

Rates Relief

Council offers a range of rate remission and postponement policies that can reduce your rates if you are experiencing difficulties. They are listed below:

- Community, Recreation & Not for Profit organisations
- Economic development
- Excess water rates
- Financial hardship and exceptional circumstances
- Fragmented and uneconomic coastal rural land
- Land affected by plan changes
- Natural heritage and cultural heritage
- Payment arrangement and rate arrears
- Permanent crops
- Penalties
- Rates Transition Policy
- Uniform Annual General Charge (UAGC) and certain targeted rates

Rate Remissions for Māori Freehold Land

Tairāwhiti has a significant amount of whenua Māori. These policies are in addition to the general policies above. Due to the introduction of the Local Government (rating of Whenua Maori) amendment bill in April 2021 the rate remission policies for Māori Freehold Land have been reviewed recently.

Development of Māori Freehold Land

This policy supports Māori landowners and those responsible for whenua Māori who wish to develop previously unused or unoccupied land for economic use.

Landlocked, Marginal Land and Fragmented Ownership

This policy assists where land use is limited due to physical accessibility or fragmented ownership. Unused land can become non-rateable if the owner requests it.

Maori Freehold Land – General

This policy enables rates and/or penalties to be written off when there is virtually no practical way of recovering past outstanding debt.

Partial Use and Partial Occupation of Māori Freehold land

Provides rates relief to ratepayers who wish to use or occupy portions of Māori Freehold rating units previously unused and unoccupied. The used and unused portions are separated, and the rates are divided between them.

Postponement of rates

Financial Hardship

This policy applies to both residential and non-residential properties. The Council must be satisfied that the ratepayer does not have the financial capacity to pay their rates instalment or payment of the rates instalment would create financial hardship.

Māori Freehold Land

Council's policy is that rates for Māori Freehold Land will not be postponed but instead will be dealt with under the rate remission policies for Māori land.

For full remission policy details and application forms visit our website www.gdc.govt.nz/services/rates/rates-remissions



Water meter rates

If you are an extraordinary water user (eg Commercial or Rural user) under Council's water supply bylaw you will be charged a water-by-meter rate of \$1.64 per cubic metre + GST. This is based on how much water is consumed.

Special reading fee

- **Unscheduled water meter readings, including final readings will be charged \$71 + GST**

Water rates are invoiced on monthly, quarterly, six-monthly and annual cycles.

A 10% penalty will be added to any unpaid portion of the water rates not paid by the due date shown below.

Month of Invoice	Due Date	Date Penalty Added
Invoiced six-monthly		
Jun 2023	20 Jul 2023	26 Jul 2023
Dec 2023	22 Jan 2024	26 Jan 2024
Invoiced quarterly		
Jun 2023	20 Jul 2023	26 Jul 2023
Sep 2023	20 Oct 2023	26 Oct 2023
Dec 2023	22 Jan 2024	26 Jan 2024
Mar 2024	22 Apr 2024	26 Apr 2024
Invoiced monthly		
Jun 2023	20 Jul 2023	26 Jul 2023
Jul 2023	21 Aug 2023	25 Aug 2023
Aug 2023	20 Sep 2023	26 Sep 2023
Sep 2023	20 Oct 2023	26 Oct 2023
Oct 2023	20 Nov 2023	24 Nov 2023
Nov 2023	20 Dec 2023	21 Dec 2023
Dec 2023	22 Jan 2024	26 Jan 2024
Jan 2024	20 Feb 2024	26 Feb 2024
Feb 2024	20 Mar 2024	26 Mar 2024
Mar 2024	22 Apr 2024	26 Apr 2024
Apr 2024	20 May 2024	24 May 2024
May 2024	20 Jun 2024	26 Jun 2024

Under section 57 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, any portion of the rate invoices not paid by the due date will incur a 10% penalty on the following dates.



How to pay...



Pay online

Visit www.gdc.govt.nz to pay with Debit / Credit card or

Use online banking

Our bank account number: **03-0638-0502288-00**

Please use your valuation number (on rates invoice) as a reference for payment.



EasyPay / Direct Debit

Direct Debit, it's the easy way to pay. We calculate the amount and deduct it from your bank account. You can either pay weekly, fortnightly, monthly or quarterly on the due date.

