

Te kaupapa here o ngā utu Fees & Charges Policy review 2026

Te Taukī Whakakaupapa Statement of Proposal



Te tirohanga whānui Overview

What is the Fees & Charges Policy?

The role of the Bay of Plenty Regional Council (Council) is to ensure the sustainable management of natural and physical resources. The Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) sets out how we manage our environment. It promotes sustainability and underpins most of our work.

To deliver this, we process resource consents, monitor and manage authorised activities, and track the state of the region's resources. The costs of these services are set under section 36 of the RMA and outlined in the Council Charges Policy. These costs are passed on to applicants and consent holders.

The Fees and Charges Policy explains which activities incur costs and what those costs are.

Why has this policy been reviewed?

We review the policy regularly to ensure charges reflect the true cost of service delivery. Any changes must be adopted by Council before implementation.

What is proposed?

This Statement of Proposal provides an overview of the proposed changes to our Fees and Charges Policy, which, if adopted, would be introduced from 1 July 2026.

Detailed information is available on our website:
www.participate.boprc.govt.nz/Fees-and-Charges2026

At a glance, the changes we are proposing are:

- 1 Updating compliance monitoring charges and fixed fees in response to legislative changes and updated staff rates
- 2 Increase in Port Charges (Harbour Dues)
- 3 Adding a specific category for PC10 Lake Rotorua Nutrient Management Variation consent deposits
- 4 Change to mileage charge out rate
- 5 Applying a general increase to most fixed charges with CPI, to address the increased cost of service delivery

Why these changes?

Section 36 of the RMA allows us to recover reasonable costs for functions such as:

- Processing and granting resource consents
- Monitoring and supervising consented and permitted activities
- Reviewing consent conditions
- Providing information and supplying documents
- Charges authorised by regulations
- Additional charges where fixed fees do not cover actual costs.

The proposed updates are limited to adjusting amounts to reflect cost increases.

Whakarāpopotonga o ngā panonitanga tono

Summary of proposed changes

Council is proposing to increase resource consent deposit fees, adjust the frequency of some compliance inspections, apply the cost of service delivery to some fee categories and apply inflation to most other fees.

Considerations involved in this review were:

- Review of compliance monitoring charges and fixed fees in relation to legislative changes
- Effort and frequency of compliance monitoring
- Staff salary rates
- Overhead costs
- Other inflationary impacts on the cost of service delivery.

It is proposed that most charges in the schedules are increased by 2.3% to cover the increased cost of service delivery¹. These charges fund between 20% and 40% of the cost of these activities.

The balance is then funded from general rates to represent the wider regional benefit that scientific environmental monitoring and protection delivers. This is in accordance with our [Revenue and Financing Policy](#).

¹ The final Fees and Charges Policy, which will be adopted in June 2026, will use the March 2026 CPI value. This is due to be released in April 2026.

The key changes we are proposing are outlined below:

- 1 Updating compliance monitoring charges and fixed fees in response to legislative changes and updated staff rates
- 2 Increase in Port Charges (Harbour Dues)
- 3 Adding a specific category for PC10 Lake Rotorua Nutrient Management Variation consent deposits
- 4 Change to mileage charge out rate
- 5 Applying a general increase to most fixed charges with CPI, to address the increased cost of service delivery

There are no changes proposed to the Gravel Management fee, Maritime fees or Building Act charges.

A schedule of the full current and proposed charges is shown in the draft 2026 Fees and Charges Policy.

This is available online at www.participate.boprc.govt.nz/Fees-and-Charges2026, or physical copies can be collected from the Council offices in Tauranga, Rotorua and Whakatāne.

1 Updating Compliance charges

1.1 Compliance Monitoring charges section (2.4.2)

Updating Section 2.4.2 is largely driven by recent amendments to the Resource Management Act 1991, which support the national focus on permitted activity monitoring and national environmental standard rules. In addition, the legislative changes allow for cost recovery associated with confirmed breaches of rules and for undertaking some enforcement functions.

To align with these requirements, we propose that Schedule 3A be removed and section 2.4.2 – Compliance Monitoring Charges – is expanded with more detailed wording.

