

Te rārangi o ngā nama me ngā utu

Schedule of fees and charges

The council may fix charges relating to its functions and responsibilities under Section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991. An outline of current policy and charges is provided below.⁽⁶⁾

Application charges

Changes to policy statements and plans (Section 36(1)(A))

When assessing applications for the preparation of, or changes to policy statements or regional plans, the council will:

- charge applicants actual and reasonable costs
- require applicants to pay a \$1,000 deposit per application or a deposit of up to 50 per cent of the estimated costs of the council carrying out its functions in relation to such applications
- require applicants or their agent to pay for the costs incurred on an ongoing basis.

Resource consent application processing⁽⁷⁾ (section 36(1)(b))

For carrying out its functions in relation to the receiving, processing, and deciding on resource consent applications (including assessment of applications for certificates of compliance), and for considering and deciding on changes to or reviews of consent conditions and transfer of consents, the council will:

- charge applicants and consent holders actual and reasonable costs
- charge a fixed amount for specified consents (see table below) and require applicants and consent holders to pay the full charge prior to work commencing on the application or review
- require applicants or consent holders, where a specific amount has not been fixed, to pay a deposit of up to 50 per cent of the estimated costs with a minimum deposit of \$1,000 prior to consideration of the application or review, with the balance of the costs to be paid on a regular basis as costs are incurred
- require applicants or consent holders, where a specific amount has not been fixed, to pay the actual and reasonable costs for the processing of the application as determined, according to the following formula:

Charge = (staff time x charge rate⁽⁸⁾) + administration fee + direct costs including disbursements + notification and hearing costs

Fixed application charges	Proposed 2023/24 \$ (GST exclusive)
Bore consent (controlled activity)	440
Mooring consent inside zoned mooring area (ZMA)	440
Change to mooring consent	220
Consent application lodgement fee (fee per application)	
• One activity	260
• Two activities	210
• Three activities	185
• Four or more activities	160
Consent transfer fee (for one consent)	140
Each additional consent	100

Staff charge rates

	Proposed 2023/24 Rate per hour (\$) (GST exclusive)
Technical expert	205
Technical officer	160
Team Leader	185
Senior resource officer	160

⁶ For the full policy, refer to the council's 'Administrative Charges Policy: 1999'. This document is available on request

⁷ An indication of likely costs, based on average costs for processing a particular category of consent, can be provided at the time of making an application. However, actual charges may vary, depending on the complexity of the environmental issue involved and the process to be followed

⁸ Refer to staff charge rates table above

Resource officer	140
Business support / legal advisor	100
Legal Advisor	330

Annual consent holder charges

Consent administration charge (Section 36(1)(C))

The resource consent annual administration fee contributes to the cost the council incurs for undertaking its consenting and monitoring functions required under the Resource Management Act 1991. This includes generating resource consents, maintaining consent and compliance information, updating consent status, processing consent surrenders and expiries, annual charge enquiries as well as general oversight of the consenting and monitoring activities of the council. This charge is the same for all categories of resource consent.

Information gathering and research (Section 36(1)(C))

Councils have a duty to gather information and monitor the environment under the Resource Management Act. A key part of this includes field monitoring (e.g. river flow, groundwater availability, water quality, ecology, air quality) and scientific investigations to enable activities to occur in a sustainable way in the Waikato region.

Where council considers the need for this work is caused by or benefits consent holders, it can apportion some of the charge to consent holders.

The scale of charge assessed for each class of consent is based on the forecast expenditure for the relevant council work programmes and an assessment of the share of these costs that should be borne by consent holders or the public. Overall, the total funding contribution from consent holders is equivalent to approximately one-third of the total cost.

The monitoring and investigations undertaken are not usually specific to the location of an individual consent. It provides for managing the cumulative impacts of many activities and consents on a broader catchment, aquifer or airshed scale.

Consent compliance monitoring

All monitoring of compliance with consent conditions, excluding farm dairy water take consents, will be charged on an actual cost basis.

