Annual Plan 2026/2027

Written Feedback

Puketāpapa Local Board

Volume 5

April 2026

Sub #	Organisation Name	Page Number
	No organisation feedback in this volume	

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8509

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

Even the stated average bill rise (about $320 per household) far outpaces real household income growth and the Council's own track record of escalating costs since the Super City reform. The 7.9% package comprises 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This level of growth is unwarranted when alternative budget options exist.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position that the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. The Council's

reliance on consultants is excessive with about $126 million per year across the group (including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent) and average consultant earnings around $200k. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen well ahead of inflation undermining the case for higher rates.I also urge the Council to cancel non-essential programmes that drive costs and emissions without corresponding benefits. Specifically discontinue the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million annually and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves. Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles an action that would save at least $17 million immediately. Further I oppose continuing Māori-specific spending at current levels including the $10 million/year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a function of local government.An alternative approach is to cap the rate increase at around 3% by cutting non-essential spending by approximately $150 million (2%) including restraining personnel costs limiting consultancy renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants. This would deliver more responsible stewardship of ratepayer funds while maintaining core services.I request the opportunity to speak at hearings to present these concerns in person. However I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8519

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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- **Water**
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This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposal amounts to an average increase of about $320 for the typical home on top of a real rates rise of 30 percent since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) and inflation running higher than that. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as the city grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This is not acceptable when current ratepayers are already bearing substantial cost burdens.I support cutting wasteful and backroom spending and refusing further growth in consultancy and professional services. The Council's spending on consultants is about $126 million per year across the group including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent with

average consultants earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure has grown far faster than inflation and personnel costs have risen sharply. The Council must prioritise core statutory and essential services over discretionary items and grants.I propose the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget to cap the rate rise at 3 percent by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%). This includes:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping spending on consultants: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionSpecific measures I request:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Maori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department Ngā Mātārae reflecting this is not a local government core role.These steps are necessary to ensure ratepayers are not overburdened while essential services remain funded. I urge the Council to adopt a restrained spending path aligned with affordability and value for money.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

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- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

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We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

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Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8567

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

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Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit the following concerns about the proposed 2026/27 annual plan and the anticipated average residential rates increase of 7.9%.1. Core position. I oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase. This represents a substantial real burden on households especially given the historical context: rates have risen 85% since 2010 far outstripping both inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). The current average bill is about $4069 with the expected rise placing additional strain on families already managing rising living costs.2. Spending reform. I support reducing Council and CCO expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions and I oppose

ongoing increases in consultancy and professional services. The Alliance briefing highlights that consultant spend is around $126 million per year with an average consultant salary approaching $200000 and that six-figure payrolls have grown markedly. A more restrained and targeted approach to staffing and external advice is essential.3. Wasteful or non-core programmes. I urge cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million annually and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves. I also urge freeze/halt on non-essential staffing hires and to reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.4. Specific spending reductions. I support cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this work falls outside standard local government responsibilities. I advocate prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to achieve responsible budgeting.5. Additional observations. Recent roadworks in the east coast bays illustrate excessive use of road cones suggesting a need for more efficient project management. Proposals to dig up Takapuna Golf Course appear misaligned with community wishes and could be redirected to cheaper faster options. Additionally capital spend on coastal erosion cameras at Mairangi Bay seems excessive; a limited low-cost approach could achieve similar outcomes.In closing I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

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N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

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Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

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Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8591

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Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

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Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and call for a reduction in wasteful Council spending. The proposed increase translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a council system that has already delivered a 30 percent real increase since 2022 and an 85 percent rise since the Super City amalgamation.Key points- I oppose the 7.9 percent average increase. It is essential to curb inflation-beating rises; the ratepayer burden should not be inflated to fund growth and costly projects.- The Council must cut spending on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce consultancy and

professional services rather than continue a rising trend.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this would save at least $17 million promptly.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year for the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is outside the core remit of local government.- Alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) capping the rate rise at around 3 percent. This includes $50 million saved from personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze $50 million from limiting consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million by prioritising essential services over discretionary grants.Additional contextThe current environment requires a disciplined approach to cost management. The payroll footprint$1.3 billionand consultancy/contract expenditure of $590 million are areas where efficiency gains can be achieved without impacting statutory and essential services.ClosingI request to speak at hearings to present these points in more detail. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

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N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

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Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8609

