

Find out more →

what's this
**ANNUAL
PLAN** all
about?

Our Annual Plan
sets out *what
we plan to do*,
and shows you
*how much we
expect it will
cost*, for the
next 12 months.

We'd love you
to have a look,
and share your
thoughts!

Getting BACK TO THE FUTURE

ANNUAL PLAN 2022-2023
Year 2 of Waitaki's 2021-2031 LONG TERM PLAN

Let's talk about future
proofing our 3Waters
infrastructure...



Let's talk
about
landfill and
dumping...



Let's talk
about
those
reforms...



Let's talk
about our Civil
Defence base...



Let's talk about
drainage...



Let's talk about
our roads...



Have your say
by Wednesday 4 May

ENGAGEMENT DOCUMENT



Waitaki
DISTRICT COUNCIL
TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WAITAKI

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Alex Parmley

Alex Parmley
Chief Executive



Gary Kircher

Gary Kircher
Mayor for Waitaki

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

As we look forward to the new financial year there are many challenges that our communities and Council face.

We are feeling the impact of COVID, not just in our communities and the way we live our lives, but in the cost of living and the availability of goods, services and people to fill roles in local businesses and Council. Events on the other side of the world are also impacting us here in New Zealand and Waitaki.

Despite COVID being well and truly with us now, we need to stay strong as a community – support our local businesses, participate in life and continue to do the things we enjoy as much as possible. Council will continue to do all it can to support the residents and businesses of Waitaki.

As a Council we are also looking to a future beyond COVID as we continue investing in our district, its services, facilities and infrastructure, and keeping a focus on our vision of making Waitaki the best place to be. This includes accelerating some of the planned investment in our water infrastructure, so whatever the future of 3Waters,

our communities have the water services they want and deserve and investment in these is not delayed by the reform process. We are also investing in new facilities such as the proposed Sport and Events Centre, which is a fantastic example of the community coming together to deliver something positive for our district that will bring benefits for generations to come.

As we invest in what the community wants and needs, we are balancing ever-increasing costs to Council whilst recognising the squeeze on household budgets from increases in food, fuel and other costs. In the Long Term Plan, we had projected a rates rise of more than 8% for the coming year, and this was before we experienced significant cost increases. We are therefore pleased to be able to propose a lower rate rise of 7.47% in this Annual Plan, along with our commitment to get the most value from this for residents.

We have a busy year ahead delivering what is an ambitious programme that will bring benefits to every part of our district and every community. On top of this we continue to commit time and effort to many government reform programmes, including 3Waters, Health, Resource Management Act and the Future for Local Government. In doing this we are focused on getting the best result for our district and residents. We also have the Local Body Elections in October this year which undoubtedly will bring some change.

So the next 12 months will be another interesting and challenging period but one in which we will continue to work with you to ensure progress in our district, while making sure Waitaki is the best place to be!

A LITTLE BIT OF BACKGROUND

In the 2020/21 financial year, while we really needed to increase rates by at least 3.5%, COVID came along. This meant we needed to rethink our plans and achieve a zero rates increase to support our community through the unforeseen challenges of the pandemic.

While this was the right decision for our community at the time, rates pay for the services, facilities, and infrastructure we provide, so rates must increase as the costs of providing these services rise.

For the 2021/22 financial year, we increased rates by 7.69% in order to maintain services and to catch up on costs. This year (2022/23 financial year), We are proposing an increase in rates by 7.47% which is lower than the 8.53% increase projected for 2022/23 in the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan.

There is a lot to do in the year ahead and this engagement document will tell you about some of the activities and opportunities ahead. Please take the time to have a read, or watch our videos on-line. We would love you to share your thoughts with us.

HOW DOES IT ALL WORK?

APRIL

Community Engagement opens Wednesday 13 April 2022

We'd love to hear your feedback!

Community Engagement Closes 5pm Wednesday 4 May

Hear and consider feedback 16 and 17 May

MAY

JUNE

Annual Plan adopted by Council 28 June

Annual Plan in effect from 1 July 2022

JULY

How are we tracking against what we said we would do in the Long Term Plan? To name a few of the things we have done...

