



**Mackenzie**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Pre-election Report**

# **Mackenzie Local Elections 2025**

**Information for voters  
and potential candidates**

[mackenzie.govt.nz](https://mackenzie.govt.nz)



# Mackenzie Local Elections 2025

This report is a legislative requirement under the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002). It must be prepared by the chief executive of each council, independently of the mayor and councillors.

The report outlines key issues that will need to be considered in the next council term. It also provides information on the major projects the Council expects to fund over the next three years.

Potential candidates for the upcoming local body elections, along with residents, are encouraged to read this report to better understand the significant challenges and opportunities facing Council and the region.

## Basis of preparation

We have ensured this report remains politically neutral, as required by the LGA 2002. Its primary purpose is to provide information that encourages public discussion about the key issues affecting our district.

## Further resources

For more detailed information, visit our website: [www.mackenzie.govt.nz](http://www.mackenzie.govt.nz)

Key supporting documents

- Long-Term Plan 2024–2034
- Annual Plans 2023/24 – 2025/26
- Annual Reports 2022/23 – 2023/24



## The Pre-election Report contains the following information:

A summary of key projects, challenges and opportunities.

A report on compliance with Council's Financial Strategy set out in the 2021-2031 and 2024-2034 Long Term Plans. This includes a comparison of limits on rates, rate increases, debt and returns on investments, and financial prudence benchmarks.

Financial statements for the three years preceding the election year, budgeted financial statements for the election year, and forecast financial statements for the three years following the election year.

Details of the major projects planned to follow the election, including their rationale and costs.

The report is intended to help provide voters with the information they need to make informed decisions at election time. It is also offered as an overview to election candidates, setting out the Council's existing and future challenges and opportunities in a politically neutral context.

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# Message from our Chief Executive

Whether you are standing for Council, or for one of our Community Boards, or are preparing to vote, there are some important things to consider ahead of this year's local government elections.

The Mackenzie District, located in the heart of New Zealand's South Island, is renowned for its alpine landscapes, pristine lakes, and the internationally recognised Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve. Despite being the third smallest local authority by population (5,500 residents), it spans the 10th largest land area in the country (7,139 km<sup>2</sup>), much of which is conservation estate. The region is famous for its clear, starry skies, earning it the designation of an International Dark Sky Reserve.

The district has experienced notable growth in recent years, driven by its appeal as a tourist destination and a desirable place to live. This growth has brought both opportunities and challenges. On the positive side, increased tourism and population growth have stimulated the local economy, leading to new businesses and improved infrastructure. However, the district also faces significant challenges, including the need to balance development with the preservation of its unique natural environment. The Mackenzie District Council is actively reviewing its District Plan to address these issues. This growth creates demands for infrastructure such as additional water treatment capability and for enhanced community facilities, to support its growing resident population and for peak tourism use.

This document gives you an overview of those challenges and some of our responses, as well as a summary of our major projects and our finances. At the end you will find some links to sources for information for further reading if you wish.

The challenge facing Mackenzie District Council (MDC) is how we balance the pressures of high visitor numbers with funding the infrastructure demands from our small ratepayer base. Council also needs to meet requirements for government reforms, regulation and compliance.

Tourism numbers have now surpassed 2019 pre-COVID levels and there is a need to upgrade existing infrastructure to meet growing demand.

Although past Councils kept rates low, the significant investment in infrastructure and ensuring we comply

with new standards means times have changed. We have rethought how we fund what needs to be done. Post-COVID, Councils across the country faced unprecedented inflation levels, especially for infrastructure such as bridges, roading and water infrastructure.

Consequently, for the Annual Plan 2025/26 (AP 25/26) Council has decided that for some activities it would be more equitable to take a user-pays approach, and it is for this reason that Council is charging for public toilets in high tourism areas like Pukaki and Hamilton Drive. It is not equitable that our ratepayers continue to pay for toilets primarily used by tourists. Likewise, the Council has lowered the annual water allowance per connection to 500 m<sup>3</sup> per annum, and increased the charge for excessive water use.

The key ongoing focus for Council, will be to deliver fit-for-purpose affordable core infrastructure to meet tourism and population growth, while maintaining current levels of service and legislative compliance.

During the next triennium we will extend the life of the Tekapo wastewater treatment plant, understand changing wastewater standards and their implications, and service tourism growth.

Council and the community boards are planning to develop master plans for our three towns, library services, and potentially a community hub for Twizel, and will be looking to relocate the squash court in Tekapo.

During the past triennium our Council has built a strong, solid relationship with our three local Runaka - Arowhenua, Moeraki and Waihao and we will continue to build on the trust and partnerships developed.

We have also made solid progress on key strategic projects such as three water capital upgrades, Spatial Plans and the District Plan.

Reform remains ongoing. Central government has mandated Council to give effect to Local Waters Done Well (LWDW) through the enactment of legislation, and is continuing to drive accelerated change in the Resource Management Act (RMA). All of this adds to existing workloads and will come with added costs.

