Areas plus land use differentials that Hastings District Council employs for its General Rate.
4. These General Rate differentials provide better alignment between costs and benefits; an accurate reflection of land use impacts on council services; are less vulnerable to big valuation changes; and provide excellent transparency so ratepayers know where their money is going.

### GENERAL RATE

If the Council is looking for methods to improve on the General Rate, we suggest a change to capital value as the basis instead of land value. Land value may be justifiable for regional councils to rate on because most of their activities are based on land and natural environment management, but a territorial authority’s functions are firmly on infrastructure and public services that benefit people and the capital asset component of their property.

We note that this year, the cents in the dollar that the general rate for Rating Area Two farming has been bumped up to 0.179084 cents in the dollar after experiencing a regular fall since 2021. We

assume this increase is due to the revaluations reducing the overall capital value of rating area 2. This is an example of the better flexibility that the rating area differentials can provide.

2021 LTP:

Differential Rating Area Two		
Residential	0.85	0.201821
Lifestyle / Horticulture / Farming	1	0.237436
Commercial	1.65	0.391770

2023 AP:

Differential Rating Area Two		
Residential	0.85	0.137376
Lifestyle / Horticulture / Farming	1	0.161619
Commercial	1.65	0.266672

2024 LTP:

Differential Rating Area Two		
Residential	0.85	0.136185
Lifestyle / Horticulture / Farming	1	0.160218
Commercial	1.65	0.264360

2026 Draft Annual Plan:

Differential Rating Area Two		
Residential	0.85	0.152222
Lifestyle / Horticulture / Farming	1	0.179084
Commercial	1.65	0.295489

Hawkes Bay Regional Council switched to capital value for the General Rate in 2024, which Federated Farmers supported. We suggest the Hastings District Council take a look at the advantages of capital value rating too.

Using a capital value rating model has the advantage of ensuring that the improvements on a property are incorporated in the rates assessment. Demand on most council's services tends to be generated by more intensively developed properties rather than bare land.

We see a number of advantages for CV rating:

- It's the broader tax base, so less subject to distortions; Council is more likely to capture the value of growth within the district.
- CV captures the value of buildings. Buildings generally relate to people and vehicles, and therefore the primary elements of consumption of council services.
- CV captures the developed value of a property; the more developed, the more likely the demand on council services.

- CV, while still hopelessly inadequate, is a better reflection of a ratepayer's actual ability to pay.
- Differentials are still needed to protect rural areas from being punitively rated. While better than land value, CV yet retains all of the problems of simply taxing property value to pay for public services.

There is a clear trend across local government toward the adoption of capital value as a rating basis, rather than land value. Capital value recognises that a highly developed property such as a McDonalds restaurant will create more demand on council services, and should therefore pay more rates, than the same property that is undeveloped bare land.

Capital value recognises that urban properties have a proportionately higher aspect of their value in their buildings and assets rather than their land value. This means that for a farmer with a land value of \$1,200,000, and a capital value of \$1,600,000, only 25% of their total property value consists of improvements such as buildings. This can be compared with an industrial-commercial property with a land value of only \$46,000 and a capital value of \$115,000. 60% of their total property value consists of capital development, with land value only 40%.

The observant will notice that the farmer's property value is still much higher than the industrial-commercial property, so the farmer will be paying a much higher general rate struck on CV. This is why differentials are necessary, in order to flatten the discrepancy. And the Hastings rating areas plus land use categories already provide the differential framework for a change from LV to CV.

**Submission:**

5. We submit that the Council investigates a swap from land value to capital value as a basis to strike the General Rate to ensure that all properties are paying more proportionality towards district services on their capital asset which more closely aligns with their use and benefit derived.

---

Federated Farmers is a not-for-profit primary sector policy and advocacy organisation that represents the majority of farming businesses in New Zealand. Federated Farmers has a long and proud history of representing the interests of New Zealand's farmers.



The Federation aims to add value to its members' farming businesses. Our key strategic outcomes include the need for New Zealand to provide an economic and social environment within which:

- Our members may operate their business in a fair and flexible commercial environment;
- Our members' families and their staff have access to services essential to the needs of the rural community; and
- Our members adopt responsible management and environmental practices.

This submission is representative of member views and reflect the fact that local government rating and spending policies impact on our member's daily lives as farmers and members of local communities.



5/18/26, 12:05 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#377

### CREATED



PUBLIC

May 15th 2026, 2:08:28 pm

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Ryan Hambleton

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

022654060

### \* Email

[ryanh@sporthb.net.nz](mailto:ryanh@sporthb.net.nz)

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

Yes

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

What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

(No response)

Please tell us your views below

(No response)

Attach a File

[hdc\\_2026\\_annual\\_plan\\_submission\\_sport\\_hawkes\\_bay.pdf](#)

Attach a File

## Submission to Hastings District Council – Annual Plan 2026/27

### Introduction

Sport Hawke's Bay welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the Hastings District Council Draft Annual Plan 2026–2027. We acknowledge the Council's commitment to community wellbeing, affordable services, and essential infrastructure investment.

We support the Plan's direction where it aligns with enabling community access to safe, well-maintained public spaces and facilities that act as platforms for physical activity. Yet, Sport Hawke's Bay would support the Plan to better reflect the importance of strategic investment in sport and active recreation infrastructure and programming that contribute to community health, equity, and life-long active living.

### Importance of Play, Active Recreation and Sport

Play, active recreation and sport are foundational to strong, resilient, and connected communities. They contribute directly to physical and mental wellbeing, social cohesion, safety, climate resilience, and long-term health outcomes.

### Acknowledgement of Partnership

Sport Hawke's Bay acknowledges the longstanding, positive, and collaborative relationship with Hastings District Council, and in particular the strong working partnerships that exist between Council officers and Sport Hawke's Bay staff.

This trusted relationship has enabled meaningful collaboration across community wellbeing, facility use, programme delivery, and event activation, ensuring that Council owned spaces and services are maximised for the benefit of local communities. Sport Hawke's Bay values the openness, professionalism, and shared commitment demonstrated by Council officers, and sees this partnership as critical to achieving positive outcomes for physical activity, health, and social connection across the district.

We also acknowledge and thank Council Officers for their demonstrated commitment to collaborating with neighbouring Territorial Authorities through the establishment of Regional Spaces and Places and Regional Aquatics Facilities steering groups. This regional approach aligns strongly with our belief that coordinated planning, shared investment, and consistency of provision are essential to maximising impact and value for communities across Hawke's Bay.

We believe that working together towards collective goals will have the greatest possible impact on wellbeing for all Hawke's Bay communities and hapori.

## Key Submission Points

### **Recognise and Support Sport & Active Recreation as Strategic Priorities**

Sport Hawke's Bay recommends that Council

- Explicitly recognise sport and active recreation as strategic contributors to community wellbeing and engagement within the Annual Plan priorities.
- Allocate specific budget or partnership resources for sport and active recreation initiatives and regional planning responses.

### **Target Active Participation in Priority Communities**

Sport Hawke's Bays strategic direction prioritises:

- Tamariki and rangatahi physical activity;
- Less active communities with barriers to participation. In Hastings we focus on communities within the Hastings West boundary.

We request:

- Funding support or partnership signalling for targeted initiatives that activate parks, facilities, and programmes in these communities.
- Inclusion of equity focused outcomes in Council performance frameworks.

### **Facilitate Strategic Facilities Planning**

Given the importance of facilities and infrastructure in supporting community access:

- We recommend Council actively participates and co-invests in regional facilities planning processes (e.g., aquatic facilities planning) to create coordinated outcomes for community access across Hawke's Bay.

### **Support Active Transport & Recreational Pathways**

Sport Hawke's Bay recognises the role of trails, cycleways, and pedestrian infrastructure as enablers of daily active lifestyles.

We ask Council to:

- Include or allocate planning or proof-of-concept funding for active transport infrastructure that supports physical activity.

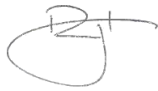
## Conclusion

Sport Hawke's Bay thanks the Hastings District Council for the opportunity to provide feedback.

We support infrastructure renewal and affordable service delivery that fosters safe, accessible, and active communities.

We urge Council to strengthen the Annual Plan by explicitly recognising sport and active recreation as strategic contributors to community wellbeing, supporting equitable participation, and partnering for facilities and pathways that align with our shared vision for a healthier, more active district.

Ngā mihi nui,



**Ryan Hambleton**  
Chief Executive  
Sport Hawke's Bay



**Sue Smith**  
General Manager  
Sport Hawke's Bay



5/18/26, 12:06 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#378

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 15th 2026, 2:29:15 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Jill Marshall

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

021374274

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

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

No

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

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

Budgeting based on existing Income and eliminating all unnecessary spending

**Please tell us your views below**

All households in the area are trying to balance their personal household budget with increased cost of power sources, gas, electricity, fuel. The cost of food is also increasing all the time. This means making decisions as to spending on essential items only. One example would be whether the ratepayer would be willing to put up with less beautification of items such as roundabouts and common spaces until the budget is balanced. A simple decision all householders need to make regarding buying plants for their own garden.

A review is needed of all discretionary spend and to minimise this in the same way as all hasting ratepayers are having to do, minimising any borrowing and tightening the belt. I am sure that if it is communicated correctly many ratepayers would be happy to see a reduction of spending on 'non-essential' services until borrowing is reduced and the rates can be brought to a reasonable level.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/378>

1/1



5/18/26, 12:08 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#379

### CREATED



PUBLIC

May 15th 2026, 2:37:49 pm

### IP ADDRESS



### \* Name

Ben Hutton

### Address

New Zealand

### \* Contact phone number

0272718187

### \* Email

[ben@hbairport.co.nz](mailto:ben@hbairport.co.nz)

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

Yes

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

What are the main topics you wish to feedback on?

(No response)

Please tell us your views below

(No response)

Attach a File

hba1\_submission\_to\_hdc\_fy27\_annual\_plan\_consultation.pdf

Attach a File



## HBAL submission to Hastings District Council Annual Plan 2026/27 Consultation

**Date:** May 2026

**Prepared by:** Nick Flack – Chief Executive Officer

**Ben Hutton – Marketing, Communications and Engagement Manager**

Hawke's Bay Airport Limited (HBAL) thanks Hastings District Council for the opportunity to submit on the Draft Annual Plan 2026/27. HBAL's interest in this process arises from the Airport's role as the region's aviation gateway and as a strategic piece of infrastructure that supports visitor access, business connectivity and wider economic activity across Hawke's Bay. While the Airport is not located within Hastings District, Council's decisions in relation to economic development and visitor attraction remain highly relevant to HBAL and to the performance of the regional economy.

### Visitor economy and destination development

HBAL supports Council's recognition that visitor attraction forms part of Hastings' wider economic and community development role. HBAL sees the visitor economy as an interconnected system. Air access, destination marketing, visitor facilities, events, accommodation, public spaces, food and wine experiences, and the overall ease and quality of the visitor experience all contribute to destination strength. For Hastings, that proposition is central to the district's contribution to the broader Hawke's Bay offer.

