

What are rates for?

In the same way, our national taxes contribute to the running of the country, Council rates are important to ensure Wellington continues to function.

Whether you rent, own a home or a business in Wellington – you'll be paying rates. If you rent, your landlord pays the rates on the property you live in. If you own the property, you pay rates directly to the Council. Your contributions help us deliver services and pay back borrowings for big projects across Wellington.

Some of the services and facilities that Wellingtonians received for their rates in the 2021/22 year included:



389 litres

of drinkable water supplied
per resident per day¹



198 sqm

open space per
Wellingtonian



18,659

streetlights operated



181,216

calls answered by our
Contact Centre staff



820km

stormwater pipes



108

play areas



767,257

items available at
our 14 libraries



\$4.9m

funding to community
projects and organisations



1,080km

wastewater pipes



101,999

native plants planted
with the community



760,017

resources in City Archives



968.5km

footpaths

¹ Not all is used in a resident's home. Other users include industry, businesses, schools, hospitals, the fire service and councils

What are rates for 2023/24?

This year we are considering a rates increase after growth in the ratepayer base of 12.3 percent. In total, the council proposes to collect \$479m (GST exclusive) of rates during 2023/24.

This increase is driven by investment in the city's infrastructure and services, and the impact of increased inflation, borrowing costs, and depreciation.

Options for paying rates

There are several ways to help people manage their rates payments. If you are worried about paying your rates invoice, please get in touch with us as soon as possible at rates@wcc.govt.nz or call 04 499 4444.

Along with Central Government, we have a rates rebate scheme that provides a reduction in rates to those that meet set low-income criteria.

- those on a low income can apply for a Government rates rebate at: govt.nz/browse/housing-and-property/getting-help-with-housing/getting-a-rates-rebate

- for those who are eligible for the Government rates rebate, Council can provide an additional reduction of your rates and we are proposing changes in this area.

Policy Changes

The Council is proposing to make some changes to the Rates remission and Rates postponement policies to enable better support to ratepayers facing financial hardship.

To view the details of these changes and provide feedback on the Annual Plan, please visit letstalk.wcc.nz/annual-plan-2023-24