Applied 22,000m³ of metal to gravel roads

Graded 2,789km of gravel roads

324 road excavations for new underground utility work

Resurfaced 30km (205,188m²) of sealed roads

Completed Ōamaru Water main renewals and Waihemo Water Main upgrades

Completed the oxidation pond desludging programme

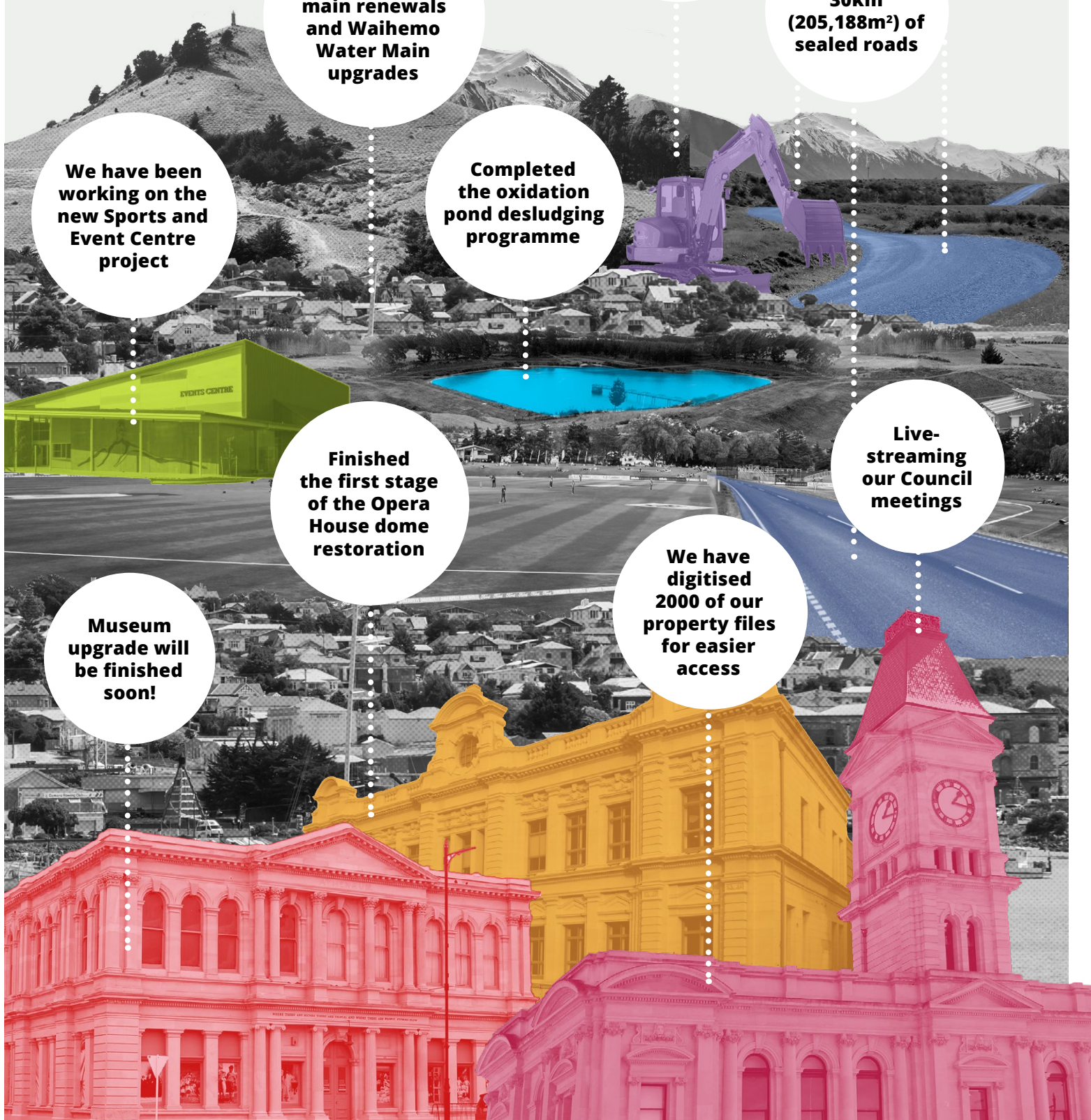
We have been working on the new Sports and Event Centre project

Finished the first stage of the Opera House dome restoration

Live-streaming our Council meetings

Museum upgrade will be finished soon!