HBAL's core submission point is that visitor economy decisions should be approached strategically and as part of that wider system. Visitor-facing infrastructure and services do not create their full value in isolation. Their real contribution lies in how they help build destination appeal, attract spending from outside the region, encourage longer stays and repeat visits, and support confidence among local businesses and investors.

In that context, HBAL considers ongoing funding for Hawke's Bay Tourism to be a particularly important part of the overall visitor economy picture. Destination marketing is what turns a region's attractions, events and facilities into actual travel decisions. Without effective promotion and market visibility, the return on investment from visitor facilities and destination experiences is diminished. HBAL therefore strongly supports continued local government investment in Hawke's Bay Tourism as a regional economic enabler.

HBAL's view is that support for Hawke's Bay Tourism should not be seen as discretionary promotion, but as practical investment in demand generation. Effective destination marketing strengthens the profile of Hastings and Hawke's Bay, supports visitor growth, helps sustain airline confidence, and improves the return on the district's wider investment in visitor-serving places and experiences. It also reflects the fact that the benefits of tourism extend well beyond businesses



directly serving visitors, flowing more broadly into hospitality, retail, events, accommodation, transport and district vibrancy.

HBAL is, however, concerned that the level of regional funding for destination marketing is insufficient for Hawke's Bay Tourism to remain competitive in the current market. That matters because Hastings' own Annual Plan identifies visitor attraction as part of its wider economic development agenda, yet a constrained approach to destination marketing risks weakening the region's ability to convert those assets and ambitions into actual visitation and spend. In HBAL's view, that sits uncomfortably against the wider national focus on tourism growth and represents a missed opportunity for both Hastings and Hawke's Bay to secure a stronger share of that growth. At a time when other destinations are competing aggressively for visitor attention, a more ambitious commitment to destination marketing would better align with the district's stated economic objectives and help ensure Hastings is positioned to benefit even more from renewed growth in domestic and international travel.

HBAL recognises the constrained financial context in which this Annual Plan has been prepared, including the ongoing recovery and affordability pressures. Even in that setting, however, we encourage Council to retain a clear strategic focus on those investments and partnerships that strengthen Hastings' ability to attract visitors and convert regional visitation into district-wide economic benefit.

**In summary, HBAL submits that:**

Council should continue to recognise the visitor economy as an important part of Hastings' wider economic development agenda. Decisions affecting visitor facilities, visitor services and destination development should be assessed not only on immediate cost grounds, but also on their contribution to destination appeal, visitor spend and wider economic activity.

Council should maintain visible support for Hawke's Bay Tourism funding, recognising destination marketing as a key economic enabler that helps convert Hastings and Hawke's Bay's visitor offer into actual demand and expenditure. Council should continue to take a coordinated view of visitor attraction, access, facilities and promotion so that Hastings strengthens its position within the wider Hawke's Bay destination.

HBAL would welcome the opportunity to present this submission in person to Council.

Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "N Flack".

**Nick Flack**  
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B Hutton".

**Ben Hutton**  
Marketing, Communications and Engagement  
Manager



5/18/26, 12:10 PM

Wufoo - Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#380

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 15th 2026, 2:43:41 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Barbara Ryan

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0275338372

**\* Email**[barbery@xtra.co.nz](mailto:barbery@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?**Rate increases  
Multiple projects occurring simultaneously-**Please tell us your views below**

I have heard commercial properties have been informed there increases will be 25% or more not the 5 or 9 % as per option 1 and 2 above.  
Any increase is not sustainable but definitely not 25% that's not going to work- it will just force more business out of work and buildings will be empty.  
Personal home owners can't afford rate increases either - and there seems to be duplication for charges - floods plus Gabriel charges ?

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/380>

1/1




5/18/26, 12:12 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

### HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

**COMPLETE** #382

#### CREATED

 PUBLIC  
May 15th 2026, 2:59:46 pm

#### IP ADDRESS



#### \* Name

Aleesha Giles

#### Address

New Zealand

#### \* Contact phone number

0273740074

#### \* Email

[aleeshagiles@gmail.com](mailto:aleeshagiles@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



5/18/26, 12:13 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#383

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 15th 2026, 3:15:18 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Irina Konig

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0211341120

**\* Email**[irinakoenig@hotmail.de](mailto:irinakoenig@hotmail.de)

**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**

I understand that there are long-term plans and budget priorities to consider. However, it feels like the current financial realities facing individual households are not being fully recognised.

The cost of living is higher than it has ever been, and nearly every essential expense has increased significantly. Many households are doing their best just to manage day-to-day costs. Against this backdrop, proposals for major projects—such as new infrastructure—can feel disconnected from what people are currently experiencing.

It is also hard to understand how existing rates, which are already a significant financial burden for many, are still not sufficient to cover core costs.

There needs to be a better balance between future planning and the immediate financial pressures facing the community right now. Thank you

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/383>

1/1



5/18/26, 12:14 PM

Wufoo · Entry Detail

## HDC - Draft Annual Plan 2026/27

COMPLETE

#384

## CREATED



PUBLIC

May 15th 2026, 3:35:51 pm

## IP ADDRESS

**\* Name**

Mark Cleary

**Address**

New Zealand

**\* Contact phone number**

0272839386

**\* Email**[napier.homeless.shelter@gmail.com](mailto:napier.homeless.shelter@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?**

Addressing homelessness across Te Matau a Maui Hawkes Bay

**Please tell us your views below**

The Napier Ahuriri Homeless Shelter Society is currently collaborating with organisations across Hawkes Bay including Heretaunga. There are clearly some examples of innovative and highly successful practices in our rōhē (i.e. Kuhu Mai and Āhuru Mōwai) and the region will benefit from there being a more unified strategic approach.

We see a real need for Council leadership and support in this space particularly in developing a regional strategy for homelessness.

**Attach a File****Attach a File**<https://app.wufoo.com/entry-manager/3796/entries/384>

1/1



Hastings City Business Association Inc.  
203 Heretaunga Street East  
PO Box 420  
Hastings 4122



**Hastings City**  
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

#### **Submission on Hastings District Council Draft Annual Plan 2026/27**

Tēnā koutou katoa,

Hastings City Business Association (HCBA) appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft Annual Plan and acknowledges the significant challenges facing Council, businesses, and the wider community following Cyclone Gabrielle and ongoing economic pressures.

HCBA supports continued investment in initiatives that strengthen Hastings as a vibrant, accessible, and economically resilient regional centre. Our feedback focuses on the impacts of commercial property revaluation, tourism funding, and central city revitalisation.

#### **Commercial property revaluation**

HCBA recognises that the three-yearly district property revaluation process is a statutory requirement and that Hastings District Council does not receive additional overall rates revenue as a direct result of revaluations. However, we remain concerned about the practical impact the latest commercial property revaluations will have on Hastings CBD businesses and property owners.

Many central city businesses continue to operate in a difficult economic environment characterised by rising insurance costs, reduced discretionary consumer spending, increased operating expenses, and ongoing recovery pressures. In this context, substantial valuation increases for some commercial properties may create disproportionate financial pressure through higher rates allocations, despite no corresponding increase in business revenue or occupancy levels.

HCBA encourages Council to continue clearly communicating how the revaluation process works and to consider the cumulative affordability pressures currently facing the commercial sector. We also encourage Council to remain mindful of the potential unintended consequences of increased rates burdens on investment, tenancy retention, and long-term city centre activation. HCBA believes a dedicated member information evening would be valuable to help businesses and property owners better understand the implications of the revaluation process, provide clarity around potential impacts, and create an opportunity for members to ask questions directly and engage constructively with Council representatives.

A thriving commercial centre is critical to the economic wellbeing of Hastings District.

#### **Tourism funding**

HCBA strongly supports the continued investment in regional destination marketing and acknowledges the importance of maintaining funding support for Hawke's Bay Tourism Limited while a longer-term model is developed.

Tourism remains a critical economic driver for Hastings and the wider Hawke's Bay region. Visitor spend directly supports hospitality, retail, accommodation, events, and service businesses across the Hastings CBD and wider district. In the current economic climate, sustained destination marketing is essential not only for attracting domestic and international visitors, but also for supporting business confidence and economic recovery across the region.

---

Hastings City Business Association is incorporated under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022

HCBA agrees that a sustainable, regionally supported funding model is necessary and that the responsibility for regional promotion should not rest solely with Hastings District Council. We encourage continued collaboration between Hastings, Napier, Central Hawke's Bay, and regional stakeholders to establish a long-term structure that recognises the shared economic benefit tourism delivers across the entire region.

HCBA supports retaining Hastings' funding contribution in the interim while future governance and funding arrangements are clarified.

#### **Central City revitalisation and infrastructure investment**

HCBA supports the coordinated approach being taken by Hastings District Council and KiwiRail to deliver the rail safety and city centre improvement works concurrently. Undertaking these projects together demonstrates practical long-term planning and reduces unnecessary duplication of cost and disruption.

We acknowledge the importance of improving rail safety through the city centre and support investment in accessibility, public realm upgrades, landscaping, and renewal of ageing infrastructure. Well-designed public spaces contribute significantly to the attractiveness, functionality, and economic vitality of Hastings CBD.

HCBA emphasises the importance of proactive communication and business support throughout the construction period.

HCBA also welcomes the redevelopment of the former Farmers' Co-operative site at 206 Queen Street West by Mike Walker. Investment that combines commercial activity, heritage preservation, public space, and inner-city residential living aligns strongly with the long-term vision for a more vibrant and activated city centre.

Increasing residential density within the CBD is particularly important for supporting hospitality, retail, events, and after-hours activity.

We appreciate the opportunity to contribute to the Draft Annual Plan and look forward to continuing to work collaboratively with Council to support a resilient, prosperous, and vibrant Hastings city centre and wider district. On behalf of HCBA I am happy to speak to this submission at a Council meeting set down for hearing submissions and look forward to hearing your response in due course.

Ngā mihi nui,

Lucinda Perry

General Manager

P: 027 488 0630

E: manager@hastingscity.co.nz

## Formal Proposal to Council

**To:** The Mayor and all Elected Members of all New Zealand Councils

**From:** TE AROHA HIRA TAPUI LIMITED (hira Community Group)

**Date:** May 7, 2026

**Subject:** Formal Submission for a Rates-Funded "Base-Service" Waste Collection Model

**Dear Mayor and Councillors,**

I am writing to formally propose a strategic shift in our district's waste management framework. To better align with national environmental targets and ensure equitable public health outcomes, I propose that the Council implement a **Rates-Funded Standard Service** consisting of one **80-litre rubbish bin** per rateable property, with the cost incorporated into a Targeted Rate.