You can find details of LWDW and RMA reform, and our responses in the section about Reform in this report.

We enter the new triennium in a good financial position. We face the future with forecast performance which measures up well against key benchmarks, including debt limits.

Key focus areas for our Council will be:

- Implementing the LWDW reforms and transitioning to a new service delivery model for three waters in our district.
- Delivering core infrastructure which is affordable, resilient and fit for purpose.
- Finalising the District Plan review, and preparing for the RMA reform.
- Supporting community-led development, meeting our communities needs, and improving social wellbeing and local placemaking.
- Advocating for and facilitating the development of housing within the district.
- Reviewing our current rates model.
- Developing commercial opportunities to grow the property and forestry portfolios, including working with PF Olsen our professional forestry advisors. Forestry revenue is a valuable source of non-rate revenue.
- Working with our communities, training and equipping response teams, and preparing emergency management structures for future events so as a district we can be agile in responding to and recovering from events such as severe weather and a potential severe earthquake.

This report sets out a strategic context for decision-making in the Mackenzie. It reflects on what has been achieved to date and shares some thoughts on what more could be done.

I encourage potential candidates and eligible voters to make use of this report to fully participate in this year's local government election. It is a rapidly evolving environment but together we can anticipate change and make good decisions to deliver what the Mackenzie District needs.

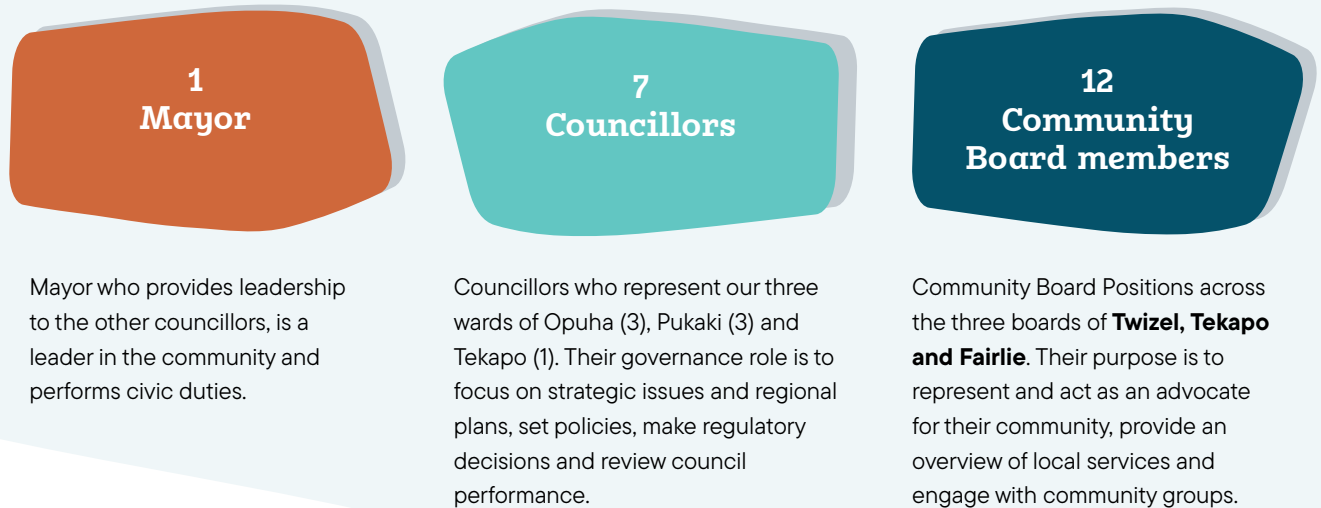
We continue to be focussed on making the right choices for our district – remembering that the hard choices today will be the ones that will create tomorrow's future for the next generation.