Actual and reasonable costs for monitoring consent compliance will be directly charged according to the following formula:

Charge = (staff time x charge rate⁽⁹⁾) + direct costs including disbursements

Consent holders or their agent are required to pay for costs incurred on an ongoing basis as they occur, unless otherwise agreed by Waikato Regional Council.

Where a consent is held to take water for farm dairy purposes, an annual compliance monitoring charge of \$70 applies, which is included as part of the annual consent holder charge. This charge applies so long as monitoring determines that compliance has been achieved. If the consent holder is found to be non-compliant, any costs in addition to the \$70 charge will be directly charged in accordance with the above charging formula.

Permitted activity compliance monitoring

Monitoring of Permitted Activities under:

- (a) the National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry 2017 (NESPF) pursuant to Part 3, Regulation 106, and
- (b) the National Environmental Standard for Freshwater 2020 (NESF) pursuant to Part 4, Regulation 75

will be charged actual and reasonable costs for monitoring compliance according to the following formula:

Charge = (staff/contractor time x charge rate⁽¹⁰⁾) + direct costs including disbursements

Parties operating under the NESPF and/or NESF will be charged for costs incurred on an ongoing basis as they occur, unless otherwise agreed by Waikato Regional Council.

Waikato Regional Council may set fixed charges for monitoring activities carried out under the NESPF and/or NESF. Council may require operators to pay the full charge towards monitoring the activity prior to any monitoring taking place.

9 Refer to staff charge rates table on the previous page

10 Refer to staff charge rates table on previous page

2023/24 Resource consent holder charges

All amounts are GST exclusive.

Consent class	Description	Consent administration	Information gathering, research and data monitoring	Compliance monitoring	Total
Air					
• Discharge of contaminants	Discharges of NES contaminants to the air	155	588	-	743
• Other discharges	Other discharges to air, including odour	155	-	-	155
Agricultural					
Agricultural discharges	Discharges to land and water from agricultural sector activities	155	550	-	705
Process discharges					
• Major	Stormwater discharge >4ha land; Sewage >15m ³ per day; mine wastewater >100m ³ per day	155	772	-	927
• Minor	Industrial, mining, quarry, urban and commercial discharges to land and water that do not fall into 'Major' class	155	421	-	576
Geothermal					
• Discharge	Discharge of geothermal sourced fluids	155	13 cents per tonne or m ³ (daily rate)		
• Take	Takes of geothermal sourced fluids	155	27 cents per tonne or m ³ (daily rates)		
Water takes					
Water takes	Takes of surface or ground water, excluding farm water takes	155	Minimum charge of \$65, then 45 cents per m ³	-	
Farm water takes	Takes of surface or ground water for farming support	155	Minimum charge of \$65, then 45 cents per m ³	70	
Non-consumptive water takes (no impact)	Non-consumptive water takes with no impact on water availability, or for flood management or environmental purposes	155	-	-	155

Consent class	Description	Consent administration	Information gathering, research and data monitoring	Compliance monitoring	Total
Non-consumptive water takes (impact)	Non-consumptive water takes that impact flow regimes or water availability	155	600	-	755
Dams					
• Waikato	Large dams within the Waikato hydro network used for electricity generation	155	8,965 per dam	-	9,120
• Large	Dams deeper than 3 metres and which hold more than 20,000m ³ of water	155	5,738 per dam	-	5,893
• Small	All dams not covered by the consent classes above	155	269 per dam	-	424
Coastal					
• Marine farms		155	50 per hectare	40	
• Moorings	All mooring structures ⁽¹¹⁾	155	23	15	193
• Other	Activities requiring consent which may significantly impact upon the coastal environment and do not sit within the classes listed above	155	600	-	755
Land use					
• Major	Large scale land use activities that have potential to generate significant land instability or sediment discharges. Including (but not limited to): Forestry harvesting >20ha Metal extraction >500m ³ Earthworks >10,000m ³	155	1,589	-	1,744
• Minor	Large scale land use activities that have some potential to generate significant land instability or sediment discharges. Including (but not limited to): Forestry harvesting <20ha Metal extraction <500m ³ Earthworks <10,000m ³	155	298	-	453

¹¹ Refer to the bylaw requirement table for further charges.