### 1. The Problem with the Current "User-Pays" Bag System

While intended to incentivize waste reduction, the current system of purchasing individual bags creates several unintended consequences:

- **Public Health Risks:** High waste costs lead to waste hoarding and illegal dumping in our rural landscapes and public bins, creating "nuisances" under the **Health Act 1956**.
- **Inequity:** Low-income households face a disproportionate financial barrier to basic sanitary services.
- **Inconsistency:** Without a standardized bin, we lack a streamlined, automated collection process that could lower long-term operational costs.

### 2. The Legal Pathway for the "80L Base Service"

This proposal is legally supported by the following New Zealand legislation:

- **Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (Section 42):** Council has a statutory duty to "promote effective and efficient waste management." An 80L bin provides a "base" level of service that ensures all residents participate in the waste system.
- **Local Government Act 2002 (Section 11A):** Solid waste collection is a "core service." By moving this to a **Targeted Rate** (under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002), the Council ensures a stable, predictable revenue stream for waste infrastructure.
- **Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (Section 46):** This allows Council to use its share of the **National Waste Disposal Levy** to subsidize this 80L service, making it "free" at the kerbside for the resident while remaining fiscally responsible.

### 3. Proposed Model: The "80L Cap"

We propose the Council adopts a "Hybrid-Incentive" model:

*hira.kimi@proton.me*

1. **The Base Service:** Every urban rateable property receives one 80L wheelie bin. Collection is funded by a targeted rate, meaning no tags or bags are required for this bin.
2. **The Incentive to Minimise:** 80 litres is a strict limit. Households that produce more waste than this must either:
  - o Pay a premium for a larger bin (140L/240L) via an increased targeted rate.
  - o Contract a **private waste provider** for any surplus.
3. **Bylaw Enforcement:** Use the **Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw** to prohibit the placement of non-council bags on the kerb, ensuring the 80L cap is respected.

#### 4. Recommendation and Required Legal Steps

I request that the Council formally investigate the feasibility of this "80L Base Service" and initiate the following mandatory legal procedures to put it into practice:

- **Review of the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP):** Under **Section 44 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008**, the Council must first amend its WMMP to reflect this new service level. This requires the Council to follow the **Special Consultative Procedure** outlined in Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002, ensuring the public can weigh in on the shift from bags to bins.
- **Section 17A Service Review:** Under **Section 17A of the Local Government Act 2002**, the Council is legally required to review the "cost-effectiveness" of its current waste services. I recommend this review specifically compare the long-term health and environmental costs of the current bag system against the proposed 80L rates-funded model.
- **Amendment of the Long-Term Plan (LTP):** To move the funding from "user-pays" to "rates-funded," the Council must include the new **Targeted Rate** in its Long-Term Plan (or an Annual Plan amendment). This ensures the funding is transparent and complies with the **Local Government (Rating) Act 2002**.
- **Update of Solid Waste Bylaws:** Finally, the Council must update its local bylaws to define the "80L bin" as the only authorized receptacle for the rates-funded collection, effectively setting the cap and providing the legal basis to refuse collection of excess or non-standard waste.

I look forward to the opportunity to speak to this submission during the public hearings for the next Annual Plan.

Sincerely,

hira % Jared Warren Gardner

Hira Public Marae  
86 Tyndall Street,  
Pahiatua, 4910  
+64204684472  
hira.kiwi@proton.me

**Lex F. Verhoeven**

**From:** Customer Service (HDC)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 12 May 2026 3:30 PM  
**To:** Angela Atkins  
**Subject:** FW: Formal Proposal to Council: Base-Service Waste Collection Model  
**Attachments:** Formal Proposal to Council Base-Service Waste Collection Model.pdf

**Rachel Turner****Customer Services Officer**

Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga | Hastings District Council  
 Wāaea/Phone +64 6 871 5000

**From:** hira.kiwi <hira.kiwi@proton.me>

**Sent:** Thursday, 7 May 2026 8:29 AM

**To:** info@nrc.govt.nz; enquiries@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz; info@waikatoregion.govt.nz; info@boprc.govt.nz; service@gdc.govt.nz; info@hbrc.govt.nz; enquiries@trc.govt.nz; help@horizons.govt.nz; info@gw.govt.nz; ecinfo@ecan.govt.nz; customerservices@orc.govt.nz; service@es.govt.nz; askus@fndc.govt.nz; council@kaipara.govt.nz; mailroom@wdc.govt.nz; info@hcc.govt.nz; info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz; info@mpdc.govt.nz; info@otodc.govt.nz; info@southwaikato.govt.nz; council@taupo.govt.nz; info@waidc.govt.nz; info@waipadc.govt.nz; waitomodc@waitomo.govt.nz; info@tauranga.govt.nz; customerservice@westernbay.govt.nz; information@whakatane.govt.nz; office@kaweraudc.govt.nz; enquiries@npdc.govt.nz; stratforddc@stratford.govt.nz; contact@stdc.govt.nz; info@napier.govt.nz; Customer Service (HDC) <council@hdc.govt.nz>; info@chbdc.govt.nz; info@pncc.govt.nz; wdc@whanganui.govt.nz; info@rangitikei.govt.nz; info@ruapehuc.govt.nz; info@wcc.govt.nz; contact@huttcity.govt.nz; askus@uhcc.govt.nz; enquiries@porirua.govt.nz; kapiti.council@kapiticoast.govt.nz; mdc@mstn.govt.nz; info@cdc.govt.nz; enquiries@swdc.govt.nz; info@ccc.govt.nz; office@wmk.govt.nz; info@hurunui.govt.nz; kdc@kaikoura.govt.nz; enquiries@selwyn.govt.nz; info@adc.govt.nz; enquiry@timdc.govt.nz; info@mackenzie.govt.nz; council@waimatedc.govt.nz; dcc@dcc.govt.nz; services@qldc.govt.nz; info@codc.govt.nz; contact@cdc.govt.nz; info@goredc.govt.nz; icc@icc.govt.nz; office@bdc.govt.nz; info@greyc.govt.nz; info@westlanddc.govt.nz; enquiries@ncc.govt.nz; info@tasman.govt.nz; mdc@marlborough.govt.nz; info@tararua.govt.nz

**Cc:** Jared Warren Gardner <me.jaredgardner@gmail.com>

**Subject:** Formal Proposal to Council: Base-Service Waste Collection Model

Tēnā koutou All Mayors and all Elected Members of all New Zealand Councils,

The hira Community Group (TE AROHA HIRA TAPUI LIMITED) is formally proposing a strategic shift in all of New Zealand's districts waste management framework. We believe it's time to move past the "user-pays" system and toward a more equitable, efficient and environmental protective model.

Attached is a detailed proposal outlining a Rates-Funded Standard Service. Here is why this shift is a win for the community:

The Core Proposal: The "80L Cap"

- + A Guaranteed Base Service: Every urban rateable property receives one 80L wheelie bin.
- + Pre-paid Convenience: Weekly collection is funded via a Targeted Rate, removing the need for individual bags or tags.
- + Incentivised Minimisation: A strict 80L limit encourages recycling; those needing more must pay for a larger bin or hire a private provider.

+ Environmental Protection: Very strongly discourages all illegal dumping and littering by having the rubbish service included as part of the rates of a property.

I look forward to the opportunity to speak about the attached submission during the public hearings for the next Annual Plan.

Ngā mihi nui,

Kia ora.

Hira Tapui Limited / Te Aroha Hira Tapui Limited / Jared Warren Gardner.

C/O Hira Public Marae  
86 Tyndall St, Pahiatua, 4910  
0204684472  
[www.hira.kiwi](http://www.hira.kiwi)

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

**Lex F. Verhoeven**

**From:** Customer Service (HDC)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 12 May 2026 3:14 PM  
**To:** Angela Atkins  
**Subject:** FW: Environment Litter Wardens Open Letter

**Rachel Turner****Customer Services Officer**

Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga | Hastings District Council  
 Wāaea/Phone +64 6 871 5000

**From:** Jared Warren Gardner <me.jaredgardner@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 6 May 2026 12:00 PM  
**To:** info@nrc.govt.nz; enquiries@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz; info@waikatoregion.govt.nz; info@boprc.govt.nz; service@gdc.govt.nz; info@hbrc.govt.nz; enquiries@trc.govt.nz; help@horizons.govt.nz; info@gw.govt.nz; einfo@ecan.govt.nz; customerservices@orc.govt.nz; service@es.govt.nz; askus@fndc.govt.nz; council@kaipara.govt.nz; mailroom@wdc.govt.nz; info@hcc.govt.nz; info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz; info@mpdc.govt.nz; info@otodc.govt.nz; info@southwaikato.govt.nz; council@taupo.govt.nz; info@waidc.govt.nz; info@waipadc.govt.nz; waitomodc@waitomo.govt.nz; info@tauranga.govt.nz; customerservice@westernbay.govt.nz; information@whakatane.govt.nz; office@kaweraudc.govt.nz; enquiries@npdc.govt.nz; stratforddc@stratford.govt.nz; contact@stdc.govt.nz; info@napier.govt.nz; Customer Service (HDC) <council@hdc.govt.nz>; info@chbdc.govt.nz; info@pncc.govt.nz; wdc@whanganui.govt.nz; info@rangitikei.govt.nz; info@ruapehudc.govt.nz; info@wcc.govt.nz; contact@huttcity.govt.nz; askus@uhcc.govt.nz; enquiries@poriruaacity.govt.nz; kapiti.council@kapiticoast.govt.nz; mdc@mstn.govt.nz; info@cdc.govt.nz; enquiries@swdc.govt.nz; info@ccc.govt.nz; office@wmk.govt.nz; info@hurunui.govt.nz; kdc@kaikoura.govt.nz; enquiries@selwyn.govt.nz; info@adc.govt.nz; enquiry@timdc.govt.nz; info@mackenzie.govt.nz; council@waimatedc.govt.nz; dcc@dcc.govt.nz; services@qldc.govt.nz; info@codc.govt.nz; contact@cdc.govt.nz; info@goredc.govt.nz; icc@icc.govt.nz; office@bdc.govt.nz; info@greydc.govt.nz; info@westlanddc.govt.nz; enquiries@ncc.govt.nz; info@tasman.govt.nz; mdc@marlborough.govt.nz; info@tararuadc.govt.nz  
**Cc:** hira.kiwi <hira.kiwi@proton.me>  
**Subject:** Environment Litter Wardens Open Letter

6 May 2025 OpenLetter to: All Councils of New Zealand, and all their Councilors and all their Worships the Mayors,

We urge all Councils of New Zealand to protect our environment through passing the following bylaw:

Community Litter Warden Oath and Appointment Bylaw (draft excerpt)

1. Purpose

To enable broad public participation in litter control consistent with the Litter Act 1979.

2. Public Eligibility

Any member of the public may present themselves for appointment as a Litter Warden.