We have digitised 2000 of our property files for easier access



WE ARE FOCUSED ON COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

You may hear us talk about, or refer to, community outcomes. We have identified four key community outcomes that we strive to deliver on to help our community thrive, and to make Waitaki the best place to be.



The projects that we are proposing for the Annual Plan 2022/23, fit within at least one of these community outcomes.

We have a lot of work ahead and we need your help to get us there. Please share your thoughts with us by 5pm Wednesday 4 May 2022.

For detail on these projects including how they will be funded please see the supporting information on our website.



**[www.waitaki.govt.nz/
annualplan2022-23](http://www.waitaki.govt.nz/annualplan2022-23)**

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?

We have some new proposals for the Annual Plan, and other proposals you may have seen already in our Long Term Plan (LTP). If you have seen some of the proposals in this engagement document before, we may now be thinking about doing these earlier, or a little differently.

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

Strong Communities
Quality Services



Let's talk about our roads...

We all love getting out and about across our district and travel our roads to get to where we want to be, to connect with the people and places we want to see, making our roads very important.

The rising costs (of just about everything), due to COVID and international events such as the invasion of Ukraine, along with a shortage of raw materials, and a shortage of people available to do the work – have directly impacted our roads and road maintenance.

We know that with inflation rising, and the cost of materials rising, the cost of keeping our roads maintained is going to rise also.

It is too early to know how much the costs are likely to increase, but we believe that the costs in the road sector have increased more than general cost increases.

What do YOU want? Which option do you choose?

Would you be happy to pay more to keep your roads in the current condition?

or would you prefer to pay the same, and accept that we will not be able to maintain the roads as well or as regularly as you are used to?



Want more info?

www.waitaki.govt.nz/annualplan2022-23

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

Strong Communities
Quality Services



Let's talk about drainage...

While drainage infrastructure, such as our stormwater drains, is generally good around the district, it is by no means perfect. Inadequate drainage can cause a lot of frustration and we want to ensure that we have the funds to be able to deal with these issues.

Problems generally come to light after a significant, or just a persistent, weather event.

In some areas, the problems we experience with drainage, can be more than just during rain events, such as in Kakanui where the v-drains that channel stormwater away can limit road-side parking and make it difficult to walk around the village.

What is proposed?

We want to set aside sufficient funds to deal with some of the drainage issues that are brought to our attention.

What are the costs?

While some work is happening now, we would like to set aside \$150k for more work to be done in 2022/23.

Do you support extra funds being set aside to deal with drainage works that are needed?



Want more info?

www.waitaki.govt.nz/annualplan2022-23



Let's talk about future proofing our 3Waters Infrastructure...

Our 3Waters team provides safe, reliable drinking water across our district; they treat wastewater to a high standard so it can be safely discharged into the environment; they manage stormwater to minimise flooding and protect waterways; and they provide infrastructure that supports the growth across our district.

The current position of Central Government is to shift the management of 3Waters infrastructure to four new entities across New Zealand in 2024.

We believe it is in Waitaki's best interest to make sure we have some of the best water in the country, and ensure our infrastructure is in great condition that will stand up to changing weather events, when we hand over the management of these critical assets to the new entity. We want the best for our community, our environment, and our future.

What is proposed?

We are proud of our 3Waters infrastructure, however with changing compliance measures being introduced and the proposed shift of management of 3Waters to the new entity in 2024, Council has decided to fast-track a number of the projects that were approved in the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan to start in 2022-2023 to future-proof our infrastructure.

What are the costs? Who pays?

We are using compounding loans to fund these 3Waters projects, and unfunding the associated depreciation, so there isn't an immediate impact on rates.

If the Government's proposal proceeds in 2024, the loans associated with these projects will be transferred to the new entity.