**ANGELA  
OOSTHUIZEN**

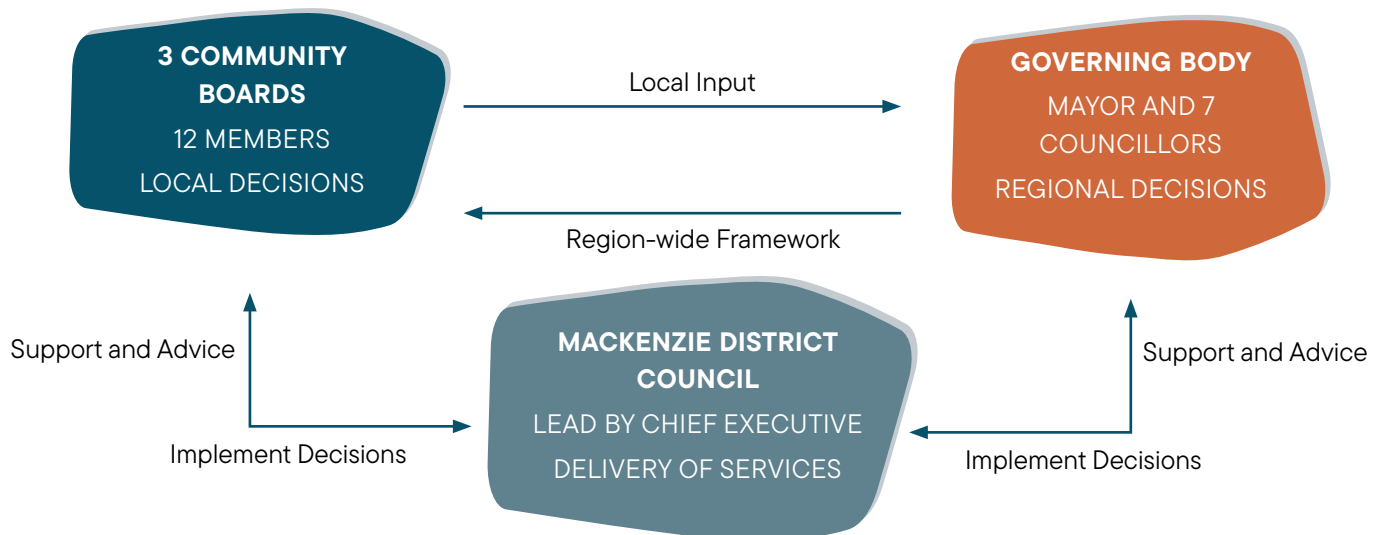
Chief Executive

## Mackenzie District Council's Governance Structure



## Elected Governance

### VISION - STRATEGY - INITIATIVES



## Our Purpose To deliver quality services and core infrastructure





## Economic Snapshot of the Mackenzie

The Mackenzie District, while having the third smallest resident population in New Zealand, has the tenth largest land mass. This means that we must do a lot, with a little.

Our district is rural in nature with three main towns servicing farming, hydroelectric generation and tourism industries. Electricity generation and agriculture (including aquaculture) are large contributors to our economy. These industries will face changes and opportunities in the future as demand for clean energy and sustainable food production continues to increase nationally and globally.

Understanding how we are changing and growing as a district is key to ensuring that we are positioned to respond and retain what is important for our district.

Provisional GDP was \$517 million in Mackenzie District for the year to March 2025 (2024 prices), up 2% from the previous year. Mackenzie was the second fastest-growing district in the year to March 2025, underpinned by broad-based growth, and improved agricultural commodity prices. In the year to March 2025, prices for lamb rose 10% and beef rose 15%, providing a significant boost to Mackenzie's farmers. Mackenzie District total dairy payout for the 2023/24 season is estimated to have been approximately \$48 million. Mackenzie District's dairy payout for the 2024/25 season is expected to be approximately \$62 million, \$14 million higher than the previous season, assuming that production levels from last season are maintained. The dairy sector remains in a strong position, with production increasing and payment expectations continuing at high levels.

Total guest nights in Mackenzie District increased by 2.4% in the year to March 2025, compared to a year earlier. This compares with decreases of 0.5% in Canterbury Region overall and 2.7% in New Zealand. Visitors stayed a total of 769,400 nights in Mackenzie during the year to March 2025, which was up from 751,200 in the previous year. Total tourism expenditure was approximately \$314 million in the district during the year to March 2025, which was down from \$323 million in the year to March 2023.

Construction has slowed from previous years, although the \$30m worth of education buildings recently consented in Mackenzie will boost workloads in the coming months.

Residential consents remain variable, but interest in Mackenzie's housing market is starting to warm. Mackenzie's house values rose 4.7%pa, compared with a 2.1% pa decline nationally. The number of houses sold in Mackenzie has increased by 25%.

Housing has become less affordable to buy, with house values rising to 8.3 times the average household income, above the national rate of 6.5 times the average household income.

Tourism volumes are also significantly up and have supported 43% of Mackenzie's jobs in the year to March 2024, according to Infometrics Regional Economic Profile.



# Mackenzie District Economic Overview



**Area 7,339km<sup>2</sup>**

## Employment



**43%**

of local jobs  
are in tourism



**2.2%**

Unemployment  
rate (year to  
March 2025)

## Tourism & Accommodation

### Tourism Spend



**\$314M**

(year to March  
2025)

\$9M decrease from \$323M  
in previous year (-2.8%)

### Visitor Nights



**769,400**

Increase of 2.4%  
(year to March  
2025)

While NZ & Canterbury saw declines

## GDP & Economic Growth



**\$517M**

Provisional  
GDP for 2025



**+2%**

Growth from 2024  
Higher than NZ and  
Canterbury averages

## Primary Sector Snapshot

### Agriculture



**+10%**

Rise in lamb  
prices



**+15%**

Rise in beef  
prices

### Dairy



**\$48M**

Estimated payout  
(2023/24)



**\$62M**

Forecast payout  
(2024/25)