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

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Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and since 2022 the real increase in rates is 30 percent well above consumer price inflation. If adopted a 7.9 percent rise would add roughly $320 for the average household and further compress household budgets.In line with cost-saving measures outlined by the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance I urge the Council to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and to curb spending on consultancy and professional services. The current level of spending on consultants is unsustainable and should be capped and reviewed.I further request the Council cancel the Food

Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves. In addition staffing levels should be frozen or payroll costs reduced by avoiding hiring for vacant non-essential roles a move that could yield at least $17 million in savings immediately.I oppose continued or increased Māori-specific spending in this form including the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department with around $10 million per year as this is not a defined local government responsibility. Reprioritising core statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes will better protect ratepayers.A practical path to moderating rates is the Council's Alternative Budget approach: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) which would cap average residential rates at around 3 percent. This would be achieved through organisational change a hiring freeze on non-essential roles cap on consultants contract renegotiation vendor consolidation and prioritising essential services over discretionary grants.I endorsed Wayne Brown's commitment to lower rates and ask the Council to honour that pledge.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

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Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

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Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8689

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

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Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a personal and sincere manner to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent.Key points- The proposed increase is beyond acceptable levels for everyday households. The average residential rates bill has risen to $4069 a 30 percent real increase since 2022 (with cumulative inflation at 12 percent). The 7.9 percent lift should be treated as unsustainable for ratepayers already stretched by high living costs.- The Council should firmly reduce wasteful expenditure in corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. The current pattern of high payroll and overhead costs is not delivering proportional service value.-

Spending on consultants and professional services must be cut. Reducing consultancy by at least $50 million aligns with a more prudent management of public funds.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies; freezing recruitment would save at least $17 million immediately.- Directly address Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae). This is not a core local government function; redirect funds to essential statutory services where appropriate.- The Council should implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise to around 3 percent through targeted savings in personnel consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising essential services over discretionary grants.Additional pointsWe the ratepayers cannot keep up with the amounts asked of us. You promised to get expenditure under control; that commitment has not yet been met. We do not have pockets as deep as you may think. Please get back to your promise and show real restraint in the 2026/27 plan.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8697

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this response to the proposed 2026/27 annual plan to oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful council spending.I oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30% (versus 12% cumulative inflation). The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This level of increase is excessive for households already bearing significant cost pressures.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new council spending by $150 million

(2%) which would cap the rate rise at about 3% and preserve essential services. Specific recommendations include:- Reduce personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: save $50 million.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services: save $50 million.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to improve efficiency: save $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: save $20 million.I further urge immediate actions to curb wasteful spending:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; this measure alone would save at least $17 million right away.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as it is a function better suited to central government priorities than local government.Additionally the Council should scale back spend on corporate and back-room functions and reduce consultancy and professional services which currently account for sizable expenditure across the Council and CCOs.I request this submission be considered as a serious input into the annual plan with a view to aligning Auckland Council's budget with inflation realities and responsible stewardship of ratepayer funds. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8704

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

This level of increase is not affordable for households and does not reflect value for money in light of ongoing spending trends across the Council and CCOs.I agree with and urge the Council to adopt the following positions:1) Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase and aim for a cap around 3% by delivering substantial efficiency gains.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs to cut overheads that do not directly benefit ratepayers.3) Reduce spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to lift these expenditure items.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million

per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year allocated to the 'Maori outcomes' (Ngā Mātārae) area as this is not a core local government function.Additional point: It is essential to recognise that the Council's current spend level is unsustainable in the current economic climate. Cannot squeeze blood from a stone. Just not affordable.The proposed rate rise is driven in part by costs attributed to CRL operating expenses and asset maintenance but there are clear opportunities to re-prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. A disciplined reduction in personnel costs consultancy and contractor use together with vendor consolidation and contract renegotiations would help bring rates increases in line with inflation and household budgets.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland’s longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland’s future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8818

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current ratepayers face inflation and cost of living pressures and the plan would add approximately $320 per average household on top of a real rates increase since 2022 of about 30%.Key concerns and positions:1) Rate increase and fiscal discipline. The rate rise is well above inflation and represents a continued burden on households. I support capping the increase to around 3% by addressing wasteful spend rather than loading costs onto ratepayers.2) Expenditure on corporate backroom and professional services. The Council and CCOs should reduce expenditure on corporate functions and cut spending on consultants and external contractors. Reducing

personnel costs through a freeze on non-essential roles and a more efficient staffing model would deliver immediate savings.3) Specific programme cancellation. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costing $36 million per year) on the basis it emits more carbon than it saves and diverts funds from essential services.4) Payroll and vacancies. Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; I estimate this could save at least $17 million promptly.5) Māori-specific spending. Reduce Māori-focused spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' programme cited as $10 million per year as a local government function should prioritise statutory and essential services rather than discretionary projects.6) Alternative budget emphasis. Align budget with the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new spending by about $150 million (2%) focusing on organising reform capping consultants renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors to keep core services intact.In summary I oppose the 7.9% increase and urge a disciplined reduction in non-essential and discretionary spending to protect ratepayers. In these difficult times basic cost controls and prioritising essential services must come first.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8834