Council will automatically review the payments if your rates increase or decrease. You will never have to worry about penalties being added to your rates.

Call us on **06 867 2049** or

visit www.gdc.govt.nz to set it up.



Over the counter

Cash / Eftpos / Credit Card

Cheques are no longer accepted

Open 9am to 4pm, Monday to Friday,

Awarua, 15 Fitzherbert Street, Gisborne

Te Puia Springs service centre, 4746 Waiapu Road



Get your rates invoices/assessment notices emailed to you

eNotices allow you to register one or more email addresses to receive and view your rates notices for your properties, online, at any time. It also helps to create a more sustainable future and reduce paper and our footprint on the environment.

Send us an email or sign up at gdc.govt.nz

When are rates due?

	Due date	Date penalty added
Instalment 1	21 August 2023	25 August 2023
Instalment 2	20 November 2023	24 November 2023
Instalment 3	20 February 2024	26 February 2024
Instalment 4	20 May 2024	24 May 2024

PENALTIES: A 10% penalty will be added to any unpaid portion of the rates not paid by the due date.

06 867 2049
0800 653 800

service@gdc.govt.nz
www.gdc.govt.nz

@Gisborne DC
GDC Fix app



Tou Rēti Your Rates

What you need to know



How to pay

When are rates due

Are you eligible for a rates rebate

Rates for 2023/24

Water meter rates



The information in this document forms part of your rates assessment.

**He kupu whakataki mo te Mahereātau
2023/24 nā te Kahurangi me te Manahautū**
**A message from our Mayor and
Chief Executive on our 2023/24 Annual Plan**

We sincerely thank our communities for working alongside us in what has been a very difficult year.



Our Annual Plan for 2023/24 is different as we've focused on dealing with the impacts of cyclones Hale and Gabrielle, and other severe weather events.

We are seeking funding from central government to help support our recovery, as we know we are not going to be able to do this on our own. This support will help us with road and bridge reinstatements, removal of woody debris from our beaches and waterways, establishing a forestry team to focus on forestry practices, increased monitoring and compliance, expanding our land management team and increasing flood protection.

While our main priority is on ensuring our communities are safe, connected and protected as we work towards our region's recovery, we are still delivering the key projects that we said we would deliver in our 2021/2031 Long Term Plan such as Kiwa Pools (majority Government funded), Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Township Upgrades.

To do all this we've made important changes to our 2023/24 Annual Plan which will help us reprioritise and manage our immediate to medium-term needs. For most of us this does mean we will see an increase in our rates to 6.5%. Despite costs continuing to rise more than this, we are committed to be within what we promised in our 2021-2031 Long Term Plan.

As a region, we have got huge changes and challenges coming. It will not be easy and we'll have to rely heavily on investment from central government as we look to build the future resilience of Te Tairāwhiti.

Kia kaha Tairāwhiti

For full details on our Annual Plan please see our website
www.gdc.govt.nz/council/plans-policies-and-bylaws/2023-24-annual-plan

Keep up to date

Stay up to date with the latest Rates 'News' and Revaluation information

This year, Council will collect \$86.6m (including GST) in rates. View online how much the rates are for your property.

This is an increase of 6.5% plus growth in overall rates revenue over the 2022/23 rates.

While the 2023/24 Annual Plan prioritizes recovery, Council's regular services, such as pool and library operations, rubbish and recycling services, building consent processing, park maintenance, toilet upkeep, and the execution of projects from the 2023/24 Long-Term Plan, will remain uninterrupted.

This year the rates continue to be based on the 2020 district valuation. If your property has been significantly impacted by weather events resulting in a loss of land, please contact us.

Council must conduct a district-wide rating revaluation every three years to determine property values. The last revaluation was in 2020, with the next one in August 2023. Utilizing mass appraisal techniques, these valuations reflect market trends on 1 August 2023, including damages from recent weather-related events. Property valuations will be sent in December and used for rating purposes in July 2024. Property owners are advised to check the valuations and raise objections if they disagree, especially for weather-impacted property owners who feel the value is overstated.

Council connects Te Tairāwhiti through the Rural Support Roadshow. This is a series of monthly workshops to address issues, ideas and initiatives in a solutions-focused kanoahi ki te kanoahi (face-to-face) environment, where a collective group of agencies such as the IRD, MSD, Barnados, Cancer Society, Budget Advisory and more, are available in one space. No appointment is required, just walk in. Visit www.gdc.govt.nz to find out more.