**+29%** year-on-year increase

## Housing



**+4.7% p.a.**

Increase in  
Mackenzie  
property values



**25%**

Increase in  
homes sold  
in Mackenzie

### Housing affordability

**Mackenzie 8.3x**

mean household income

**New Zealand 6.5x**

median household income

## What we own - what we owe

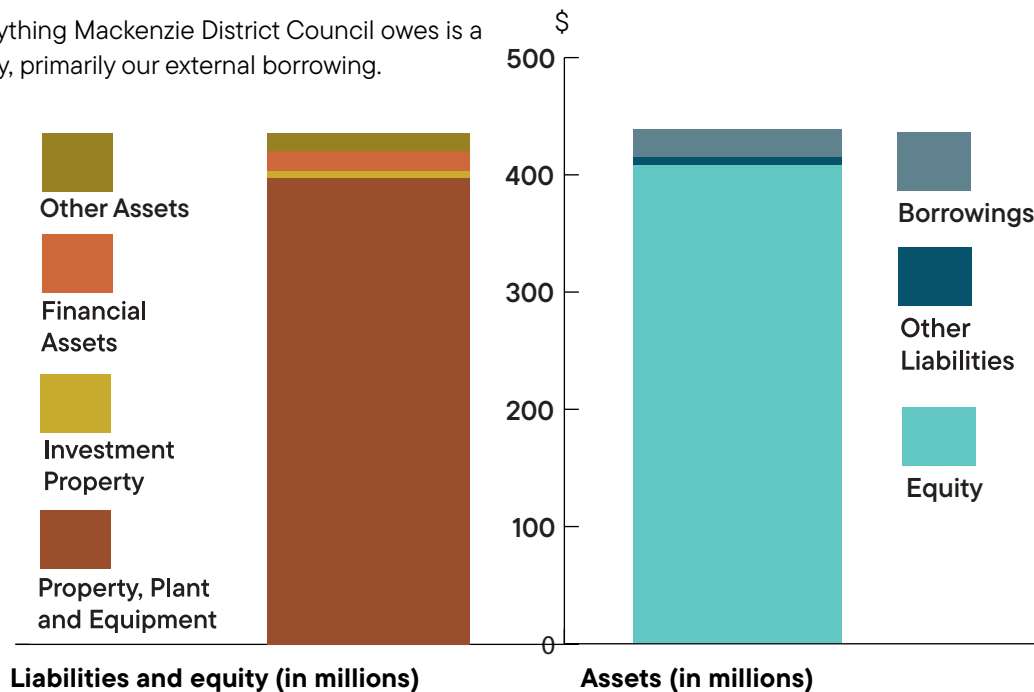
Council's total assets, liabilities and equity

Everything Mackenzie District Council owns is an asset. These assets are primarily property, plant and equipment, but also include our investments in term deposits and Alpine Energy.

Everything Mackenzie District Council owes is a liability, primarily our external borrowing.

The difference between our assets and liabilities is the Council's net worth - also known as equity

The following graph shows the split of the Council's assets, liabilities and equity budgeted as at the end of the 2025/26 financial year