1.2 Compliance Monitoring Schedules of the Fees & Charges Policy (Schedule 1A and 2A)

A review of the fixed fee charges has been undertaken to reflect the level of work required to monitor these consents, which has resulted in some changes to the charges and monitoring frequencies in Schedules 1A (Schedule 1A – Consents subject to fixed fee compliance monitoring charges) and 2A (Consents subject to variable compliance monitoring charges).

Schedule 1A has also been reviewed to reflect updated staff rates, which has resulted in both lower and higher consent charges across the fixed fee categories in Schedule 1A.

The review is ongoing and aims to ensure the complexity, risk and time involved in monitoring and the wide range of different activities authorised by consents is fairly reflected in the charges. This helps Council better plan for long-term revenue and resourcing needs ahead of the 2027-2037 Long Term Plan review.

Please see the tracked changes in the draft Fees and Charges Policy for 2026 for detail (pages 8 to 12).

2 Increasing Port Charges (Harbour Dues)

Due to ongoing increases budgeted for the cost of service delivery to the Harbourmaster for year three of the Long Term Plan 2024-2034, it is proposed to increase the Harbour Dues from the current rate of \$19.27 excluding GST per 1,000 gross tonnage.

We propose to increase the rate to \$19.81 excluding GST per 1,000 gross tonnage.

In response to feedback from shipping companies, smaller, incremental increases are applied each year rather than greater increases less frequently (i.e. every five-plus years). Note, no changes were made to this fee in the last annual review.



3 Including a new consent variation deposit

We are proposing to add a specific category for PC10 Lake Rotorua Nutrient Management Variation Applications to Tier 1 of Table 1 – General resource consent application deposits (\$1,000 including GST). An assessment of average processing costs suggests Tier 1 is most suitable.

Previously, land management were finding it difficult to open these conversations with landowners due to the perceived cost being prohibitive and we were often having to return a portion of the deposit once the consent had been processed. This deposit fee will provide land management with a lower cost to open discussions with landowners.

Image 1 – General resource consent application deposits

Table 1 General resource consent application deposits

Consent type	Deposit Incl GST (Excl GST)
Tier 1	
• Certificate of compliance	
• Re-consenting existing unchanged lake structures	
• Lapsing period extensions	
• <u>Deemed permitted activities</u>	
• <u>PC10 Lake Rotorua Nutrient Management Variation</u>	
	\$1000 (\$869.57)

4 Change to mileage charge out rate

We propose that we set a flat vehicle mileage rate at \$1.17 per km. This is based on the current IRD petrol rate, considers a range of vehicle uses and is a reasonable mid-point across the petrol, diesel, hybrid and electric options that Council has available to staff.

Image 2 – Section 9 – General Matters

- (d) Travel costs will be charged for travel time (at the staff charge out rates and mileage at the ~~applicable IRD~~ mileage rate in Schedule A). Travel costs will be included on the same basis as part of any request for enforcement costs

Image 3 – Schedule A – Charges for staff, consultants and contractors

Regional Council staff mileage	Current applicable IRD rate ~~\$1.17~~ <u>\$1.17</u> Incl GST
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5 Applying a general increase to most fixed charges with CPI, to address the increased cost of service delivery

To address the increased cost of service delivery, such as staff and overhead costs, it is proposed to apply an increase to most of the fixed charges, in line with the CPI adjustment used for the Annual Plan 2026/27. The alternative to such an increase would be to cover a greater share of costs from general rates.

The draft policy uses the forecast March 2026 CPI of 2.3%. The final policy, which will be adopted in June 2026, will use the actual March 2026 CPI value, which is due to be released in April 2026.

Uiuinga me ngā tukunga

Consultation and submissions

Council welcomes your views and feedback on the proposed changes outlined in this statement of proposal, as well as the draft 2026 Fees and Charges Policy generally. To have your say, you will need to make a formal submission.

What's a submission?

A submission is a statement in support of, or in opposition to, any part of this statement of proposal and the **draft 2026 Fees and Charges Policy**. Any organisation or member of the public can make a submission.

How do I get a full copy of the draft Fees and Charges Policy?