Consent class	Description	Consent administration	Information gathering, research and data monitoring	Compliance monitoring	Total
Land use - Lake Taupō					
• Large	Land areas greater than 100 hectares	155	795	-	950
• Medium	Land areas from 20 to 100 hectares	155	400	-	555
• Small	Land areas less than 20 hectares	155	190	-	345
Administration					
Administration charge only	Activities requiring consent which do not fit within the consent classes above, and which are not expected to have major environmental effects that will require some supervision and monitoring by Waikato Regional Council	155	-	-	155

Note:

1. All charges exclude GST.
2. GST at the prevailing rate will be added to all charges when invoiced.
3. Whitebait stands and bore permits will not be charged an annual charge.

Remission

Under Section 36(5) of the RMA the council has discretion to remit the whole or any part of any charge. Charges will be remitted where:

- charges to individual consent holders are deemed to be unreasonable
- a redress of relative benefits to the consent holder is necessary

- the information produced by an applicant for a resource consent benefits the community as a whole
- for Land use - Lake Taupō a remission of the information gathering, research and data monitoring component of this charge will be considered where the consent holder can demonstrate that the consented land use is primarily a low nutrient discharge.

Navigation safety related charges

Pursuant to section 33M of the Maritime Transport Act 1994, Waikato Regional Council has made a bylaw in respect of navigation safety within the Waikato region. Section 33R of the Maritime Transport Act 1994 allows Waikato Regional Council to set fees in respect of activities that it has to undertake to implement the bylaw.

Any costs incurred for particular services provided for navigation safety which are not outlined below are fully recoverable from the person or organisation causing this cost to be incurred.

Bylaw requirement	Proposed 23/24 Fee (\$) (GST Exclusive)
Application for temporary events (Clause 5.6), or suspension or exemption of any provisions within this bylaw (Bylaw 4.2)	\$112.80
Application for permanent speed upliftings (Clause 5.8)	Actual and reasonable cost
Public notice for a temporary event (Clause 5.6.5)	Actual and reasonable costs

Bylaw requirement	Proposed 23/24 Fee (\$) (GST Exclusive)
Mooring fee – Harbourmaster activities and safety checks (charged annually) ⁽¹²⁾	\$120.00
Management of navigation safety related activities for Port Taharoa	Actual and reasonable costs
Management and inspection of navigation safety-related activities	Actual and reasonable costs
Assessment and report on any RMA consent application which has the potential to affect navigational safety	Actual and reasonable costs

Note:

1. The bylaw does not apply to Lake Taupō.
2. All charges exclude GST. GST at the prevailing rate will be added to all charges when invoiced.

Kawhia mooring license fee

Waikato Regional Council holds a consent for the management of a number of moorings within the Kawhia harbour. A charge of \$100 per annum will be charged where council licenses the use of these moorings to individuals. The charge covers costs incurred to administer these moorings under the terms of the council’s consent. All prices are GST exclusive.

Charges under the building act 2004

Waikato Regional Council will charge for all application, inspection and compliance processes associated with its regulatory role under the Building Act 2004, including but not limited to PIM’s, building consents, compliance schedules, inspections, code of compliance certificates, DSAP. Annual WOF and dam classification certificates.

Requests for information and documents Resource management plans and consents

Except as provided in relation to policy document, actual and reasonable costs will be charged for providing documents, information and advice in respect of resource management plans and resource management consents (sections 36(1)(e) and (f) of the Resource Management Act 1991). The first half hour of staff time will not be charged, after which the total staff time spent on actioning the request will be charged at the relevant staff rate.