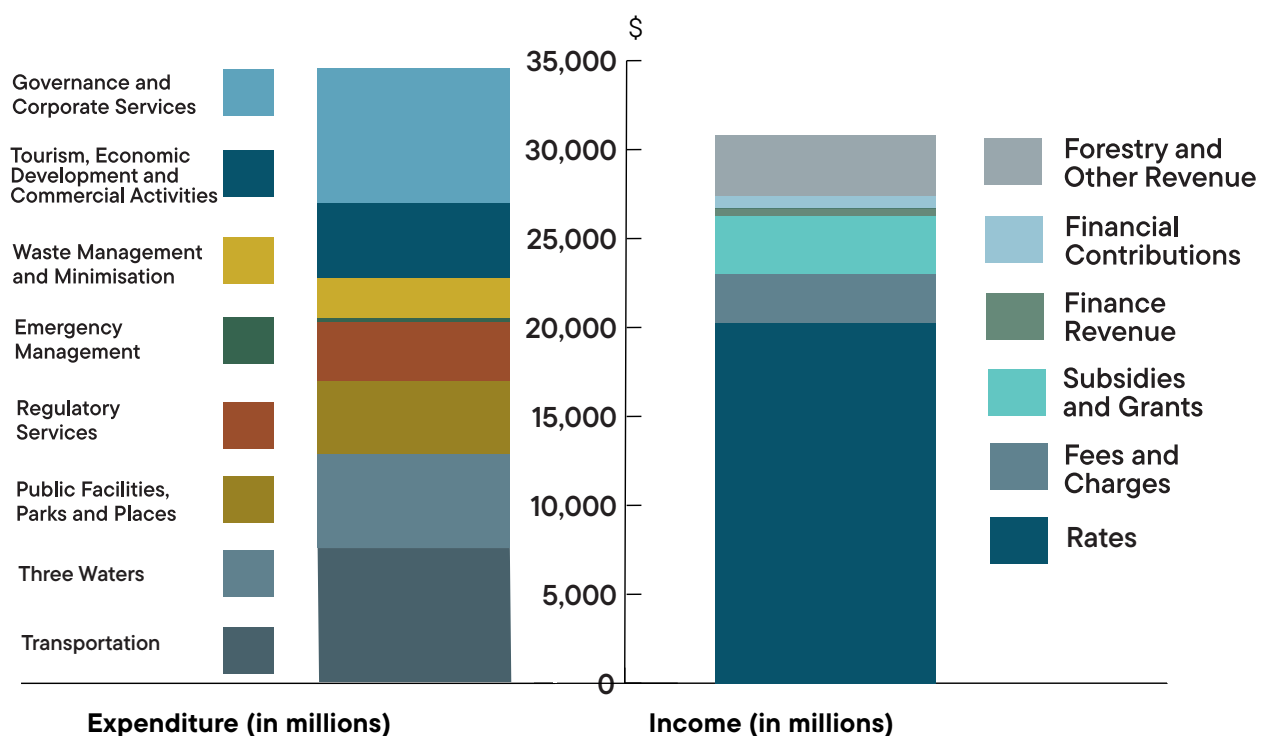
## What we earn - what we spend

Council's income and expenditure

Council income comes from various sources, including fees and charges, subsidies and grants and financial contributions. However, rates is the largest source.

Council expenditure is spread over 10 activities with almost 70% of our rates spent on core services.

The following graph shows the Council's Annual Plan 2025/26 income and expenditure split into the key areas.



# Mackenzie District Council

Central Government reforms continue to add significant workload for local government.

The most prominent pieces of work for MDC are the changes to the Resource Management Act (RMA) and the development of the district water services through the Local Water Done Well (LWDW) plans.

Any changes that improve outcomes for people and the environment are welcome. However, balancing those with meeting core services is the challenge for MDC in the future.

## Reform

### Resource Management

The Government is overhauling how New Zealand manages land, water, and development. The current system under the RMA is being replaced in three phases.

#### Phase One – Old Laws Repealed

In late 2023, two recently passed laws (the Natural and Built Environment Act and the Spatial Planning Act) were scrapped.

#### Phase Two – Short-Term Fixes and Fast-Track Development

- A new Fast-track Approvals law was passed in December 2024 to speed up big infrastructure and development projects.
- A new freshwater law also came into effect in October 2024.
- Another reform bill is under review after public submissions closed in February 2025.
- The Government is also reviewing 16 national planning rules to make the current system more efficient while bigger reforms are underway.

#### Phase Three – A Whole New System

The Government plans to replace the RMA with two new laws:

1. The Planning Act – for land use and development. It aims to support housing and infrastructure, and reduce delays in planning approvals.
2. The Natural Environment Act – to protect resources like land, water, and air.

#### What This Means for Communities

- Each region will have one simplified plan combining environmental and local land-use rules.
- Standardised land-use zones will make plans

clearer and more consistent nationwide.

- Fewer consents may be needed, with more activities allowed without lengthy approval processes.
- People who are not directly affected by a project won't be able to object.
- A national enforcement regulator will ensure rules are applied more consistently across councils.

#### The Big Shift

These reforms are designed to:

- Speed up housing and infrastructure projects
- Strengthen property rights
- Cut red tape
- Take a more permissive approach to development

The Government says this will help tackle housing shortages and support economic growth—while still protecting the environment

#### Local Waters Done Well

##### Local Water Done Well – What It Means for Our Community

In December 2023, the Government announced a new direction for water services—covering drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater—under a policy and legislative programme called Local Water Done Well. This replaces the previous Government's Water Services Reform Programme (formerly known as Three Waters).

#### Government Objectives

##### The Government's key goals are to:

- Ensure people pay

### Local Waters Done Well



cost-reflective prices for water services

- Deliver services that meet acceptable quality standards
- Require water providers to invest adequately in infrastructure

### **Core Components of Local Water Done Well**

- Fit-for-purpose service delivery models and financing tools
- Long-term financial sustainability of water services
- Enhanced central government oversight, including economic and quality regulation

### **Water Service Delivery Plans**

All councils are required to prepare a Water Service Delivery Plan by 3 September 2025, which must:

- Show how services will meet regulatory requirements
- Support growth and urban development
- Demonstrate financial sustainability
- Include an implementation plan for the proposed service model

Plans can be developed individually or in partnership with other councils.

### **Council's Options**

Our Council consulted with the community and made a final decision on 15 July 2025. Two broad options were under consideration:

#### **Option 1: In-House Delivery**

Council would continue delivering water services directly, with enhancements:

- Establishing a dedicated internal water services unit
- Meeting new ring-fencing and governance requirements

#### **Option 2: Join a Multi-Council Water Services Organisation**

Council would partner with neighbouring councils to form a jointly owned water services entity, responsible for owning, operating, and maintaining water services.

Two potential groupings are being explored:

- Four-council option: Mackenzie, Waimate, Timaru,

and Waitaki

- Three-council option: Mackenzie, Waimate, and Timaru

This model would include collective governance guided by a Statement of Expectations.