Do you agree with our decision to bring forward 3Waters projects to ensure we have quality water and infrastructure for our future?



Want more info?

www.waitaki.govt.nz/annualplan2022-23



An update on landfill and dumping issues...

We've inherited some problems with some old dumps.

The problem areas are the Hampden landfill and two unofficial dumpsite locations on Beach Road. The Hampden Landfill closed in 1996 but the landfill sits on coastal land. We have been monitoring these areas, and protected these sites to date to ensure there is no land (or waste) slipping into the ocean. However, with coastal erosion we cannot stop this happening in the future, which is why we need to act now.

What is proposed?

Council is proactively responding to an environmental risk. We are not alone in facing these issues, but we will be one of the first Council's to take action.

We have a window of opportunity through to 2027 to minimise the impact on our ratepayers while we operate the Palmerston landfill. Beyond 2027, costs would substantially increase. As we proceed with this project we will be looking at ways that we can minimise the rate burden by seeking support from Government - either through environmental grants or through rebates on waste levy's.

We are still working through the detail for the long-term fix, but this is something that we need to do now and we need to do it right.


What are the costs?

In 2022/23 the costs are expected to be only about \$15k on our rates as we will use loan servicing. The costs will increase in 2024, but by taking action now, the cost in dollar terms and environmental impact will be less.



Want more info?

www.waitaki.govt.nz/annualplan2022-23



An update on Civil Defence and our Emergency Operation Centre...

Waitaki generally deals with at least one civil defence event each year such as flooding, snow, fire or other events that affect our wider community and require a co-ordinated response.

Our Civil Defence and Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) currently operates out of the Centennial and Memorial Rooms on Severn Street.

The current EOC is not in the right location - access can be challenged in weather events, and the building is not fit-for-purpose for an EOC.

What is proposed?

St John is proposing to build a new premise in the near future and we have the opportunity to establish an EOC within the new facility. This would not only align the EOC with one of our core essential services, but it would also ensure our community has an effective base to provide a strong response to future emergency events.

Co-location makes good business sense, it should benefit all parties and in our mind, it is a pretty exciting opportunity. Without this option, we will need to investigate alternative sites in the foreseeable future for our EOC.

What are the costs? Who pays?

These are early days and we are yet to find out the detail on how we can work with St John, and the costs involved.

For now we are just letting you to know that we think this could be a great opportunity for our EOC and St John to work together in providing quality support for our community.



Want more info?

www.waitaki.govt.nz/annualplan2022-23

Let's talk about the Government Reforms...

While all the talk about Government Reforms may seem a little dull and you may think they won't affect you, in fact, the reforms will have a major impact on Council – the way we work, and the things that we deliver to our community.

The reforms are being introduced across the country by Central Government with the intention to bring positive change for our communities. In the coming two years all council's across New Zealand will be playing their part in a number of reforms. Don't tune out! Playing an active part means being better informed. So here we go:

What is proposed?

3Waters Reform

As discussed earlier in the document, Central Government are taking over the management of the 3Waters infrastructure in 2024 to ensure that all New Zealanders have access to quality drinking water. Because of the high costs of delivering this - bringing the management under a larger body (instead of being managed locally), will allow the cost to be spread over a greater number of households and reduces the average cost per household.

Health Reform

New Zealand has a high-quality publicly funded health system and a highly skilled, dedicated and professional workforce. However, Government sees opportunities to make improvements to the system to make it perform better for all of us.

Waitaki has a unique interest in the Health Reform as we own our Hospital. We want to make sure that our health services and facilities are protected for our community health and wellbeing.

What do you think about all this?

At Waitaki we are 100% supportive of bringing positive change for our community, and we want to be a leading Council through these change proposals, to make sure that any change proposed as part of the reforms are right for our community, and benefit our community. Are these changes positive?

For each reform, there is a lot of work involved by a number of people within each council, which means work we normally do can't get done – or we have to bring in other people to support the process. Despite this, the best outcomes for the future of Waitaki and our community remains our driver, and we want to be recognised as a leading council through the reforms.