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and since 2022 rates have effectively risen 30 percent in real terms well above inflation. The proposed 7.9 percent increase comprises 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs 2 percent to maintain existing assets and 1.5 percent for new assets as Auckland grows. This is not sustainable.I agree with and urge the following:- Oppose the 7.9 percent increase; seek to cap rates increases closer to inflation through prudent cost saving.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. - Reduce spending on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these items to grow

further.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Specific data underpins these positions: Council spending on consultants stands at about $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200k. Payroll and related personnel costs have grown faster than inflation while direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen sharply since 2013. Eighteen corporate and business support functions alone cost $868.4 million in direct expenditure. Reducing new spending by $150 million as proposed by the Ratepayers' Alliance could cap the rate rise to about 3 percent.Additional note: When I retire I risk being priced out of my home due to ongoing rate increases.I would like to present at hearings to discuss these points further.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9013

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed increase translates to about $320 more per average household on top of a long-run pattern of rate rises that far outpace inflation.Key concerns and constructive proposals:1) Rate increases and affordability. The 7.9% rise alongside a 30% real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) is unsustainable for households. I support capping the increase at 3% by delivering significant savings through spend restraint and reform.2) Reducing corporate and backroom costs. There is a clear need to trim corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. A leaner organisation would protect essential services while easing ratepayer burden.3) Cutting consultancy

and professional services. The Council should reduce spend on consultants and external experts rather than continuing to grow these expense lines. In-house capability should be prioritised where possible.4) Specific programme and staffing savings. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme estimated at $36 million per year due to its carbon footprint and questionable net benefit. Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million promptly.5) Māori-specific spending. Reassess and reduce Māori Outcomes spending such as the $10 million per year for Ngā Mātārae acknowledging that this is not a core local government function and must be carefully aligned with statutory responsibilities and core services.Alternate budget approach:- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) achieving a 3% cap on rates through targeted efficiencies: $50 million via personnel changes; $50 million by capping consultants; $30 million through contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Closing:I request that this submission be considered in the planning process and that the Council pursue the outlined savings to deliver affordable essential services with prudent oversight.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
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	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9238

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit my views on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan and the forecast average residential rates increase of 7.9%.I oppose the 7.9% increase. The Council's rate rises since 2022 amount to about 30% in real terms while inflation over the period has been around 12%. The proposed split2% to maintain assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsdoes not reflect prudent restraint when Government and ratepayers contend with cost pressures every day.The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services. Current data show consultant spending at

about $126 million per year across the Council group and payroll/consultant costs together reach unsustainably high levels. I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increases at about 3% under a plan that would fund essential services while trimming waste.Specific measures I support include:- Freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Capping spend on consultants and professional services at a substantial level.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to achieve meaningful savings.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I also oppose continuing the Food Scraps Programme which is cited as costing about $36 million per year and according to the briefing emits more carbon than it saves. The Council should cancel this programme to redirect funds to essential services with demonstrable value.I oppose additional Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Maori outcomes' department estimated at about $10 million per year if this is not aligned with core local government responsibilities.In closing I request the opportunity to speak at hearings if available. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9248

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The expected rise represents about $320 for the average household while real increases since 2022 have been 30% in a period of only 12% cumulative inflation. I urge Council to prioritise fiscal restraint and to align rate increases with inflation and essential services.1) Expenditure restraint and waste reduction- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than increasing these items.- Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen well ahead of inflation; personnel costs and other expenses grew faster than inflation from 2022 to 2025.