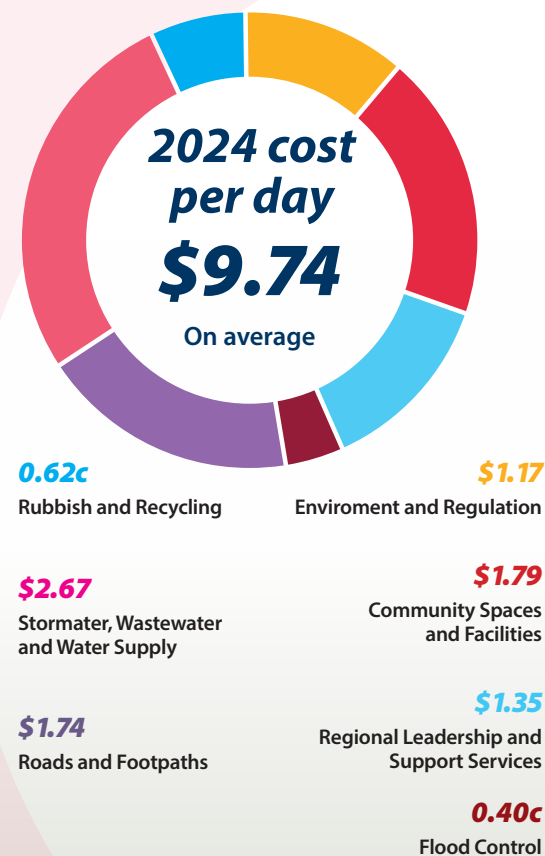
A Recovery Coordination Centre has been established in Te Tairāwhiti to support the ongoing recovery efforts. This centre will be responsible for managing the delivery of the Recovery Plan – Our Road to Recovery Tairāwhiti. Please contact our Customer Service team.

How much you pay is dependent on:

1. The valuation of the property.
2. How the land is used.
3. Where the property is located and what targeted rates apply.
4. Changes to the cost of funding of Council's activities and services.

As we recover from extreme weather events, our daily cost per household has gone from \$9.14 last year to \$9.74 this year, this is a 60c increase.

Cost of our daily activities per household



Are you eligible for a rates rebate?

The Department of Internal Affairs scheme can reduce your rates by up to \$750 this year if your household earns less than \$30,000. If your household earns less than \$54,000 you may still qualify for a portion of the rates rebate.

Retirement village residents are also able to apply for a rate rebate if you don't own your own unit and hold a licence to occupy agreement. A separate declaration form is required to be filled in by the retirement village operator. Contact your village operator for further information.

To apply

Customer service will work out your 2023/24 rates rebate for you. You must sign the application form. Please bring in your:

- application form
- current rates invoice
- accurate information about your income (before tax) for the year ending 31 March 2023
- accurate information about your partner or joint homeowner's income (before tax) for the year ending 31 March 2023

If you receive national superannuation or a government benefit we already have these income amounts.

The last day you can apply for the rates rebate is **30 June 2024**. More information about the rates rebate scheme is available from Customer Service, our website or www.ratesrebates.govt.nz

Inspect the Rating Information Database and object if we didn't get it right

As a ratepayer, you have the right to inspect our Rating Information Database (RID) and rates records. They are available for inspection at our customer service counters at 15 Fitzherbert Street.

Ratepayers have the right to object to any of the information in the RID and rates. If you think your rate assessment is incorrect or needs updating eg if you removed a dwelling and we charge for the services, please talk to us.

Request to withhold your name and address

As an owner, your name and address details are included in the Rating Information Database. You may request that we make your name and/or postal address confidential on the database. The request needs to be in writing confirming the details you want to be made confidential. There is an online form on our website.

Have you recently sold your property?

If you have, and this rates notice is still in your name, it is likely we have not received notification of the sale. Please ask your solicitor to notify Council as soon as possible.

Separate Rating Areas (SRA) for Māori Freehold Land

Individual homes on Māori Freehold Land can now be rated separately, so you'll receive separate rates bills for each home. And as a separate rating area occupier, you might also be eligible for a rate rebate if you are a low-income earner. Visit www.gdc.govt.nz for more info or to apply.