Council's decision was for in-house delivery.

### **Financial Implications for Our Community**

Regardless of the model chosen, water services will remain publicly owned and continue to be delivered. However, how they are delivered will change—and costs will rise.

### **Why Are Costs Increasing?**

- Stricter regulatory standards, especially for wastewater
- Historic underinvestment to keep rates low
- Infrastructure demands driven by growth
- Ring-fencing: Water services must now be fully funded from water-related charges—no general rates subsidies

The Mackenzie District faces additional pressures, including:

- A small ratepayer base supporting infrastructure heavily used by visitors
- Over \$200 million in investment required over the next 30 years
- Significant upgrades needed for wastewater treatment plants in Fairlie, Takapō, Burkes Pass, and Twizel, with consents expiring in the late 2030s–2040s

### **The Bottom Line**

To meet Government expectations and provide sustainable, high-quality water services, rates and user charges will need to rise significantly.

By acting now, we can plan wisely, invest responsibly, and secure safe, reliable water infrastructure for future generations—while meeting the needs of our community today.

# Local Water Done Well

New direction for water services covering drinking water, wastewater and stormwater



## Key Objectives

- Cost-effective prices
- Meeting increased standards
- Adequate investment

## Service Delivery Plans

By 3 September 2025



Councils are required to explore alternative delivery models

## Council's Decision

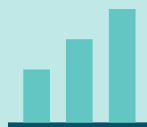
**1** Option 1 - a stand-alone business unit

## Why Costs Will Increase

- Stricter regulatory standards
- Historic underinvestment
- No subsidies from general rates

## Over \$200 million

Investment needed over the next 30 years



# Key priorities for our District

## **Deliver Fit-for-Purpose Affordable Core Infrastructure**

Council is committed to delivering infrastructure that meets the current and future needs of our communities. This includes ensuring our water, wastewater, stormwater, roading, and community facilities are safe, resilient, and capable of supporting growth and environmental standards. With significant investment required—particularly in water services to meet new national regulations—Council is taking a proactive approach through long-term planning, targeted upgrades, and exploring collaborative service delivery models. Our focus is on cost-effective, sustainable solutions that reflect local priorities while meeting regulatory expectations and supporting the wellbeing of residents, businesses, and visitors.

## **Responding and Adapting to the Reforms**

Recent government reforms, particularly in the water and resource management sectors, are reshaping how councils plan, fund, and deliver essential services. For the Mackenzie District, these changes bring both challenges and opportunities. Stricter regulatory standards, financial ringfencing, and new expectations for long-term service delivery will significantly impact how we manage water, housing, and infrastructure development. Our small ratepayer base, combined with high visitor numbers and ageing infrastructure, means the cost of compliance and investment will be felt across the community. Council is actively engaging with these reforms to ensure local voices are heard and to develop solutions that are financially sustainable, future-focused, and tailored to our unique district needs.

## **Managing and Funding Tourism**

Tourism is a cornerstone of the Mackenzie District's economy, drawing visitors from around the world to experience our iconic landscapes, dark skies, and natural features such as Aoraki Mt Cook and Lake Tekapo. Population projections suggest some growth (6,561 in 2030 and 9,050 in 2050), but not at a level that will significantly reduce rates, and more people equals more infrastructure needs.

The rapid and sustained growth in visitor numbers presents real challenges for our communities, our environment, and our infrastructure. Over-tourism in key locations is putting increasing pressure

on facilities, degrading sensitive ecosystems, and risking the social licence for tourism, particularly when the costs of maintaining infrastructure fall on a small resident ratepayer base.

Council will actively seek access for funding to support local infrastructure needs and reduce the burden on ratepayers. However, the scale of investment required in our district—particularly for carparks, toilets, and waste management plants—far exceeds what can be delivered through traditional rating funding sources alone.

Council must therefore explore alternative funding mechanisms, including advocating for funding to central government, user-pays systems, advocating for regulatory mechanisms for a place-based tourism levy to ensure infrastructure can meet population growth and seasonal peak loads. The addition of user pays for the Pukaki and Hamilton drive toilets are an example of funding income sources to help fund tourism infrastructure. These toilets are tourism hotspots therefore in fairness to residents applying a user charge will help with the ongoing maintenance of these facilities. Maintaining the balance between visitor access and community wellbeing is crucial.

## **Supporting Housing Across the Mackenzie District**

Access to affordable and appropriate housing is an ongoing challenge in the Mackenzie District, particularly in high-demand areas like Tekapo, Twizel, and Fairlie. Growth in tourism, lifestyle migration, and seasonal workforce needs has increased pressure on an already limited housing supply, impacting local residents and essential workers.

While Council is not a direct provider of housing, it plays a critical role in facilitating and supporting housing outcomes. This includes enabling development through land use planning, providing essential infrastructure, and creating an environment that encourages investment in a range of housing types. Council is also working collaboratively with central government agencies, iwi, community housing providers, and the private sector to unlock opportunities and advocate for funding and policy support.

