

Rates

Rates fund a large number of activities, most of which most people don't give a second thought to - until they break down, i.e. water supply, refuse collection, roads, animal control etc.

Our Financial Strategy sets out limits for rates increases. The following table outlines the rates limit, proposed rates increase and major items for each year (in addition to the day to day running of Council services and facilities that your rates pay for) for the next ten years.

YEAR	RATES LIMIT	PROPOSED RATES INCREASE	MAJOR ITEMS/PROJECTS
YEAR 1	9.99%	9.99%	Fully funding roading expenditure (a loan was used the 2020/21 year to lower the rates rise due to the impact of COVID-19). Expenditure on Economic development was reduced by 50% in 2020/2021 to help reduce the expected rate rise. Economic development expenditure has increased for 2021/2022 to begin to return it to pre COVID-19 levels. Staff cost increase relating both to earlier underfunding and the impact of the minimum wage increase.
YEAR 2	6%	6%	Increase Stormwater renewals to address increasing deferred renewals. Increase costs of expanding the recycling collection to the wider district.
YEAR 3	6%	6%	Repayment of Loan funding for Roothing used in 2020/21 to lower rate increase due to COVID-19.
YEAR 4	6%	6%	Lump sum increase in renewals for stormwater to reduce deferred renewals.
YEAR 5	6%	6%	Purchase of Land and initial design for new library facility. 1% of rates annual from year 5 to go into the disaster recovery reserve.
YEAR 6	6%	6%	Design and initial stages of Construction of the new Library facility.
YEAR 7	6%	6%	Construction of the new Library facility.
YEAR 8	6%	6%	Increase in Stormwater renewals of \$50k per year to address deferred renewals. Construction of the new Library facility.
YEAR 9	6%	6%	Repayment towards short-term debt used for building of the new Library facility, fully funding Port Operations via rates and user Charges.
YEAR 10	6%	6%	Repayment of debt, including all remaining Port associated debt,. The creation of a general reserve to help ease the costs of any future unplanned/emergency expense.

As you can see, by the end of the next ten years, Council and our community will be in a very healthy financial position.

For rate increases to be lower, Council would need to:

- Continue to defer issues identified; and/or
- Cut expenditure with associated decreases in levels of service.

There are no changes forecast to the method of setting of rates apart from the following.

Rates

WATER SUPPLY RATES

There are only two separate water supply schemes in the Grey District:

Greymouth	Servicing central Greymouth, CBD, Cobden, Blaketown, Karoro, Boddytown, Paroa, South Beach, Dobson, Taylorville and Stillwater, Rapahoe, Runanga/Dunollie
Blackball	Servicing the Blackball community

From 1 July 2021 the Kaiata community and Kaiata park will start paying rates towards their new water supply. They will be connected to the Greymouth water supply. The rate for year 1 will be \$410.00.

We are also standardising the water supply rates so that properties and businesses will pay the water supply rate per the scheme they are connected to. Blackball, Dobson/Taylorville, Greymouth and Stillwater now all pay the same amount (\$513.00) as they are all connected to the Greymouth water supply. The rate change for properties in Runanga/Dunollie/Rapahoe and Kaiata will be phased in.

RATES INPUT TO ACTIVITIES/GROUPS OF ACTIVITIES