### 3. Oath or Affirmation of Duty

A person may seek appointment by making the following declaration before an Authorised Officer or approved witness such as a existing Litter Warden:

“I solemnly affirm that I will faithfully, lawfully, and responsibly carry out the duties of a Litter Warden under the Litter Act 1979.”

### 4. Effect of Oath

Upon making the oath:

- the person is deemed to have provided evidence of willingness and understanding, and
- is presumed suitable unless there are reasonable grounds to the contrary

### 5. Appointment

- An Authorised Officer must appoint the person as a Litter Warden immediately upon the oath being made,
- unless the officer has specific, reasonable grounds to refuse appointment

### 6. Form of Appointment

Appointment is confirmed by:

- immediate written or electronic record, or
- entry into a public register

From: TE AROHA HIRA TAPUI LIMITED (Community Group)

Hira Tapui Limited / Te Aroha Hira Tapui Limited / Jared Warren Gardner.

C/O Hira Public Marae  
86 Tyndall St, Pahiatua, 4910  
0204684472  
[www.hira.kiwi](http://www.hira.kiwi)

**Lex F. Verhoeven**

**From:** Customer Service (HDC)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 12 May 2026 1:56 PM  
**To:** Angela Atkins  
**Subject:** FW: Formal Proposal to Council: Base-Service Waste Collection Model  
**Attachments:** Notice of Significance Base-Service Waste Collection Model.PDF

**Rachel Turner****Customer Services Officer**

Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga | Hastings District Council  
 Wāaea/Phone +64 6 871 5000

**From:** hira.kiwi <hira.kiwi@proton.me>  
**Sent:** Monday, 11 May 2026 9:09 AM  
**To:** info@nrc.govt.nz; enquiries@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz; info@waikatoregion.govt.nz; info@boprc.govt.nz; service@gdc.govt.nz; info@hbrc.govt.nz; enquiries@trc.govt.nz; help@horizons.govt.nz; info@gw.govt.nz; ecinfo@ecan.govt.nz; customerservices@orc.govt.nz; service@es.govt.nz; askus@fndc.govt.nz; council@kaipara.govt.nz; mailroom@wdc.govt.nz; info@hcc.govt.nz; info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz; info@mpdc.govt.nz; info@otodc.govt.nz; info@southwaikato.govt.nz; council@taupo.govt.nz; info@waidc.govt.nz; info@waipadc.govt.nz; waitomodc@waitomo.govt.nz; info@tauranga.govt.nz; customerservice@westernbay.govt.nz; information@whakatane.govt.nz; office@kaweraudc.govt.nz; enquiries@npdc.govt.nz; stratforddc@stratford.govt.nz; contact@stdc.govt.nz; info@napier.govt.nz; Customer Service (HDC) <council@hdc.govt.nz>; info@chbdc.govt.nz; info@pncc.govt.nz; wdc@whanganui.govt.nz; info@rangitikei.govt.nz; info@ruapehudc.govt.nz; info@wcc.govt.nz; contact@huttcity.govt.nz; askus@uhcc.govt.nz; enquiries@poriruaacity.govt.nz; kapiti.council@kapiticoast.govt.nz; mdc@mstn.govt.nz; info@cdc.govt.nz; enquiries@swdc.govt.nz; info@ccc.govt.nz; office@wmk.govt.nz; info@hurunui.govt.nz; kdc@kaikoura.govt.nz; enquiries@selwyn.govt.nz; info@adc.govt.nz; enquiry@timdc.govt.nz; info@mackenzie.govt.nz; council@waimatedc.govt.nz; dcc@dcc.govt.nz; services@qldc.govt.nz; info@codc.govt.nz; contact@cdc.govt.nz; info@goredc.govt.nz; icc@icc.govt.nz; office@bdc.govt.nz; info@greydc.govt.nz; info@westlanddc.govt.nz; enquiries@ncc.govt.nz; info@tasman.govt.nz; mdc@marlborough.govt.nz; info@tararuadc.govt.nz  
**Cc:** Jared Warren Gardner <me.jaredgardner@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Formal Proposal to Council: Base-Service Waste Collection Model

Tēnā koutou Chief Executive, Mayor and Elected Members of all New Zealand Councils,

Attached is a Notice of Significance for Formal Proposal: “Base-Service Waste Collection Model”

The document is a formal notice from Hira Community Group to local council asserting, that the “Base-Service Waste Collection Model” proposal is of high significance due to its district-wide, financial, environmental, and public health impacts, requiring proper assessment, transparency, and community engagement.

Overview of Significance and Purpose The notice emphasizes that the proposal affects core public services, infrastructure, and community wellbeing, and must be considered under relevant legal and policy frameworks, including the Local Government Act 2002 and the Council’s Significance and Engagement Policy.

**Key Reasons for Significance** The proposal impacts strategic asset management, service delivery, and long-term planning, with substantial financial implications for all ratepayers, including potential changes to rates, costs, and environmental expenditure. It also involves high public interest, community concern, and controversy, given its effects on affordability, access, and environmental outcomes. The proposal's implications extend to public health, environmental sustainability, and social equity, aligning with the Council's statutory purpose to promote community wellbeing.

**Procedural and Decision-Making Requirements** The notice requests the Council to formally assess and record the proposal's significance, publicly declare its significance level, provide reasons, ensure transparent decision-making, and specify consultation processes. It underscores the importance of procedural fairness, community participation, and adherence to legal obligations, given the district-wide impact and long-term consequences for infrastructure, policy, and environmental targets.

**Conclusion** The document aims to ensure the proposal receives appropriate procedural consideration, transparency, and community engagement, attaching this notice to the official record for proper documentation and decision-making.

Ngā mihi nui,

Kia ora.

Hira Tapui Limited / Te Aroha Hira Tapui Limited / Jared Warren Gardner.

C/O Hira Public Marae  
86 Tyndall St, Pahiatua, 4910  
0204684472  
[www.hira.kiwi](http://www.hira.kiwi)

Sent from [Proton Mail](#) for Android.

----- Original Message -----

On Thursday, 05/07/26 at 08:28 hira.kiwi <[hira.kiwi@proton.me](mailto:hira.kiwi@proton.me)> wrote:

Tēnā koutou All Mayors and all Elected Members of all New Zealand Councils,

The hira Community Group (TE AROHA HIRA TAPUI LIMITED) is formally proposing a strategic shift in all of New Zealand's districts waste management framework. We believe it's time to move past the "user-pays" system and toward a more equitable, efficient and environmental protective model.

Attached is a detailed proposal outlining a Rates-Funded Standard Service. Here is why this shift is a win for the community:

The Core Proposal: The "80L Cap"

- + A Guaranteed Base Service: Every urban rateable property receives one 80L wheelie bin.
- + Pre-paid Convenience: Weekly collection is funded via a Targeted Rate, removing the need for individual bags or tags.
- + Incentivised Minimisation: A strict 80L limit encourages recycling; those needing more must pay for a larger bin or hire a private provider.
- + Environmental Protection: Very strongly discourages all illegal dumping and littering by having the rubbish service included as part of the rates of a property.

I look forward to the opportunity to speak about the attached submission during the public hearings for the next Annual Plan.

Ngā mihi nui,

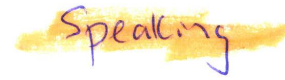
Kia ora.

Hira Tapui Limited / Te Aroha Hira Tapui Limited / Jared Warren Gardner.

C/O Hira Public Marae  
86 Tyndall St, Pahiatua, 4910  
0204684472  
[www.hira.kiwi](http://www.hira.kiwi)

Sent with Proton Mail secure email.



**Submission on Hastings District Council Draft Annual Plan 2026/27****Name:** Uttam Floray**Speaking as:** A Hastings / Hawke's Bay resident, sustainability professional, Sustainable Hawke's Bay board member, and founder / organiser involved with Electrify Hawke's Bay.

Tēnā koe

**Overall position**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Hastings District Council Draft Annual Plan 2026/27.

I support Council's focus on affordability, infrastructure renewal, cyclone recovery and community resilience. However, I encourage Council to define affordability more broadly than the size of the annual rates increase alone.

Affordability should also consider the total cost households and businesses face from power bills, transport fuel, insurance, infrastructure disruption, climate-related events, emergency recovery and future rates pressure.

Cyclone Gabrielle showed that infrastructure risk is not only about damaged assets. It is about whether people can still access power, water, transport, communications, food, care, livelihoods and trusted community support when systems fail.

Through my work with Sustainable Hawke's Bay, including our report to the Climate Change Commission on the cascading impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle in Te Matau-a-Māui, I have seen how one event can quickly create connected environmental, economic, social and governance consequences.

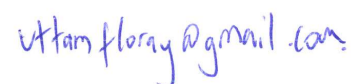
For this reason, I encourage Council to treat resilience, electrification, emissions reduction, emergency preparedness and affordability as connected priorities, not competing ones.

---

**1. Preferred rates option**

I support the **5.9% rates increase option**, provided it does not weaken essential investment in resilience, emergency preparedness and long-term infrastructure planning.

I acknowledge the **9.1% option** would balance the budget sooner and reduce debt earlier. However, in the current cost-of-living environment, the 5.9% option appears to better balance immediate household affordability with Council's ongoing funding challenges.



That said, short-term affordability must not come at the cost of higher future risk. A lower rates increase is only genuinely affordable if it does not defer necessary resilience investment, increase future recovery costs, or leave ratepayers more exposed to repeated climate-related disruption.

**My position:** support the 5.9% option, but strengthen the Annual Plan's focus on investments that reduce future costs for households, businesses and ratepayers.

---

## **2. Climate resilience is an affordability issue**

I encourage Council to explicitly align the Annual Plan with the findings of the **2026 National Climate Change Risk Assessment**.

The Climate Change Commission notes that recent research suggests **97% of government expenditure on natural hazards since 2010 has gone into response and recovery, while only 3% has gone into risk reduction and resilience**. The Commission has also publicly highlighted that proactive investment can deliver returns of around **ten to one**.

This is highly relevant to Hastings. Cyclone Gabrielle showed that recovery is not only expensive for central and local government. It is expensive for households, businesses, growers, insurers, community organisations and future ratepayers.

The key affordability question is therefore not simply:

**“How do we keep rates lower this year?”**

It should also be:

**“How do we reduce the future costs that will otherwise land on ratepayers?”**

Hastings should not remain trapped in a model where most money is spent after damage has already occurred. The better financial strategy is to invest earlier in actions that reduce future pressure: resilient infrastructure, prepared communities, lower household energy costs, distributed energy, trusted local response networks and credible long-term planning.

---

## **3. Cascading risk and Cyclone Gabrielle**

Cyclone Gabrielle was not only a flood event. It disrupted homes, roads, bridges, power, food production, whenua, businesses, mental wellbeing, insurance confidence, social cohesion and trust in institutions.

That is the definition of cascading risk.