A cap on discretionary spend is warranted.2) Wasteful programmes and questionable value- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.3) Staffing and payroll- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. The stated saving of at least $17 million would be achieved immediately through such a freeze.4) Māori outcomes and statutory responsibilities- Freeze or significantly review Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) department which amounts to about $10 million per year. This is not a core local government function.5) An alternative budget path- I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average residential rate increase at 3%. - $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze - $50 million from capping consultancy and professional services - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsAdditional point- The Council has enough staff to do work now contracted out; if external input is necessary it should be sourced with staff-level engagement not through widening consultant spend.I respectfully request that the Council consider these measures to better control rate increases and to direct funds toward essential services for Aucklanders.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9252

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending. The rate rise would amount to about $320 for the average household against a background where rates have risen 85% since 2010 while inflation has run about 34%.Key grounds for opposition- The 7.9% rise is not affordable for households and it outstrips both inflation and reasonable expectations of value for money. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets to accommodate growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. A more prudent approach is required.- There is clear evidence of escalating personnel and backroom costs.

The Council payroll sits at $1.3 billion with estimated $590 million spent on consultants and contractors. Direct operating expenditure has grown far faster than inflation (78% 2013“2023 vs 29% inflation). There are 6123 Council/CCO employees in six-figure salaries including 72 staff paid more than the mayor.- The proposed spend on consultants corporate functions and backroom services must be reined in. The Council should freeze non-essential roles reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant positions and cap consultancy spending. This aligns with a more prudent evidence-based budget.- Additional targeted reductions are warranted: cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) if its carbon savings are not net positive and cut Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae department (Maori outcomes) where it is not a local government obligation.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget demonstrates that cutting new Council spending by $150 million (2%) can cap the rate rise to about 3% through: reducing personnel costs capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services.Additional contextLiving costs in the city are increasingly unaffordable for young people and pensioners. The Council must deliver core essential services efficiently before imposing higher rates.I would welcome the opportunity to speak at hearings. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9439,336611,,Puketāpapa,Do not support most,I submit in a personal and sincere capacity to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a program of meaningful spending restraint across the Council and its CCOs.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive in the current economic context. The average residential rates bill would rise by about $320 while the cumulative impact since 2010 has been an 85% increase far outpacing inflation.- A substantial portion of the rise is allocated to CRL operating costs (4.4%) with only modest room for efficiency gains in maintaining and growing assets. Better management of existing assets and financing would help hold rates growth closer to inflation.- Wasteful and outsized non-frontline spend must be addressed. Council spending on consultants totals about $126 million per year across the group with the average consultant earning around $200000. There is a clear need to reduce consultancy and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.Specific measures I support- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect funds to essential services with proven community benefit.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Maori outcomes' function mattering roughly $10 million per year as this is not a core local government responsibility.- Lower consultancy and professional services spend rather than allowing ongoing increases.Alternative budgeting- Consider reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap rates growth at around 3% through targeted personnel changes vendor consolidation renegotiated contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.ClosingThank you for considering these points. I request that the Council prioritise restraint on operating and personnel costs and reallocate funds toward essential services and visible community benefits.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9808,336221,,Puketāpapa,Do not support most,I submit my objections to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending. The proposed rise is excessive given inflation and real increases since 2022.Key points:- I oppose an average residential rates increase of 7.9% which amounts to roughly $320 for the average household while the current average rates bill sits at $4069. The real rate rise since 2022 is already around 30 percent far outpacing cumulative inflation of 12 percent.- The rate rise breakdown shows 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs plus 2 percent to maintain existing assets and 1.5 percent for new assets. This justifies scrutiny and restraint not automatic approval for higher charges on ratepayers.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Spending on consultants totals $126 million per year with the average consultant earning about $200k and payroll costs dominated by personnel at six figures.- I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which I understand could save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose continuing high spend on consultancy and professional services; renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors can yield meaningful savings.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled as it costs $36 million/year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Cutting Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) department's $10 million/year is appropriate where it falls outside core local government duties.- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increases at about 3 percent prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional point: I oppose what I see as wasteful spending and disconnect from ratepayer priorities. This is a fiscally prudent moment to rein in costs and focus on core services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9854,336173,,Puketāpapa,Do not support most,The current plan would raise rates by about $320 for the average household on top of a real increase of 30 percent since 2022 (well outpacing cumulative inflation).Key concerns and requested actions1) Cap rates growth and re-prioritise spending. The 7.9 percent increase includes 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs. The Council should instead cap average residential rates growth at 3 percent by reducing new Council spending by at least $150 million (2 percent). This can be achieved by:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping spending on consultants: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 million2) Cut back on corporate and back-office spend. The Alliance highlights that personnel costs and 'other expenses' rose well above inflation with payroll at $1.3 billion and consultants/contractors at $590 million. A focused reduction of these back-office costs is essential to align with ratepayer affordability.3) End or pause costly programmes with questionable value. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (about $36 million per year) which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect funds to essential services with measurable social and environmental benefits.4) Stop Māori-specific spend growth. The proposed $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is outside the core remit of local government. Reallocate to statutory responsibilities and essential services.5) Employment and governance posture. Freeze non-essential roles and limit permanent wage growth until a sustainable ratepayer-friendly budget is secured.ConclusionThe proposed 7.9 percent increase is not affordable for many households and is not matched by commensurate service reductions. A