By taking a strategic and enabling approach, Council aims to ensure our communities have access to housing that supports social wellbeing, economic resilience, and sustainable growth.



# ACHIEVEMENTS ACROSS THE PAST THREE YEARS

## Major Infrastructure Investments

### Fairlie Water Treatment Plant Upgrade

On 18 July 2024 the new Fairlie water treatment plant started operating. This is a project that was more than 20 years in the making. For a long time residents in Kimbell and Fairlie have been at risk of protozoan contamination, have had to boil their water at times, and have suffered distinctly brown water (turbidity) after prolonged periods of rain. Protozoal contamination has caused problems in other areas in New Zealand. The new plant contains a sophisticated filter system to remove dirt, bacteria and microbiology down to 1 micron.

The plant has two new storage tanks that give us water storage for approximately 1.5 days in summer or 2-3 days in winter. This helps us manage water flow when turbidity is high and allows us to enable water to flow even after an event when power is lost.

Water is lightly chlorinated as an additional safety measure, and its pH can be corrected. Water pH is continually monitored and when it is mildly acidic a correction is added to make it neutral. This helps prevent metals leaching from pipework into the water.

The team worked really hard to keep within the budget of \$7.3m, which was challenging given that the budget was set 2 years previously. Inflation on infrastructure was running significantly higher than the average rate at the time (at over 25%). The costs of this project were close to expectations, being only 2.5% over-budget.

### Twizel Ring Main Project (\$3.8 million)

Council completed a project to replace the Mackenzie Drive ring mains in Twizel.

There are two ring mains here, one on each side of the road, and Council replaced both. There were pipes made of asbestos cement, cast iron

and galvanised steel water mains (AC) and Council replaced them with modern, more resilient pipes. The increase in the pipe size will provide for future growth in the town. The work commenced in October 2023 and was completed in May 2024.

### Water Metering (2023–26) (\$1.6 million)

Installing universal water metering of properties connected to urban water supplies, beginning in Twizel, followed by Tekapo then Fairlie, is due to be completed by 30 June 2026. Since the introduction of water meters there has been a significant reduction in water consumption especially in Twizel. Drinking-quality treated water is expensive for Council to produce, and it is important that we do not let it leak out of pipes or valves and go to waste. The project also identified breakages and led to repairs to reticulation and undetected leaks.

### Our District Plan Review (\$6.5 million)

The Council has nearly completed a full review of its District Plan. The previous District Plan became operative in 2004. Under the RMA Councils are required to review their District Plan every 10 years. The new plan ensures the District Plan:

- is relevant to the Mackenzie District now and for the future;
- complies with legislative requirements arising from the RMA and associated national and regional requirements;
- provides an updated plan that will be relevant when addressing proposed government resource management system changes.

The benefits of an updated plan also include having a local plan so that it may be considered in any future regional plan (as proposed by both the previous and the current governments).

The District Plan review has been undertaken in stages. Stages One and Two (including Spatial



Plans) have been completed. Stage Three is largely complete, with the appeals process nearly complete. Stage Four has been through significant community input and formal consultation. The hearings for Stage Four took place in May 2025 with decisions expected in July or August 2025. Any appeals process will then follow. The decision-making for the District Plan has been delegated by Council to independent hearings commissioners.

Following completion of Stage Four, the District Plan review programme will be complete.

District Plan reviews are one of the most expensive undertakings for Councils. It requires significant external resourcing as it is unable to be delivered with business-as-usual staffing levels. Due to the cost involved, the funding of the review is undertaken in a similar manner to the Council's capital projects i.e. the cost is spread over the life of the plan.

This is a significant achievement for council to have largely completed this project and ensures that the plan gives effect to higher-order documents.

## **Community Development – building resilient and stronger communities**

### **Supporting Our District**

Council has committed to community development focused on thriving communities through infrastructure, advocacy and community-lead projects.

The Mackenzie District Council's Community Development team, is focused on supporting local initiatives and key services, and advocating for community needs. Through partnerships with local groups, government agencies, and not-for-profit organisations, they are addressing challenges such as access to funding, volunteer shortages, and social service delivery.

Programmes like the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ) are helping young people transition into work through targeted initiatives such as barista training, youth services, and local driver licensing support.

Council also supports networking opportunities, and

grant funding through access to resources like the Mackenzie Grant Finder and funding clinics. The team has helped local organisations secure funding and has provided support for groups to strengthen their processes.

With a growing presence from youth service providers like The Y Central South Island (formerly YMCA) and ongoing support for sport, recreation, and cultural initiatives, the Council continues to invest in the district's social and economic well-being.

As outlined in the Long Term Plan, Council is investing in key infrastructure to meet evolving community needs. Planning is under way for the replacement of the Twizel Library, and the development of a multi-purpose community hub in Twizel.