The 2026 National Climate Change Risk Assessment identifies significant risks across infrastructure, communities, nature, the bioeconomy, decisions and funding. It reinforces the need to focus action where it can reduce pressure across multiple systems at once.

For Hastings, this means Council should prioritise actions with high “cascading potential” — actions that reduce several risks at the same time.

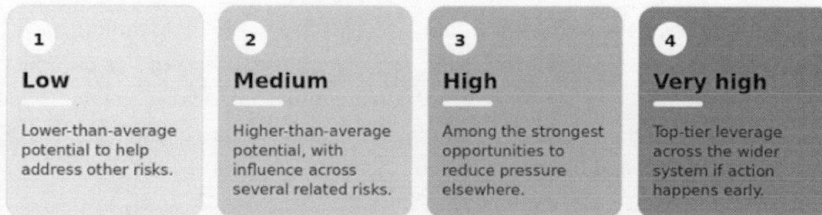
Examples include:

Action	Cascading benefit
Civil Defence, emergency hubs and marae readiness	Reduces pressure on emergency services, supports vulnerable communities and strengthens trust.
Household electrification supported by finance tools	Reduces energy bills, emissions and exposure to fuel-price volatility.
Solar, batteries and micro-grids on Council / community assets	Supports emergency response, business continuity and lower operating costs.
Water, wastewater and stormwater resilience	Protects public health, waterways, homes, businesses and future Council costs.
Whole-of-life cost and emissions assessment	Avoids locking in higher costs, higher emissions and future retrofit needs.

Council should use public funding where it has the highest cascading benefit.

## Cascading potential

Which risks, if addressed, reduce pressure elsewhere?



A solar-and-battery system on a community facility is not only an emissions reduction project. It can also be an emergency hub, a welfare point, a place to charge phones and

medical devices, a communications point during outages, and a practical demonstration for households and businesses.

---

#### **4. Support for Civil Defence and Emergency Management targeted rate**

I support Council investing in Civil Defence, emergency management, community resilience, marae readiness, welfare capacity, evacuation planning and local emergency hubs.

This is not optional spending. It is core infrastructure for a district that has already experienced severe cascading climate impacts.

The Insurance Council of New Zealand has also responded to the 2026 National Climate Change Risk Assessment by emphasising that building resilience to floods, coastal inundation and erosion is essential to protecting communities, keeping businesses operating and maintaining access to insurance. This is directly relevant to Hastings because unmanaged climate risk can flow through to higher premiums, reduced insurance availability, business disruption and higher recovery costs.

Resilience investment should therefore be treated as a cost-control measure. It helps reduce future recovery costs, insurance pressure, business disruption and household hardship.

**My ask:** support Civil Defence and community resilience investment, but ensure it is practical, place-based and connected to local organisations, marae, community hubs, energy resilience and trusted local networks.

---

#### **5. Electrification and the Ratepayer Assistance Scheme**

I strongly encourage Council to formally support the **Ratepayer Assistance Scheme** and investigate how it could be used in Hastings.

The Ratepayer Assistance Scheme has been proposed as a way to help ratepayers manage upfront costs by spreading approved costs over time. This could be particularly useful for household resilience and electrification upgrades, including solar, batteries, hot water heat pumps, efficient space heating, insulation, EV charging and other upgrades that reduce household energy costs.

This matters because many households are under pressure from rates, food, insurance and power bills. Electrification can reduce household operating costs, but the upfront capital cost is often the barrier.

If structured well, the Ratepayer Assistance Scheme could allow households to access long-term, lower-cost finance for upgrades that reduce monthly energy bills. That means electrification can help address both emissions and cost-of-living pressure.

This is not just climate action. It is affordability policy.

**My ask:** Council should formally support the Ratepayer Assistance Scheme and explore how it could help Hastings households fund electrification and resilience upgrades through affordable long-term repayments.

---

## 6. Electrify Hawke's Bay and community delivery

Through **Electrify Hawke's Bay**, there is an opportunity to help residents, businesses and community groups understand practical electrification options.

This should not be framed as a climate "nice to have". It is a cost-of-living, resilience and economic-development opportunity.

Council does not need to deliver everything itself. It can enable partnerships with community organisations, energy providers, installers, funders, Sustainable Hawke's Bay, Electrify Hawke's Bay and local business networks.

Hawke's Bay has a chance to lead practical community electrification in a way that supports households, exporters, local businesses, energy resilience and climate goals.

**My ask:** Council should support a district-wide electrification pathway that includes community education, trusted advice, demonstration projects, support for vulnerable households and alignment with the Ratepayer Assistance Scheme.

---

## 7. Council assets as energy resilience and micro-grid assets

Council owns or influences buildings, community facilities, halls, libraries, pools, parks, depots, wastewater assets, water infrastructure and other public facilities.

These should increasingly be viewed not only as cost centres, but as potential **energy resilience assets**.

There is a real opportunity for Council to assess suitable assets for solar, batteries and smart energy management. In the CBD, this could support local businesses by creating more resilient electricity supply, reducing peak demand, and providing safe community points during outages.

Council facilities with solar and batteries could support Civil Defence, emergency response, community welfare, communications, medical device charging, food storage and business continuity.

A library, hall, depot, marae, emergency hub or CBD facility with solar and battery storage is not just a climate project. It can become a place where people charge phones, access information, support vulnerable residents, keep essential services running and maintain community confidence during disruption.

**My ask:** Council should complete a feasibility assessment of Council-owned assets that could host solar, batteries and micro-grid infrastructure, prioritising sites that support Civil Defence, emergency hubs, the CBD, critical water and wastewater infrastructure and vulnerable communities.

#### **8. Emissions measurement and whole-of-life cost decisions**

In my professional work with Toitū Envirocare, I see the value of credible measurement, emissions reduction planning, independent assurance and transparent progress reporting.

Hastings District Council has an opportunity to apply the same discipline to its own emissions, energy use, procurement and infrastructure decisions.

Major infrastructure decisions made now will shape costs and emissions for decades. Council should avoid locking in higher operating costs, higher emissions, higher maintenance requirements and future retrofit costs.

This does not mean delaying essential infrastructure. It means making better long-term decisions.

**My ask:** Council should embed credible emissions measurement, whole-of-life costing and resilience assessment into major infrastructure decisions, including energy use, embodied carbon, maintenance costs, climate risk exposure and avoided future costs.

This would help Council make decisions that are financially responsible, climate responsible and aligned with long-term community wellbeing.

New Zealand's net zero target is not a voluntary aspiration. It is embedded in law, supported by emissions budgets, emissions reduction plans and adaptation planning.

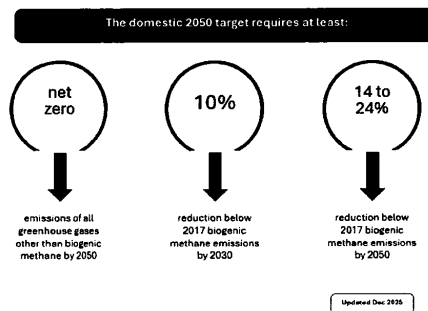
## New Zealand's transition to net zero is embedded in law

### Climate Change Response Act framework

Sets the domestic 2050 emissions target  
 Uses emissions budgets as interim stepping-stones  
 Requires emissions reduction plans and national adaptation planning  
 Established the independent Climate Change Commission

### Direction of travel for organisations

**Measure • Manage • Reduce • Disclose credible progress**



## 10. Final recommendations

I ask Council to:

1. **Support the 5.9% rates option**, provided resilience investment is not weakened.
2. **Support Civil Defence and Emergency Management investment**, especially emergency hubs, marae readiness, welfare capacity and community preparedness.
3. **Formally support the Ratepayer Assistance Scheme** and investigate its use for household electrification and resilience upgrades.
4. **Partner with Electrify Hawke's Bay, Sustainable Hawke's Bay and local energy providers** to deliver public education and practical demonstration projects.
5. **Assess Council assets for solar, battery and micro-grid potential**, especially assets that support emergency response, community hubs, CBD resilience, water and wastewater systems.
6. **Embed credible emissions measurement, whole-of-life costing and resilience assessment** into major infrastructure decisions.
7. **Use the 2027–2037 Long Term Plan to develop a cascading-risk framework** for infrastructure, energy, water, transport, food systems, community wellbeing and emergency management.
8. **Consider the 20-year Waipātiki wastewater repayment option** if it improves affordability for affected households.

**Closing statement**

Hastings has already lived through what cascading climate risk looks like. The lesson from Cyclone Gabrielle is that resilience cannot be retrofitted after every disaster. It must be built into infrastructure, energy systems, community networks and funding decisions now.

Electrification, the Ratepayer Assistance Scheme, community resilience investment and better use of Council assets are practical ways to reduce future costs while supporting households and businesses today.

The Annual Plan should not only ask, "What does this cost Council this year?"

It should also ask:

**"Which investments reduce the most future pressure on households, businesses, infrastructure, emergency services and ratepayers?"**

That is the pathway to genuine affordability, resilience and good long-term financial management.

Noho ora mai

Ngā mihi nui

Uttam Floray



14TH MAY 2026

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached a submission from Grey Power Hastings & Districts Association Inc for the Hastings District Council Annual Plan process.

This submission asks Council to consider a 12-month trial of free off-peak CBD parking for Hastings District resident drivers aged 65 and over.

Grey Power previously submitted a petition to Hastings District Council on this matter, which was received by Council and considered in February 2025. We respectfully ask that Council attach that original petition to this Annual Plan submission, so the petition and this updated submission can be considered together.

Grey Power would also like the opportunity to speak to this submission at the Annual Plan hearings.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ron Wilkins", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Ron Wilkins

President

Grey Power Hastings & Districts Association Inc

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ik=df49616948&view=pt&search=all&permthid=thread-f:1865064380195544831&simpl=msg-f:18650643801955...> 1/2



## Submission to Hastings District Council Annual Plan Trial of free off-peak CBD parking for resident drivers aged 65 and over

**Submitter:** Grey Power Hastings & Districts Association Inc

**Contact:** Ron Wilkins, President

**Attachment:** Previously submitted petition

### 1. What we are asking for

Grey Power Hastings & Districts Association Inc asks Hastings District Council to trial free off-peak CBD parking for Hastings District resident drivers aged 65 and over.

We are asking for a **12-month pilot**, not a permanent scheme.

Our preferred option is:

- Monday to Friday
- 9am to 3pm
- Hastings CBD
- Hastings District residents aged 65 and over
- one nominated vehicle per applicant
- current driver licence required
- existing parking time limits still applying
- an annual registration fee set by Council to help cover administration costs

If Council considers that too broad, we ask that this submission not simply be declined, but instead a smaller trial be considered, such as selected weekdays, shorter off-peak hours, or a capped number of permits.

Grey Power is open to Council officers recommending the most practical trial design.

### 2. Background

Grey Power previously presented a petition to Hastings District Council asking for free parking for resident drivers over 65 in the Hastings CBD between 9am and 3pm, Monday to Friday.