reviewed budget prioritising core statutory responsibilities reduced consultant spend and elimination of elective programmes will deliver a fairer outcome for ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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9930,336093,,Puketāpapa,Do not support most,Key concerns and positions:1) Rates and affordability: The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real 30% increase since 2022 (vs. 12% inflation). It is essential that increases stay within or near inflation not exceed it by a factor matched only by wasteful spending growth.2) Wasteful and backroom spending: The council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and halt the continual rise in consultancy and professional services. In particular consultants cost roughly $126 million per year across the group with the average consultant earning about $200000 and the payroll and related costs rising far faster than inflation.3) Targeted budget reductions to meet a responsible cap: The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at around 3%. This includes:- Reducing personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes: about $50 million- Capping consultancy spending: about $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: about $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: about $20 million4) Specific programme reductions: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) which purportedly emits more carbon than it saves and freeze non-essential roles to halt payroll growth; state clearly that vacant non-essential positions should not be filled saving at least $17 million immediately.5) Māori outcomes funding: The $10 million/year allocated to the Māori outcomes directorate (Ngā Mātārae) should be reconsidered as this is not a core local government function; additional savings can be directed to essential services.Additional points:Given the high cost of living ratepayers cannot bear further increases. A 1“2% cap would be more acceptable and politically prudent.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?
Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?
(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around

	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10046

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this formal submission to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to advocate for a reduction in wasteful Council spending. 1) Agreement and core positions- I oppose the average residential rates increase of at least 7.9% given the real burden on households including pensioners like myself who fear being unable to stay in home ownership with these rises.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these lines.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million

per year and apparently emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year spent on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a local government core function.2) Fiscal plan and alternative budget- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap on rate increases) delivering a much-needed rate increase closer to 3%.- Specific measures: $50 million in personnel cost reductions through organisational changes and freezes; $50 million cap on consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.3) Why this matters- The proposed 7.9% increase compounds a real rates increase of 30% since 2022 in inflation-adjusted terms while operating costs have risen faster than inflation. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% far outpacing population growth and inflation.- The data point to excessive spending in consultants six-figure salaries and backroom functions; addressing these can stabilise bills for households.Additional note- I have lived here 40 years and am on a pension. I ask you to consider how these rate rises affect long-term housing and wellbeing. ClosingI would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10051

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a careful review of Council spending to deliver essential services without imposing further cost on households.Key concerns1) Agree: Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9%. The current average residential rates bill is about $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30% in 2022 dollars far outpacing inflation. A rate rise above inflation compounds household hardship.2) Agree: Expenditure efficiency across the Council and CCOs. There is a need to reduce spending on corporate and backroom office functions and to curb consultancy and professional services which have grown substantially. Reducing these

costs should be a priority before increasing rates.3) Agree: The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled. At $36 million per year and with emissions outcomes unclear it is prudent to reassess this programme in favour of more impactful lower-emission initiatives.4) Agree: Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies. This could deliver immediate savings estimated at least $17 million.5) Agree: Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million/year on the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department. In my view such allocations should be tightly aligned with core local government responsibilities rather than discretionary projects.6) Agree: Limit new spending and pursue the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget. A cap on rates can be achieved by reducing new spending by around $150 million (2%) through personnel cost controls capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional point- Infill housing that increases the rate base can lead to higher per-lot rates. If more lots are created the impact on rates should be weighed against service provision and infrastructure capacity.I request that my submission be considered in the public hearing process and that the Council prioritise expenditure restraint before approving further rate increases.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

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- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10068

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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- **Water**
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This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent for 2026/27. Based on the Alliance's briefing this would add around $320 per household on the current average bill of $4069 while real increases since 2022 run at about 30 percent well above inflation. I urge the Council to constrain the rate rise to reflect a prudent evidence-based approach to spending.Key points- I agree the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled as it costs about