Future for Local Government Reform

The outcome of this reform is focused on enhancing wellbeing within our communities. This will involve a review of what councils are delivering to the community – and look to realign some of the things that we have been doing, to do them differently to fit the world we are living in now. Any changes that are made will be fit for the future, not just fit for today.

Civil Defence and Emergency Management "Trifecta" Reform

The reform seeks to build a modern, inclusive, fit-for-purpose framework for the emergency management system. The aim is to create a well co-ordinated, high-performing emergency management system that is trusted to ensure that the impacts of events on people, the economy and the environment are reduced.

Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) Reform

The Government believes our natural environment is under pressure – the way we use our land, water and other natural resources has proved unsustainable. Urban areas are struggling to keep pace with population growth, there is an urgent need to reduce carbon emissions and adapt to climate change, and there is a need to ensure that Māori have an effective role in the system.

As a result of these issues, the Government is repealing (removing) the RMA and replacing it with new legislation. The new legislation will better support the issues we are facing in our land use and environment today.

Do you support Waitaki working to be a leading council in ensuring local government in the future is better able to meet our community's needs?



Want more info?
www.waitaki.govt.nz/annualplan2022-23

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR WAITAKI'S RATES?

The changes shown in this document mean that the proposed average rates increase for the coming 2022/2023 year would be 7.47%.

We are conscious that costs are increasing all around us, so we have worked hard to find savings and have managed to bring you a proposed rates increase of 7.47% - which is lower than what was forecast in the 2021-31 Long Term Plan.

What will my rates look like in 2022/2023?

The rates for each property in the district are different, depending on the capital value of the property, and on the services the owners/occupiers receive, or are able to benefit from.

This table shows what your rates might look like next year (2022/2023), and how this compares to the current year (2021/2022). The figures in the table include the proposed changes set out in this document.

	Example of Residential Ōamaru	Example of Residential Palmerston	Example of Residential Ōmārama	Example of Residential Herbert	Average Farming/ Agricultural - Waitaki	Average Commercial - Waitaki	Example of Commercial - Ōamaru
Rateable value of property 2021/2022	\$475,000	\$255,000	\$310,000	\$265,000	\$6,952,000	\$1,684,000	\$740,000
Rate increase 2022/2023 (%)	+7.88%	+6.45%	+4.39%	+7.77%	+5.36% (average)	+9.47% (average)	+13.1%
Rate increase 2022/2023 (\$)	\$216	\$148	\$94	\$133	\$709 (average)	\$1,023 (average)	\$805
Rate 2021/2022	\$2,742	\$2,295	\$2,140	\$1,711	\$13,218 (average)	\$10,802 (average)	\$6,137
Rate 2022/2023	\$2,958	\$2,443	\$2,234	\$1,844	\$13,927 (average)	\$11,825 (average)	\$6,942
Rate 2022/2023 \$ per day	\$8.10	\$6.69	\$6.12	\$5.05	\$38.15 (average)	\$32.40 (average)	\$19.02

WHAT ABOUT FEES & CHARGES?

We are proposing some changes to our Fees and Charges.

The changes are not significant, though some increases or reductions were required to match changes in the cost of delivering the service, and removal of fees where the service is no longer available.

A full schedule of fees can be found in our supporting information on our website www.waitaki.govt.nz.

The fees that are changing are outlined in the table.

Business Activity	What is changing?
Aquatic Centre	Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase.
Archive	Bring print costs in alignment with the library.
Forrester Gallery	Exhibition rate changes.
Recreation	Price increase for sportsfield hire.
Camping Grounds	Reduction in rate for additional adults per night.
Solid Waste	Increase in disposal rates due to Government waste levy imposed.
Planning	Increase in deposits to align these more with the expected final cost.
Harbour Fees	Increase in temporary mooring fees and slipway fees.
Environmental Health	Some changes were made in October 2021 and were approved by Council at that time.