The petition was considered by the previous Council in February 2025. At that time, Council did not approve the request, but Grey Power was invited to bring the matter back through the Annual Plan process.

This submission does that.

It also refines the original request into a **limited 12-month trial**, so Council can test the idea properly before making any long-term decisions as part of the Long Term Plan.

When the petition was previously considered, officers identified several issues Council would need to consider, including:

- loss of parking revenue

[www.greypowerhastings.org](http://www.greypowerhastings.org)

PO Box 98 Hastings 4156

- fairness to other groups
- whether free parking would increase CBD visits
- administration cost
- possible misuse of registered vehicles
- parking turnover in busy areas

Grey Power accepts these are fair matters for Council to consider. This submission has been written to respond to them.

### 3. Why this matters

For many older residents, coming into the Hastings CBD is not only about shopping. It is about attending appointments, using local services, meeting friends, volunteering, supporting local businesses, and staying connected to community life.

Small barriers can make a real difference.

For some older residents, parking creates stress because of cost, technology, meters, time pressure, mobility concerns, or fear of getting an infringement. These issues do not affect every older person, but they are real for many.

At the same time, many older residents are living on fixed incomes and are managing rising costs across rates, insurance, power, food, health care and transport.

With the Annual Plan considering a rates increase of either 5.9% or 9.1%, Grey Power asks Council to consider whether a modest, targeted parking trial could remove one small barrier for older residents wanting to remain active and connected.

### 4. Why a trial is the right approach

Grey Power is not asking Council to commit to a permanent scheme without evidence.

A trial would allow Council to test:

- how many older residents register
- whether it helps older residents visit the CBD with less stress
- what the actual revenue impact is
- whether parking turnover is affected
- whether administration is manageable
- whether CBD businesses notice any benefit

At the end of 12 months, Council could decide whether to continue, change, reduce, expand or end the scheme.

This is a practical middle ground between doing nothing and making a permanent change immediately.

### 5. Response to key issues

#### 5.1 Cost and revenue

Grey Power understands that parking is not truly “free”. Someone pays for parking infrastructure, enforcement and administration.

That is why we support Council setting a registration fee that better reflects the real cost of administering the scheme. We are not fixed on the \$10 figure from the original

[www.greypowerhastings.org](http://www.greypowerhastings.org)

PO Box 98 Hastings 4156

petition if officers consider that too low.

A trial would allow Council to measure the actual revenue impact before making any long-term decision.

### 5.2 Parking turnover

Grey Power is not asking for all-day parking.

Existing time limits should still apply. This means eligible drivers would still need to move their vehicles within the time allowed, helping protect turnover in busy CBD spaces.

If some streets or zones are under particular pressure, Council could exclude those from the trial or monitor them closely.

### 5.3 Evidence

One concern previously raised was that there was no clear evidence that free parking for over-65s would encourage more people into the CBD.

Grey Power's view is that this is exactly why a trial is useful.

A pilot would provide Hastings-specific evidence. It would also test more than retail spend. The benefit may be social connection, confidence, accessibility, independence and continued participation in community life.

### 5.4 Administration

Grey Power accepts that registering applicants would require staff time.

To keep the scheme simple, we suggest:

- one vehicle per applicant
- annual registration
- proof of age
- proof of Hastings District residency
- current driver licence
- clear terms and conditions
- cancellation if the permit is misused

If the cost of administration is still a concern, Council could trial a smaller option first.

### 5.5 Fairness

Grey Power accepts that not every person over 65 needs free parking.

[www.greypowerhastings.org](http://www.greypowerhastings.org)

PO Box 98 Hastings 4156

However, many older residents face a mix of fixed incomes, mobility challenges, health needs, reduced confidence with parking technology, and anxiety about infringements.

A perfectly targeted scheme based on income or mobility may sound fairer, but it would also be more complex, more costly to administer, and may discourage people from applying.

A simple, time-limited pilot is a practical way to test whether the benefit is useful without creating a permanent entitlement.

Grey Power also accepts that older residents are not the only group who may face barriers accessing the CBD. This proposal should not prevent Council from considering other targeted accessibility measures in future.

### 5.6 Misuse

No permit system is perfect, but practical safeguards can reduce risk.

Grey Power supports:

- one nominated vehicle per applicant
- annual expiry
- requirement to notify Council of vehicle changes
- cancellation of permits if misused
- clear terms and conditions

### 6. Other councils

This proposal is not unusual.

Other New Zealand councils have operated age-related parking schemes, including Whanganui, Palmerston North and Invercargill.

Palmerston North is particularly relevant because it uses a digital system and registers number plates, with free metered parking from 9am to 3pm, Monday to Friday, for eligible applicants who provide a valid driver licence and proof of residency.

Grey Power accepts that Hastings needs a scheme that works for Hastings. However, these examples show that practical systems can be designed.

### 7. Wider community benefit

Older residents are important contributors to Hastings.

They volunteer, care for grandchildren, support community groups, attend events, use local services, and spend money in local businesses.

Helping older people remain active and connected benefits more than the individual driver. It supports families, businesses, community organisations and the wider wellbeing of the district.

A small parking concession during off-peak weekday hours is a practical way Council can support older residents to continue participating in community life.

[www.greypowerhastings.org](http://www.greypowerhastings.org)

PO Box 98 Hastings 4156

**8. Requested decision**

Grey Power Hastings & Districts Association Inc asks Hastings District Council to:

1. Include a 12-month trial of free off-peak CBD parking for Hastings District resident drivers aged 65 and over in the Annual Plan.
2. Retain existing parking time limits during the trial.
3. Set a registration fee that reasonably contributes to administration costs.
4. Monitor uptake, cost, revenue impact, parking turnover and community feedback.
5. Review the trial after 12 months before deciding whether to continue, amend or end the scheme.
6. If the full Monday to Friday, 9am to 3pm trial is not supported, consider a smaller trial using selected days, shorter hours, selected parking zones, capped permits, or another officer-designed option.

**Grey Power would welcome the opportunity to speak to this submission.**

[www.greypowerhastings.org](http://www.greypowerhastings.org)

PO Box 98 Hastings 4156

**Older Persons Free Parking Petition**

To: Hastings District Council

**Statement:** That the Hastings District Council offer drivers over 65 free parking in the Hastings Central Business District Monday - Friday between 9.00am - 3.00pm. This would require seniors to register their vehicle and a pay a possible fee of \$10.00.

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
RONALD WILKINS	4-30 TESHUTE RUM HAVESOCK NORTH	R. WILKINS
Christine Wilkins	4130 Te Aute Rd Havelock North	[Signature]
Lynette Hales.	405 Fitzroy Ave. Hastings.	[Signature]
Evel Hales.	" " "	[Signature]
Ernie Muryfsh	24 TOLL EN ACHE ROAD E	[Signature]
Ben Muryfsh.	" " "	[Signature]
Lynnaire Nugent	18 von Dodelsger Place Havelock North	[Signature]
Gayle Gould	1023 Onahu Road Hastings	[Signature]
Esther MacGibbon	6 MERRIN AVE Hastings	[Signature]
Alasdair Shaw	33 Chambers St Havelock North	A.A. Shaw,
Shirley Uwhin	24 Seauwell St Havelock North	[Signature]
Teresa Hurst	806 Tomoana Rd Havelock Hastings	[Signature]
Geordon McKay	206 Frimley Ave Hastings	[Signature]
Margaret Smackelbank	172/1225 Ada St Hastings	[Signature]
Keth Ridge	118/1228 Ada St. Hastings	[Signature]
Jane Cuthers	7 Peterhead Place Havelock North	[Signature]
Valerie McDonnell	17 SCARBOROUGH RD HAVESOCK HASTINGS	V. McDONNELL
R. Batt	91 Main Rd Clive	R. Batt
Roberta Budvieto	608 Kennedy Rd Hastings	[Signature]

Contact: Ron Wilkins - 06 877 4419

Grey Power Hastings and Districts Association

**Older Persons Free Parking Petition**

To: Hastings District Council

Statement: That the Hastings District Council offer drivers over 65 free parking in the Hastings Central Business District Monday - Friday between 9.00am - 3.00pm. This would require seniors to register their vehicle and a pay a possible fee of \$10.00.

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
ANNIE KYN'S KEY	304 <sup>th</sup> CHARLES ST, HASTINGS	<i>[Signature]</i>
VAN VAN VLEKED	46/1222 HOWARD ST HASTINGS	<i>[Signature]</i>
ROBERT BOS	1006 FLORENCE PLACE	<i>[Signature]</i>
PAUL YORKER	1/622 GATERS ROAD WAIKARE	<i>[Signature]</i>
PAULINE STONE	4 <sup>th</sup> Whiby Cres. Foxmerie	<i>[Signature]</i>
SOBEL HOWARDWAY	8 ROBERTS RO H. NH	<i>[Signature]</i>
ZEBORAL WULSH	4405 Southampton. St. W. HESHING	<i>[Signature]</i>
JOHN SIMCOX	30A LUCINDA ROAD H. NORTH	<i>[Signature]</i>
BONNIE MABELA	903 Kaitiaki Peninsula Rd	<i>[Signature]</i>
SOIWA McDONNELL	15/17 SURUSSA RD FARMERS	<i>[Signature]</i>
KAREN RUSSELL	21/10 CIVIC ST. AKINA	<i>[Signature]</i>
JULIA FOOTE	249 Villa 7 Te Mata Rd Hawkeok	<i>[Signature]</i>
Robyn Bath	91 MOIRA Rd CIVIC	<i>[Signature]</i>
GARY ROSSELLI	1015 Bethy Street, Matiu.	<i>[Signature]</i>
HELEN BENTLEY	10/24 TE MATI RD. HAWKOCK	<i>[Signature]</i>
Penny Dove	7/30 TE MATI RD HAWKOCK NH	<i>[Signature]</i>
LESTIE Rowlands	303 KENILWORTH Rd MAYPAK	<i>[Signature]</i>
Clarks Houston	16 Tainui Drive Hawkeok NH	<i>[Signature]</i>

Contact: Ron Wilkins 06 877 4419

Grey Power Hastings and District Association

## Older Persons Free Parking Petition

To: Hastings District Council

**Statement:** That the Hastings District Council offer drivers over 65 free parking in the Hastings Central Business District Monday - Friday between 9.00am - 3.00pm. This would require seniors to register their vehicle and pay a possible fee of \$10.00.