$36 million per year and per available analysis emits more carbon than it saves.- I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose ongoing targeted Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department which I do not view as a core local-government function.- Overall I support reducing new Council spending by about $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at around 3 percentthrough: a) $50 million via personnel cost restraint; b) $50 million via capped consultancy spend; c) $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; d) $20 million prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Additional pointWhen the Council stops unnecessary spending on items like Māori outcomes I will reconsider the case for any rate increase in the city.In summary I request the Council to reduce wasteful expenditure and align the rates proposal with actual needs and inflation rather than pursue a near-8 percent increase.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

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We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

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	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10120

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

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Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27. The current average bill is $4069 and since 2022 rates have risen by about 30% in real terms while inflation has been closer to 12%. I personally pay about double the average as a superannuatant. I have been an Auckland City ratepayer for about 5 decades and the rates imposition and burden now in real terms exceeds any time in that past. A 7.9% rise is not affordable and does not reflect value for money. When the world our country our economy and our people and households are facing so much economic pressure and uncertainty and everyone is having to make do and make choices

based on zero change in income or at best 1 or 2% how can Auckland Council be different? Only by acting as the overbearing monopoly that it is and imposing rates cost increases that are out of all proportion to the world we live in.WAKE UP Auckland Council. I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

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- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

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N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

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We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

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	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10137

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The impact on households is substantial with the average residential rates bill already at $4069 and a real increase of 30% since 2022 well above inflation. A rates rise of this magnitude is not acceptable without substantial verifiable savings across the Council and its CCOs.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget and urge the Council to cap the average residential rates increase at 3% by cutting wasteful expenditure not by burdening ratepayers further. Specific measures I endorse are:1) Reducing personnel costs by adopting organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles which the Alliance estimates could save $50

million.2) Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.3) Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save $30 million.4) Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.5) Cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and according to the briefing emits more carbon than it saves.6) Freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles saving at least $17 million immediately.7) Cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a function of local government.Additional context from the Alliance briefing shows total personnel costs and related expenditures rising faster than inflation with substantial use of consultants and back-office functions. A disciplined approach to expenditure is essential if ratepayers are to have confidence that any increases are genuinely for essential services and core infrastructure maintenance not ongoing growth in non-core activities.I request that the Council consider these changes and present an updated plan that achieves no more than a 3% increase funded by the outlined savings. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

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We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10196

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a programme of careful targeted expenditure reductions to keep rates affordable for households.Key concerns and positions- Oppose the 7.9% rates rise. The proposed increase would add roughly $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 far exceeding local inflation.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Current payroll and related costs have grown markedly while essential services are pressured. A leaner organisation will help cap rates.- Cut spending on consultancy and professional services. The

current level of $126 million per year with high consultant pay is excessive and drives unnecessary cost.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. Achieving this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department reflecting the view that these programmes are not the core remit of local government.Alternative budget approach- Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) cap the average residential rates increase at 3% by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- Funding realignments through organisational change a hiring freeze vendor consolidation and renegotiations to deliver savings of the order of $150 million.I urge the Council to focus on essential services proper accountability for spending and transparent justification for any new or ongoing programmes. A plan that substantially reduces non-essential expenditure and limits rate increases is fairer for ratepayers and better for Auckland's long-term prosperity.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland’s longer-term future

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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10237

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing shows that the proposed 7.9% increase would place a heavier burden on households with the average residential rates bill rising by about $320 on a current average bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have increased 85% while population grew 22% and inflation has been far lower. A fairer path is to constrain operating and backroom costs to mirror essential service requirements and to refuse continual growth in non-essential spending.I support the following focused measures to reduce overall expenditure and keep rates more affordable:1) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.2)

Reduce spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to expand these items.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.4) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this function is not a core local government responsibility.Adopting the Alliance's Alternative Budget approach a prudent path would be to cap the average residential rates increase at 3% by reducing new Council spending by $150 million across the Council group. This would be achieved through 2% savings from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes a $50 million reduction in consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million in prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Maintaining the current trajectory risks widening inequities for households and businesses alike. I urge the Council to implement these targeted savings and present a revised package that keeps rates closer to inflation and supports essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland’s longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10317

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Puketāpapa

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this on behalf of my own concerns as a ratepayer who values essential city services delivered efficiently. I recognise the pressures councils face but I urge the Council to focus on responsible stewardship of public funds.I support the following positions regarding Council expenditure and spending priorities:- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce

payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government role.I also support adopting the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3%. Specific measures include: $50 million from personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze of non-essential roles $50 million from capping consultancy and professional services $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.In addition I urge transparent planning to deliver statutory services efficiently while reducing discretionary grants and non-core activities that do not improve essential services for residents.Closing:I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

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