- Phone us on 0800 884 880 or email us at feesand.charges@boprc.govt.nz and we'll send one to you.
- Visit www.participate.boprc.govt.nz/Fees-and-Charges2026 and read it online.
- Pick up a copy of the draft Fees & Charges Policy from one of our offices: 5 Quay Street, Whakatāne; 1118 Fenton Street, Rotorua; 1 Elizabeth Street, Tauranga

How do I make a submission?

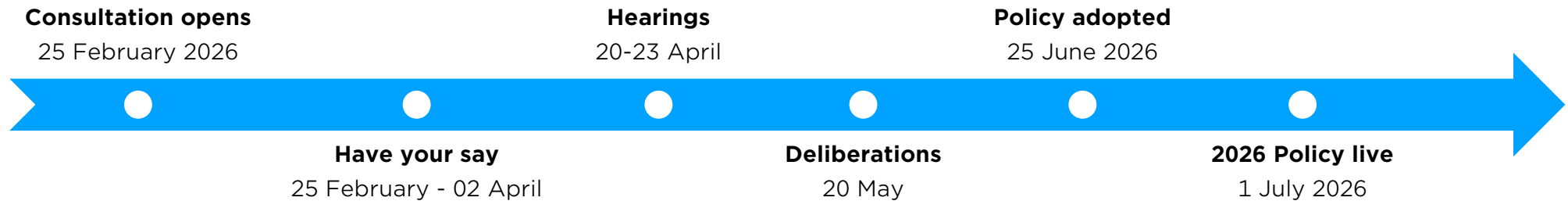
You can visit our online portal at www.participate.boprc.govt.nz/Fees-and-Charges2026 and make a submission online, or use the form at the end of this Statement of Proposal (page 10).

Key tips

- Be brief and clear about the matters that you support or oppose.
- State the most important points you want Council to consider.
- Make your comments as specific as possible.
- Note which part of the draft policy, statement of proposal or summary your comments refer to by including page numbers and sections.
- Clearly state your name, address, email, and telephone number.

People who make a written submission can also speak to their submission at hearings scheduled for 20-22 May 2026. You can indicate if you would like to speak to your submission when you are making it.

Following the hearings, Council will make final decisions on the policy in June 2026. Any changes made through those decisions will be reflected in the final Fees and Charges Policy, which will be published on Council's website (effective from 1 July 2026).



Submissions close 4:00 pm Thursday, 2 April 2026

Submission form – Draft 2026 Fees and Charges Policy

Your details

First name: _____ Last name: _____

Are you submitting as an individual, for someone else or on behalf of an organisation?

☐ Individual ☐ On behalf of someone else ☐ Organisation (if applicable): _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Postal address: _____

Your contact details are requested so that you can be kept informed of the hearings process and the outcomes of any decisions. All submissions will be published on our website **www.boprc.govt.nz**
Contact details will be confidential; only names are publicly viewable.

Understanding our community

As part of our commitment to inclusivity, we request demographic information such as age, gender, ethnicity, and location. This information will be treated with the utmost confidentiality, stored securely, and used solely for statistical analysis. Your privacy is our priority, and we adhere to stringent data protection measures. Participation in providing this information is entirely voluntary, and you may choose not to disclose any demographic details.

How do you identify your gender?

- ☐ Male / Tāne
- ☐ Female / Wahine
- ☐ Another gender / He ira kē anō _____
- ☐ Prefer not to say

What year were you born? _____

What is your ethnicity?

- ☐ NZ European (Pākehā)
- ☐ Māori
- ☐ Samoan
- ☐ Cook Islander
- ☐ Tongan
- ☐ Niuean
- ☐ Chinese
- ☐ Indian
- ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ Other - e.g. Dutch, Japanese, Tokelauan etc _____

Which postcode do you live in? _____

Speaking to your submission

All submitters have the opportunity to present their feedback to council during the hearings process. Please indicate your preferred option below.

Do you wish to speak to your submission?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

I will present in

- ☐ English
- ☐ Te Reo Māori
- ☐ NZ Sign Language

Where would you like to present?

- ☐ Tauranga (in person)
- ☐ Online (i.e. Zoom)

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Once completed please send this form to:

You can make a submission by email to **Feesand.Charges@boprc.govt.nz**
or online at **www.participate.boprc.govt.nz/Fees-and-Charges2026**

**Submissions close 4pm
Thursday, 2 April 2026**