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Diane Caldwell	912 Florence St Hastings	D Caldwell.
Johnny Wheeler	310 A Park Road sth Hastings	J Wheeler
Dorothy Skudde	1/10 Norton Rd Hastings	D. Skudde
Rona (Peggy) Thompson MP HARBORO	513 PORCUPINE PLACE HASTINGS	R Thompson MP Harboro
John Hawkes	1017 Totara St, Mahora	J Hawkes
COSTA PAXIE	F/1405 MERSON ST SOUTH	C Paxie
<del>Brian</del>	<del>1405 Merson St</del>	B Ireland
Sandy Humphreys	183A Totara Rd - Haw. Nth	S Humphreys
BARBARA ANNETTE BRUNTON	80313 HERETAUNGA ST E. HGTN	B Brunton
Philly M'cullough		P M'cullough
Shirley Hunt	409/114 Lyndon Rd Hastings	S Hunt
Klizabeth McDonald	5A Usherwood Cres Hastings	E. J. McDonald
MARGARET HARUKU	607 ELWSON ROAD Hastings	M Haruku
Jean Carter	55 Halper Rd Waimarama	J Carter
MARION SHERBURU	911 PAKOWHAI RD HASTINGS	M Sherburu
MARVIE LANGEVAD	510 FREDERIC STR. MAHORA HGTN	M. Langevad
MOLLY BALLANTYNE	100 ARIVERSLA RD Sth AKINA Hastings	M Ballantyne
Yvonne Drown	4/105 Allerton St Hsgs	Y. Drown

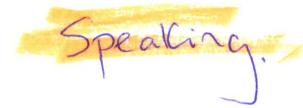
Contact: Ron Wilkinson - 06 877 4419

Grey Power Hastings and Districts Association









I am firstly concerned with the limitations of this consultation by way of asking us to tick either option 1 or option 2 without an option 3 with 'neither' or an open box for comments. Yes, I acknowledge we have been given this 'tell us your views', However, what about those who didn't wish to choose 1 or 2? Has this dissuaded them from giving you feedback? Or was this carefully planned to push us into a corner where we do have to choose from two options and to skew the results.

As a rate payer and having lived at the same address since 2001 (and in Hawke's Bay since 1985), I read "Council has heard the voice of residents during the election process, especially concerns around rates affordability" and question if Council has actually 'heard our voice' at all.

Please show you do care about the ratepayers. Cut your budgets where they can be cut and stop creating more pain for all. As rates increase, our discretionary spending decreases and I am cutting back on what I spend to keep within budget. As a superannuitant I have worked hard to save for my retirement, as have others. I grew up with the old-fashioned value of if you cannot afford it, do not buy it. I also have concerns for the local economy as we tighten our belts. Small businesses are going to suffer more as people cut back to the bare essentials. The likely first tier of businesses will be hospitality and we are already seeing closures and hearing of those struggling.

Before retirement I worked for one of Hawke's Bay's largest employers - Eastern Institute of Technology and in my academic role also held budget responsibilities over many years. When times were tough we were asked to tighten our belts, no options given and we did.

In regards to the proposed 'options' for rates increases, I am requesting you go back to the drawing board and look at how the 5.9% can be lowered, without increasing borrowing. I am sure you will be able to do this.

Submission dated 15 May 2026 – Had ticked box for 5.9%

Jacqui Hartley-Smith

0210410889

*jacqui@positive.solutions.co.nz*





0800 CREATIVE  
info@creativenz.govt.nz  
www.creativenz.govt.nz

L2 2-12 Allen Street  
Te Aro, Wellington  
6011

15 May 2026

Heretaunga Hastings District Council  
207 Lyndon Road East  
Hastings 4156

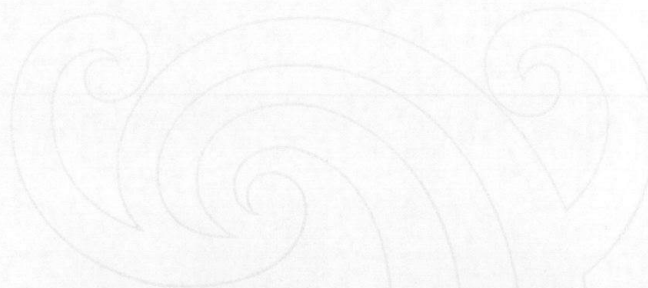
E te Koromatua, ngā Kaikaunihera mā, tēnā koutou katoa

**Submission to:** Heretaunga Hastings District Council  
**Subject:** **Draft Annual Plan 2026/27**  
**From:** Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa (Creative New Zealand)

1. Creative New Zealand welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on Heretaunga Hastings District Council's draft Annual Plan 2026/27.
2. Art, culture, creativity and ngā toi Māori build strong, connected communities in Hastings, and create a vibrant and prosperous district where people want to live, work and visit.
3. Council plays an essential role in supporting arts and culture. **The Annual Plan is an important opportunity for Council to build its investment in the arts and unlock their economic and social benefits.**
4. We thank Council for its ongoing support of arts, ngā toi, culture and creativity in Heretaunga Hastings, especially alongside your ongoing management of cyclone recovery. We look forward to continuing to work with you to realise the arts enormous potential in your local communities.

**Arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi Māori are foundational community services that shape how people live, connect and feel about where they belong**

5. Heretaunga Hastings has its own creative heartbeat. From music and murals to festivals, galleries, libraries, community centres and marae, creativity shapes how the district looks, sounds and feels. It creates vibrant communities that people are proud to call home.



6. We know that New Zealanders' personal connection with the arts continues to grow. Our most recent *New Zealanders and the Arts—Ko Aotearoa me ōna Toi* research shows that New Zealanders are increasingly recognising the benefits of the arts, including that the arts contribute positively to our economy and improve New Zealand society.
7. In the Hawke's Bay region, our research shows that Hawke's Bay residents are strong advocates of the arts, with 67 percent agreeing that the arts are good for their mental health and wellbeing.<sup>1</sup> The majority of residents also agree the arts should receive public funding and that their local council should give money to support the arts.
8. Young people, Māori, Pacific peoples and Asian New Zealanders are more likely to agree that the arts are an important way of connecting with their culture and building a sense of identity. Rainbow communities and people who are Deaf and disabled participate highly in the arts and need more accessible and inclusive environments to support their engagement.

**Supporting arts and culture in Hastings delivers social, cultural, environmental and economic benefits**

9. We know that councils around the country are facing significant pressures and uncertainties. Tight budgets and growing community expectations mean Annual Plans are being carefully designed to deliver value.
10. Arts, culture, ngā toi and creativity are a sound investment and part of the solution. They make significant social, cultural, environmental and economic contributions that advance Council's priorities. These include:
  - supporting community connection at local festivals and events
  - growing local economies by creating jobs, supporting local businesses and driving tourism
  - boosting environmental awareness through storytelling, education and building understanding of complex issues like climate change
  - building social resilience by revitalising city centres and transforming public spaces into safe, vibrant and socially cohesive hubs
  - sparking innovation and learning with creative practice building skills, including imagination, problem solving and learning.

---

<sup>1</sup> *New Zealanders and the Arts—Ko Aotearoa me ōna Toi*, Hawke's Bay regional report (2023).

11. In 2025, the creative sector contributed \$18.5 billion to New Zealand's economy, 4.2 percent of our GDP.<sup>2</sup> In the Hawke's Bay region, the sector employs over 2,700 people and contributed \$318 million in GDP. The majority of the arts and creative sector workforce are employed in highly skilled occupations (69.3 percent), higher than for all occupations in New Zealand.
12. These contributions rely on a strong arts ecosystem, and the sector is facing challenges. Economic conditions are putting sustained pressure on the arts community – creators, presenters and supporters alike. Arts organisations operate on thin margins and are highly vulnerable to any changes in relationships with funders. Making a living from the arts is hard for artists and practitioners,<sup>3</sup> and the wider arts ecosystem is fragile. While public engagement with the arts is strong compared with other countries, arts are often on the margins of public investment and support.
13. Yet, despite these uncertainties and constraints, artists, rangatōi, creatives and arts organisations across Heretaunga, are creating and presenting transformative arts and ngā toi that uplift and showcase the district, with Council's support.
14. Council's investment in the rededication of Ngā Pou o Heretaunga in Hastings' Civic Square last year has transformed the area into a safe and vibrant space that sparks a strong sense of pride for residents. Alongside the new artwork commissioned from Iwi Toi Kahungunu artists, this project is a source of pride for mana whenua, making their tūpuna and stories visible in the central city, while also contributing to tourism and helping people connect with and enjoy the area. Te Whare Toi o Heretaunga Hastings Art Gallery runs programmes that connect Ngā Pou and customary practice with the gallery's contemporary exhibitions; the nearby Hastings Library is also incorporating Ngā Pou into its school programmes and public activities.
15. Council's support is essential for building a resilient, and vibrant arts and cultural landscape in Hastings. This involves vital funding for activities and programmes, and also providing venues, relationships, and development opportunities to stimulate civic engagement, economic growth, and sense of place.
16. In your Annual Plan for 2026/27, we encourage Council to continue prioritising investment in the following.

---

<sup>2</sup> *Infometrics Arts and Creative Sector Profile 2025*. Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture & Heritage.

<sup>3</sup> *Creative New Zealand, A Profile of Creative Professionals 2023*. New Zealanders employed in creative professions continue to experience low pay compared to New Zealanders earning a salary or wage. The median income for creative professionals is just \$37,000, substantially less than the median income of \$61,000 for New Zealanders earning a wage or salary.

- Cultural programmes, public art and venues that **enhance the city centre and activate public spaces** by, for example, adopting a ‘percentage for art’ policy and continuing to involve artists in infrastructure and development projects in Hastings central city.
  - Developing viable creative pathways for artists and arts organisations to **grow Hastings’ local economy** through better financial support, economic sustainability and accessible creative spaces. We strongly encourage Council to prioritise interventions that support these pathways, including making council-owned venues available to arts communities to use free of charge, or at reduced rates, for rehearsing, developing and representing work. Dedicated spaces for Māori and Pacific peoples in local areas are also crucial cultural centres for whānau, hapū, iwi and the wider community.
  - Supporting events and festivals that **boost economic development through support for local businesses and tourism**, throughout Hastings’ local communities.
  - Ensure investment reaches across the wider arts ecosystem with new **major creative infrastructure in the city**, including ensuring cultural facilities resource and support staff who have the skills, knowledge and experience to successfully deliver services and activities, in ways that are fit-for-purpose, high quality and responsive to the needs of residents and visitors.
17. Council has a strong foundation for supporting arts and culture in the Annual Plan through the *Toi-Tū Hawke’s Bay – Arts Culture and Events Strategy*, and we encourage Council to continue embedding the strategy’s vision in its decisions.

**Ngā toi Māori and mātauranga Māori are distinctive to Aotearoa New Zealand and central to our unique national identity**

18. Te reo, mātauranga Māori and ngā toi Māori are central to the unique identity of Heretaunga, and Te Tiriti-centred practices that uplift ngā toi Māori are important enablers for the Council’s delivery of outcomes. Success in protecting, revitalising and promoting Māori artforms supports many artists, practitioners and tourism operators in the region, and positively enhances your national and international reputation.
19. **We encourage Council to continue to invest in ngā toi Māori in the Annual Plan, as Council’s support is a crucial part of ensuring ngā toi is being produced, enjoyed and celebrated.** This includes dedicated funding and leadership of ngā toi Māori in Council to build cultural capability. Decision-makers should also consider prioritising partnerships with iwi and hapū to build well-resourced, thriving and visible ngā toi Māori practice and Māori cultural institutions.

