

## Statement of Proposal – Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2025/26

**Key Consultation Topic 3:** As part of ‘Where’s Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitikei?’, we are consulting on the following changes to Rangitikei District Council’s schedule of fees and charges. If accepted, these fees and charges would be implemented from 1 July 2025.

### *Rates vs fees and charges – what’s the difference?*

When setting how much things cost, Rangitikei District Council must balance how much of the service is a public good (i.e. delivers benefits to the whole of the Rangitikei, such as parks and reserves), and how much of this service provides a private benefit (i.e. hiring a room in a Council-owned community hub for a private meeting).

The public good portion of all Council-provided services is paid for by ratepayers through rates. The private benefit portion is paid for by the person receiving the service through Council's fees and charges. Rangitikei District Council reviews its schedule of fees and charges annually and proposes changes in line with inflation. Sometimes we also need to change fees and charges outside of inflation. This is to ensure we continue to cover the cost of providing a particular service.

### **Proposed changes to the fees and charges**

The changes that Rangitikei District Council is proposing to make to the fees and charges in 2025/26 are:

- **Most fees and charges are increasing by 2.3%**
  - This represents the expected increase in the Consumer Price Index over the next 12 months and ensures fees and charges are aligned with expected increases to what it costs to deliver the services we provide. Fees set by legislation (for example alcohol licensing fees) have not been inflated, unless they were changed by central government.
- **Hall and meeting room hire**
  - The hire charges at Te Matapihi have been changed to simplify the fee structure. This change will impact the hire of the hall, as well as the hire of Te Matapihi meeting rooms.

- Charges for the hire of halls and meeting rooms across the district have been updated. The reason for this is so all venues have a consistent discount for multi-hour and not for profit bookings. The discounts are:
  - 15% for 5 hour bookings,
  - 20% for full day or evening bookings,
  - 40% for full day and evening bookings,
  - 40% for not-for-profit organisations.
- **Three waters connections**
  - A new fee has been proposed to cover administration and inspection costs of new connections to Rangitikei District Council three waters infrastructure: drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater connections.
  - A new \$1,500 bond has been proposed for new three waters connections as well as new vehicle crossings. This bond would be fully refundable if this work does not damage council roads and footpaths.
- **Cemeteries**
  - Council has undertaken a full review of cemetery charges across Rangitikei. The price of purchasing plots, and interment fees have increased to cover the cost of creating these plots.
  - Stillborn, and children up to the age of one will now receive a plot free of charge, as well as continue to be interred for free.
  - Children up to the age of 12 are proposed to be amalgamated with adult rates into an *'All Plot and All Internment'* rate.
  - The Rose berm – Mt View charge will be removed as no new plots are proposed to be created in this category.
  - The Monumental permit fee will also be removed.
- **Rehoming animals**
  - A new seizure fee of \$100 and a rehoming fee of \$250 is proposed to contribute to the costs of seizing and rehoming animals. This is to cover the cost of accommodating, feeding, and caring for these animals until they find their new home.
- **Item disposal at transfer stations**
  - A few chargeable items, such as fridges and freezer, and tractor tyres that that can be dropped off at our transfer stations have increased a bit more than CPI to cover the cost of Council responsibly disposing of these items.

The proposed fees and charges can be viewed in the **Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2025/26**. This is included as supplementary material to this document [rangitikei.govt.nz/wheresannualplan&co](http://rangitikei.govt.nz/wheresannualplan&co).

### Submissions

Anyone can make a submission on our **Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges** by filling out the online *'Where's Annual Plan & Co @ Rangitikei?'* submission form: [www.rangitikei.govt.nz/xxxx](http://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/xxxx)

- **Email:** [submissions@rangitikei.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@rangitikei.govt.nz)

- **Pick up and drop off a hard copy:**
  - Marton Head Office
  - Marton Community Hub
  - Bulls Community Hub
  - Taihape Community Hub
- **Freepost:** Rangitikei District Council – 172050 | Private Bag 1102, Marton, 4741

We are accepting written submissions from the community until **5pm Monday 5 May 2025**. If you would like to speak to Councillors directly about your submission at the hearing, please indicate this on your submission.

The **key question** we are asking in relation to **The Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges** is:

1. Are there any fees/charges you think should be changed? (i.e. Do you think there are any charges that should be increased or decreased).