Marine oil spill response: charges under the Maritime Transport Act 1994

In accordance with section 444 of the Maritime Transport Act (MTA) regional councils exercising a delegated function or power may charge a fee in relation to that function or power. The total hours charged for cost recovery will be at the discretion of the Regional On Scene Commander. Staff hourly rates will be at the appropriate rate as set out in the schedule of fees and charges.

MOS role	Proposed 2023/24 Recommended Rate per hour (GST Exclusive)
Regional on-scene commander (ROSC)	\$205
Subject matter expert (SME) i.e. wildlife, environmental scientist	\$160
Senior regional responder (SRR) / leading hand / EOC function manager	\$160
Regional responder (RR), operations team member, EOC function team member	\$140
Business support (after termination of response)	\$100
Disbursements (e.g. but not limited to: meals and accommodation, vehicle running costs, specialist equipment, external agency advice, waste management)	Actual costs incurred
Legal advisor	\$330

Technical reports

Many of our technical reports are available to download free of charge on the council’s website:
www.waikatoregion.govt.nz

¹² Refer to the moorings charge in the resource consent holder charges table for additional charges.

Technical reports will be charged at a base rate of \$20 plus \$0.15 per A4 page and \$0.30 per A3 page. Earlier technical reports priced less than \$10 will be provided free of charge. All prices are GST exclusive.

Policy documents

Many of our policy documents and plans are available to download free of charge on the council's website: www.waikatoregion.govt.nz

Requests for policy documents and plans will be charged at the following rates:

Document	Proposed 2023/24 Fee (\$) (GST exclusive)
Regional Coastal Plan – hard copy	\$120
Regional Coastal Plan – CD ROM	\$20
Waikato Regional Plan – hard copy	\$120
Waikato Regional Plan (including maps) – CD ROM	\$20
Waikato Regional Plan Maps (full set) – hard copy	\$1600
Waikato Regional Plan – individual maps	Cost of production
Transitional Regional Plan	\$20
Regional Policy Statement	\$80

Spatial information data

Waikato Regional Council, at its discretion, may charge for access to or extraction of spatial information data. The total staff time spent will be charged at the technical officer charge rate as per the schedule of fees and charges. There is no charge for the data itself.

River and catchment service charges

Waikato Regional Council, at its discretion, may charge for the provision of information and advice relating to the following:

- hazard information and advice
- technical information and advice
- property information
- provision of historic information and records
- licences to construction structures on Waikato Regional Council owned or managed land
- provision of other information or services where costs, including staff time, are incurred by Waikato Regional Council.

Actual and reasonable costs will be charged for the provision of information, documents and technical advice. The first half hour of staff time involved in providing the service will not be charged, after which the total staff time spent providing the service may be charged.

Charges for requests for official information

The Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) provides that any charge for the supply of official information must be reasonable. Regard may be had to the cost of the labour and materials involved in making the information available and any costs incurred pursuant to a request of the applicant to make the information available urgently.

Accordingly, where costs are recovered for the provision of official information, the amount charged for staff time will be in accordance with the Ministry of Justice guidelines for charging for services. Time spent by staff searching for relevant material, abstracting and collating, copying, transcribing and supervising access where the total time involved *is in excess of one hour* will be charged out as follows, after that first hour:

- an initial charge of \$38 (including GST at the prevailing rate) for the first chargeable half hour or part thereof; and
- then \$38 (including GST at the prevailing rate) for each additional half hour or part thereof.

Charges for the rates postponement policy

The council currently has a rates postponement policy that allows eligible individuals to postpone their rates.

Application fees in relation to these postponements are as follows.

1. Costs to register a statutory land charge in relation to the postponed rates. The fee will reflect the current charges set by Landonline at the time the statutory land charge is registered.
2. Costs to release statutory land charge in relation to the postponed rates. The fee will reflect the current charges set by Landonline at the time the statutory land charge is released.

Charges for debt collection

In situations where the council is required to engage the service of a debt collection agent to recover amounts owing to the council, the cost charged by the collection agency to the council will be payable by the debtor.