**Together we can create healthy, sustainable and thriving arts ecosystems in local communities**

20. We highly value Council as a partner in the arts, alongside mana whenua, iwi and hapū, community trusts and private givers. Demand for Creative New Zealand's services is high, and we are supporting a much lower proportion of proposals than we have historically. Private investments, including corporate sponsorship and private donations, are also down in the current economic climate. Together, a collective approach will ensure the creative sector and ngā toi can deliver value to the district's residents, businesses and visitors.
21. Over the coming year we will be implementing our **tuku rauemi approach**. This means empowering communities as decision-makers, entrusting them to support arts and ngā toi Māori development that best meet their communities' needs. To do this, we'll partner with organisations across the regions who hold relationships with mana whenua, local artists and arts organisations, and who'll lead local arts development and capability building, set their own local priorities and make funding decisions.
22. We believe a regional partnership approach will strengthen co-operation on longer-term planning and investment between regional stakeholders, including iwi, hapū, local government, local trusts and Creative New Zealand. This approach will also create opportunities to grow investment regionally by leveraging Creative New Zealand funds, incentivising new investment, and helping arts organisations partner to secure philanthropic funds.
23. Hastings' communities are vital for the arts and ngā toi Māori to develop and grow. We want to see an arts ecosystem in the district where artists, ringatoi and creatives are supported to thrive, with viable creative careers and strong arts infrastructure. Together we can create a healthy and strong environment to help them achieve their potential, and share the benefits of arts and ngā toi with all Heretaunga residents.

**Creative New Zealand's interest and investment in the arts in Hastings**

24. Creative New Zealand is the national arts development agency of Aotearoa New Zealand, responsible for delivering government support for the arts. We're an autonomous Crown entity under the Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa Act 2014. Our legislative purpose is to encourage, promote, and support the arts in New Zealand for the benefit of all New Zealanders. We do this by *Investing in the arts*, *Developing the arts* and providing *Leadership in the arts*.
25. Creative New Zealand receives funding through Vote: Arts, Culture and Heritage and the New Zealand Lottery Grants Board Te Puna Tahua. In 2024/25, Creative New Zealand **invested nearly \$61 million in the arts**.

26. We recognise the importance of Hastings to arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi in Aotearoa. For arts delivered in the Hawke's Bay region, Creative New Zealand provided **\$750,134** of direct financial support in 2024/25. Of this, over **\$287,815** in funding went directly to Hastings, supporting individual arts projects and arts and cultural organisations.
27. Under the Creative Communities Scheme, we also fund territorial authorities directly to support local arts activities. In 2024/25, of the **\$164,979** provided to the Hawke's Bay region, **\$66,579** was provided to Council and your creative communities.

#### Final thoughts

28. Thank you again for the opportunity to respond to your draft Annual Plan 2026/27. We're heartened to see the ways that Council's support for arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi is enabling Heretaunga Hastings to thrive. By working together, and in partnership with creative communities and mana whenua, we can continue to build strong, healthy, prosperous and vibrant communities.
29. While we do not wish to address Council in person in support of our submission, please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or if you wish to discuss this submission further. The key contact person is:

**Name:** Cara Paterson  
**Position:** Senior Advisor, Advocacy (Local Government)  
Kaiwhakamahere Matua Taunaki, Kāwanatanga ā Kainga  
**Contact:** [cara.paterson@creativenz.govt.nz](mailto:cara.paterson@creativenz.govt.nz)

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa, nā



David Pannett  
**Senior Manager, Strategy & Engagement**  
**Pou Whakahaere Matua, Rautaki me te Tūhono**

**Lex F. Verhoeven**

---

**From:** Customer Service (HDC)  
**Sent:** Monday, 18 May 2026 1:36 PM  
**To:** Lex F. Verhoeven  
**Subject:** FW: Attn: Lex RE: Option to submit on Annual plan closed already

Hi Lex,

Another one....

**Nicole Simon****Customer Services Officer**

Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga | Hastings District Council  
Wāaea/Phone +64 6 871 5000

**From:** trent@actrix.co.nz <trent@actrix.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Monday, 18 May 2026 12:56 PM  
**To:** Customer Service (HDC) <customerservice@hdc.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Attn: Lex RE: Option to submit on Annual plan closed already

Hi Nicole,

Thanks for accepting my submission. I don't need to speak to it in person. Submission as follows

- **To avoid wasting money:**
  - **Choose Option 2.** Balance budget immediately to avoid borrowing costs
  - Remove the Civil Defence/Emergency Management targeted rate, chip away at this work through current staffing and operational budgets
  - Place hiring freeze at council, reallocate roles where necessary
  - Close Hastings City Art Gallery because:
    - cost per visitor is too expensive (more expensive than Frimley pool which was closed due to expense per visitor (school children visitors to gallery don't count as they can be accommodated at Russel Street art gallery));
    - there is already a nice public art gallery at Russel Street receiving council funding, which is more inviting and in a busier location;
    - council, i.e. ratepayers cannot continue to afford propping up well-meaning but frivolous white elephants
    - Hastings City Art Gallery space can then be leased to private entrepreneur
- **To help create a thriving Hastings inner city** encourage more apartments/inner city housing by:
  - Radically reducing/ almost disappearing consenting costs for inner city housing renovations and new builds.
  - Disappearing any parking requirements. Ratepayers pay enough for a decent bus system which inner city dwellers can utilise.

Thanks heaps

Trent Mabbett  
84 Beach Road, Haumoana 4102  
Aotearoa New Zealand  
027-644-9616

**From:** Customer Service (HDC) <[customerservice@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:customerservice@hdc.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 18 May 2026 9:11 am  
**To:** [trent@actrix.co.nz](mailto:trent@actrix.co.nz)  
**Subject:** Option to submit on Annual plan closed already

Good morning Trent,

We are so sorry that you were not able to submit your submission before the shut off time, we are happy for your to email your submission to this email address Attn: Lex and we will forward it on.

--

Nicole  
Customer Service Team



Wāea/Phone (06) 871 5000  
Īmēra/Email [customerservice@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:customerservice@hdc.govt.nz) | Pae Tukutuku/Web [www.hastingsdc.govt.nz](http://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz)  
Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga | Hastings District Council  
Private Bag 9002, Hastings 4156, New Zealand

On Fri, May 15 2026 at 4:47 PM [trent@actrix.co.nz](mailto:trent@actrix.co.nz) <[trent@actrix.co.nz](mailto:trent@actrix.co.nz)> wrote:

Hi HDC

It's not 5pm yet, yet there's no option to submit on the Annual plan through [Draft Annual Plan 2026/27 | Consultations](#)

Thanks heaps

Trent Mabbett  
84 Beach Road, Haumoana 4102  
Aotearoa New Zealand  
027-644-9616

**Hastings District Council**

Officer Submission to 2026/27 Annual Plan

Nigel Bickle – Chief Executive

Topics

1. Heretaunga House
2. Whirinaki/Esk Water Supply

**Heretaunga House**

At the 7 November 2024 Council meeting consideration of the Heretaunga House item, the below recommendation was passed:

- A) It is noted that Council will be required to set aside funding for fitout requirements in 2026/27 and for increased lease costs from 2027/28.

**Budget**

- The initial budget was based on a developed design estimate for the Heretaunga House fitout, prepared by our quantity surveyor Sharp Consulting, which was \$2.3M, and this amount has been approved for the draft 2026/27 Annual Plan.
- The tendered price from LT McGuinness (via Tumu) is \$2,509,763.00, equal to a cost per square metre of \$1318. This is a 9% increase to our initial estimate. The areas of difference were in electrical, data and security.
- The variation between the quantity surveyor's estimate and the submitted tender price reflects current market conditions and contractor pricing. Tendered price was received in March 2026
- It is noted that the submitted pricing does not include a contingency allowance. Given the nature of the project and potential unknowns, it is recommended that a contingency be included.
- A contingency of approximately 10% (\$250,000.00) is recommended.

**Recommendation**

- The difference between the originally approved annual plan budget of \$2.3M for the fit out and the amount we are requesting to be approved is \$459,763.00 (including contingency) taking us to \$2,759,763.00 for the total fit out budget, or a cost per square metre of \$1452.
- We understand that in New Zealand the typical commercial office mid-range fit out ranges from \$1500 to \$2500 per square metre.
- Should the Council approve this item it would be debt funded, with a debt servicing impact of \$18,400 in 2026/27 which will be found from operational savings.

**Whirinaki/Esk Water Supply**

This item relates to an update on the current supply status, the long-term solution and the possibility of short-term relief through a rates remission or other mechanism. The financial impact of a 50% rates remission would be in the order of \$120k loss of revenue. Officers will present further supporting information at the 10 June Council meeting.

**Annual Plan Submission**

Hi Bruce/Rebekah

I hope you're well.

I wanted to touch base with you directly regarding a project at Pettigrew Green Arena, and to explore whether there may be an opportunity for Hastings District Council to support it.

We are looking to install a large-scale solar system across the facility as part of our ongoing efforts to improve long-term sustainability and reduce operating costs. It's a 141kW system **that generates approximately 189,000 kWh annually** and is expected to deliver around \$58k in savings per year, alongside meaningful emissions reductions.

Given the regional nature of Pettigrew Green Arena and Rodney Green Arena, and the significant use by Hastings's residents, I think there's a strong case for a similar level of support being considered here. The total project cost is \$253K, excluding batteries, \$120K, and \$66K for change the feed to the new build. We are looking for support from Hastings DC for a third of the project cost, \$84,300, (1/3 of the solar cost). Total project cost \$439K suggest HDC support be only 20% - what an incredible deal for a community asset.

We see this project as the right thing to do from both a financial and a sustainability perspective. It is also the type of infrastructure upgrade that aligns well with the Council's broader objectives. It will also be great for Hawke's Bay

With that in mind, we would appreciate the opportunity to discuss whether HDC would consider contributing towards the project and how we would further the discussion.

I'm happy to come through and catch up with you, when you get back or we can bring Janene in to walk through the detail and performance data if that's useful.

Appreciate your time, Bruce, and I look forward to catching up soon.

Kind regards,



**Craig Waterhouse FCA, BBS, CMA**

Board Chairperson | Regional Indoor Sports & Events Centre Trust

Trading as Rodney.Green Arenas

Home of the Pettigrew Green Arena & Rodney Green Foundation Arena



**Regional Indoor Sports and Events Centre Trust**  
*trading as Rodney Green Arenas*

Proudly supported by the **Rodney Green Foundation**