WHAT YOUR RATES DELIVER

For every



of rates
we spend:



Average only –
does not apply to
every ratepayer

Rates help us provide, maintain, protect and manage:



114 HECTARES
of **FORESTRY**



120 HECTARES
PARKS & RESERVES



13
CEMETERIES



1 CENTRAL
LIBRARY
& **5** District Branch
LIBRARIES
with over
50,000
educational resources



**CULTURAL
FACILITIES**

Libraries, Opera House
Museum & Archive, Gallery

1 AQUATIC
CENTRE

Providing learn to swim &
water safety programmes



37



PUBLIC TOILET
facilities

23



PLAYGROUNDS



3 BIKE
PARKS

4

**SKATE
PARKS**



6



CAMPGROUNDS

63%

of our population
with access to a

**PUBLIC RETICULATED
WASTE WATER SYSTEM**



8 WASTE WATER
SYSTEMS at

Duntroon, Kurow, Lake Ōhau,
Moeraki, Ōamaru, Ōmārama,
Otematata & Palmerston

95%

of our population
with access to a



PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY

15

individual
WATER SUPPLIES
in Waitaki



1,800KM
of **LOCAL ROADS**

166KM of
FOOTPATHS



171

BRIDGES &
10 major **CULVERTS**



2,014

**STREET
LIGHTS**





HOW CAN I HAVE MY SAY?



Do it online

fill in the online form on our website:

www.waitaki.govt.nz/annualplan2022-23



Write it

and post it back to us:
Waitaki District Council,
Private Bag 50058,
Ōamaru 9444



Email it

send your feedback to
consult@waitaki.govt.nz



Drop it

to Council offices in
Ōamaru - 20 Thames St, or
Palmerston - 54 Tiverton St.



Talk to us

You can share your ideas and comments in person at the Council hearings. Be sure to outline your key points in your feedback that you will refer to – and tick the box that you would like to speak to your submission. The dates for hearing submissions and feedback will be Monday 16 May and Tuesday 17 May.

Drop in sessions

We will also be having some community drop-in sessions for you to call in and share your thoughts.

Dates for the drop-in sessions will be up on our website and Facebook page during the feedback period.

Scan for more info and online feedback form



Need a hand?

If you would like help making a submission – either online or hardcopy – our lovely team at the Ōamaru Library are happy to help. Just call in and see them.

ANNUAL PLAN 2022-23 FEEDBACK FORM

If you live in Waitaki, whether you pay rates or not, we would love to hear your thoughts on what we are planning, and any other thoughts or ideas you have to help make Waitaki the best place to be.

WE WANT TO
HEAR FROM YOU!

YOUR DETAILS

Note: your name and feedback will be made public as part of the decision-making process. Other details will remain private. Please get your feedback in to us before 5pm on **Wednesday 4 May 2022**.

Name..... Organisation (if applicable).....

Address.....

Email..... Phone.....



Please tick if you would like to speak to your feedback at the Council Hearings

You can attend the Hearing in person, or via a zoom link. We will contact you to arrange a time.

Note: Council Meetings are livestreamed for public viewing and recorded.

We are asking the following questions to understand more about who we are hearing from – these questions are completely optional.

Age (optional) ☐ Under 18 ☐ 18-24 ☐ 25 - 49 ☐ 50-64 ☐ 65+

Ethnicity (optional)

Are you: ☐ a Ratepayer and/or ☐ a Resident (tick all that apply)



QUESTIONS

You're welcome to comment on any aspect of the Annual Plan but we are seeking your specific feedback on the four topics below.

1. Our Roads (page 7)

Question: Would you be happy to pay more to keep your roads in the current condition? Or would you prefer to pay the same, and accept that we will not be able to maintain the roads as well or as regularly as you are used to? **Which option do you prefer? (please tick one):**

☐ Pay more to keep your roads in the current condition

☐ Pay the same for reduced service

Comments

2. Drainage (page 7)

Question: Do you support extra funds being set aside to deal with drainage works that are needed?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

3. 3Waters (page 8)

Question: Do you agree with our decision to bring forward 3Waters projects to ensure we have quality water and infrastructure for our future?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

4. Reforms (page 10)

Question: Do you support Waitaki working to be a leading council in ensuring local government in the future is better able to meet our community needs?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

Your thoughts and ideas

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about?

.....
.....



Run out of room? Attach more pages if needed.

Please give us your feedback by 5pm Wednesday, 4 May 2022