



Your rates explained

Our city's budget for 2024/25

[wellington.govt.nz](https://www.wellington.govt.nz)

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council

Me Heke Ki Pōneke

What are rates for?

Each year, the Wellington City Council sets its overall budget as part of the Long-term Plan and Annual Plan process. The rates-funded component of that budget is then collected from property owners.

Council rates keep our city functioning. The money collected is used to deliver more than 400 day-to-day services and pay for what has been borrowed to fund major infrastructure projects.

Key infrastructure includes:



2757km
of pipes across
our three waters
network



105
water pump
stations



2
wastewater
treatment plants
(Moa Point
and Karori)



904km
of footpaths



19,000
street lights



275
social housing
buildings



700km
of roads, which
includes bike lanes,
bus lanes, bridges
and tunnels



4305ha
of parks, reserves,
beaches, including
walking/biking
tracks



The Southern
Landfill, Capital
Compost, the
Tip Shop and
Recycle Centre



55
sports fields



108
playgrounds



277
community
facilities

Key investments in the 2024-34 Long-term Plan:

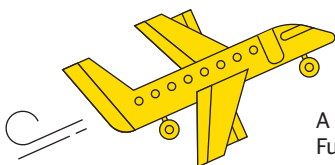
Our new Long-term Plan has been in place since 1 July 2024.

**\$4.9
billion**

total capital expenditure (CAPEX) to improve our city over the next 10 years

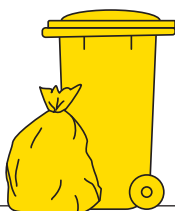
**\$11.6
billion**

total operating expenditure (OPEX) to run our services over the next 10 years



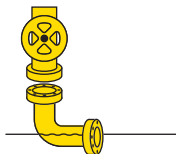
A new Perpetual Investment Fund will be created using proceeds from the sale of the Council's minority shares in Wellington Airport Limited.

New waste collection services from 2027 including a rates-funded rubbish wheelie bin that will be collected fortnightly, a rates-funded weekly organics service and a bigger 240L fortnightly recycling bin.

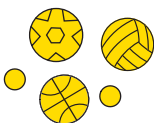




\$42.1 million
spent on upgrading
and renewing the city's
Coastal, Town Belt and
Reserves infrastructure



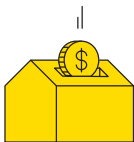
\$1.8 billion
of funding to Wellington
Water Ltd which covers
upgrades, renewals,
services and repairs



\$106 million
of funding for recreation
facilities and services



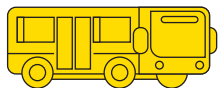
\$104.4 million
earmarked for the
completion of Te Matapihi
Central Library



\$325.3 million
on operational costs for
social housing



\$592.9 million
on renewing and upgrading
social housing units



\$1.1 billion
set aside for the
transport network,
including \$115.2 million on
sustainable street changes



\$500,000
extra each year on
social grants for safety
initiatives in the CBD



For more information, please visit
[wellington.govt.nz/ltp](https://www.wellington.govt.nz/ltp)

This year's budget

This year rates are increasing by an average of 16.9 percent (excluding an additional sludge levy of 1.6 percent on average – see below).

This increase covers investment in the city's infrastructure and services, increased inflation, borrowing costs, and depreciation.

Your rates increase may differ from the average. The share you pay depends on your property's capital value, land use and whether it receives targeted rates, a rates remission or is non-rateable.

See [wellington.govt.nz/rates-explained](https://www.wellington.govt.nz/rates-explained)

Sludge Levy

We've introduced a new levy to your rates bill, you'll see this as a separate line item.

The levy is to cover the approximately \$400 million required to pay for the construction of Te Whare Wai Para Nuku, the Moa Point sludge minimisation facility, without affecting the Council's funding for other important infrastructure and community projects.

Te Whare Wai Para Nuku is a critical piece of infrastructure for the city. What we are building is world-class, and the first of its kind in Aotearoa.

This facility will reduce the volume of treated sludge, a byproduct of the wastewater treatment process, by up to 80 percent. It will also reduce emissions generated through the treatment process by up to 60 percent. It will remove the need to pipe more than a million litres of sludge across the city and bury 40-50 tonnes of it in the landfill each day.

For more information, please visit [wellington.govt.nz/sludge](https://www.wellington.govt.nz/sludge)

Paying your Wellington City Council rates

There are several ways you can manage your rates payments:

- spreading your payments into affordable amounts to be paid over the year
- paying your rates online, by direct debit, internet/telephone banking, or in person at a NZ Post Shop
- if you are on a low income, you may be eligible for up to \$1590 off your rates – a Government rates rebate of up to \$790 and a further Council rates remission of up to \$800
- you can apply for a Government rates rebate here govt.nz/rates-rebate. You will automatically receive the Council rates remission if you receive the Government rebate.



If you are concerned about being able to pay your rates invoice, please get in touch with us as soon as possible at rates@wcc.govt.nz or call **04 499 4444**.