In Lake Tekapo, the popular squash court is set to be relocated to better align with long-term recreational planning and to provide improved access for users. These projects reflect Council's long-term commitment to strengthening community facilities and supporting local well-being.



Students on the MTFJ Barista Course

## District Projects

Council has an ongoing program of investment to improve, replace, and construct the necessary infrastructure and facilities to service our community. This includes several key projects which were outlined in our LTP and updated in our AP 25/26.

During the last triennium we made solid progress in the planning and delivery of key strategic projects

### 2022/23

#### Governance and Corporate Services

##### Community Multi-use Trailer (\$123,000)

Our multi-use trailer was completed. It provides a mobile operating location for Civil Defence, is available to Fire and Emergency NZ and St John for major incidents, and is available to the community to use at community events. The trailer is equipped with power and internet and can be deployed quickly when required. We are also planning to use the trailer to deliver services to remote communities in the future.

#### Three Waters

##### Fairlie Water Treatment Plant (2022/23)

We finalised the design, allocated the construction contract and commenced work on the new Fairlie water treatment plant during the financial year. The new plant is capable of managing fluctuations in the quality of the current source water and meet New Zealand Drinking Water Standards. The upgrade included the construction of two new supply reservoirs ensuring reliability of the water supply.

##### Compliance with Drinking Water Standards (2022/23)

We were required to update the Water Safety Plans for all five Council-owned water supplies and the Albury supply to comply with the new regulations introduced during 2022/23. Water Safety Plans identify areas of risk within a water system. We are implementing several key improvements identified in the plans: backflow prevention, catchment security, improved monitoring, better record keeping systems, and onsite instrumentation.

##### Wastewater Pipe Replacement Programme (2022/23) (\$725,000)

During 2021/22 all pre-1970 wastewater mains in Fairlie and Tekapo were inspected using CCTV technology to identify sections that were no longer functioning as designed. Most mains in Twizel and Tekapo were operating well and did not need upgrades. In Fairlie a total of 900 metres of mains were relined in 2022/23.

#### Parks and Community Facilities

##### Lake Ruataniwha Development (2022/23)

Council prepared a Reserve Management Plan and a concept Development Plan for the Lake Ruataniwha Recreation Reserve. These plans are important documents guiding the use, protection, aspirations and future improvements for the reserve. Following consultation minor changes were made to the draft Reserve Management Plan which was formally adopted by Council in August 2023.

##### District Swimming Pools (2022/23) (\$411,000)

A new electric heat pump was installed at the Twizel Pool which was operational through the 2022/23 season. Stage one of the Strathconan Pool's heating and filtration upgrade was completed and ready for the 2022/23 Season. These works included the installation of new heat pump, pool covers and circulation pump.

##### Tourism, Economic Development and Commercial Activities, and Mackenzie District Regional Tourism Organisation (2022/23)

There are 31 Regional Tourism Organisations (RTOs) throughout New Zealand. MDC is the RTO for the Mackenzie district. Previously the RTO visitor promotion and marketing services had been sub-contracted to ChristchurchNZ. During the 2022/23 year, ChristchurchNZ withdrew from this contract. As a result, the promotion and marketing activities, and associated staff, were brought into the Council, with the focus being to ensure that the transfer was as seamless as possible.

##### Te Manahuna Ki Uta (TMKU)/Mackenzie Destination Management Plan (2022/23)

In August 2022 Council adopted Te Manahuna Ki Uta as our long-term destination management plan. Following completion, the next phase was to explore the priority projects identified, investigate funding opportunities and undertake feasibility studies



where required. During the 2022/23 year Council was successful in securing external funding for the following TMKU initiatives – Tekapo Master Plan, Pou Whenua (concept and storytelling) and Alps to Ocean (A2O) project development.

## 2023/24

### Transportation

#### Streetlighting Replacement Programme (2023/24) (\$403,000)



All of the Council street lights and lighting bollards have now been upgraded to LED, compliant with lighting restrictions within Mackenzie and supporting our gold-tier international dark sky reserve status. NZTA Waka Kotahi managed the State Highway upgrades separately.

### Three Waters

#### Twizel Ring Main Replacement (2023/24) (\$3.8 million)



The Twizel ring main replacement project upgraded the water infrastructure along Mackenzie Drive. It involved replacing old asbestos concrete pipes. The new pipes have greater capacity to support future growth and prevent issues. This project highlights our commitment to maintaining and improving essential services for the community.

#### Fairlie Water Treatment Plant (2023/24)

This project started in 2022/23 and was completed in July 2023.

#### Smart Water Meter Installation (2024/25 to 2025/26)

We are rolling out smart water meters across the district starting with Twizel, followed by Tekapo, Burkes Pass and Fairlie. Commercial water meters are already installed across the district. By installing meters at consumption points, we can calculate real water loss between the plant and consumers, identifying leaks and targeting repairs. The meters also detect property leaks, allowing us to alert homeowners and prevent large bills from undetected leaks.

### Waste Management and Minimisation (2024/30)

Council adopted the new Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2024/30. This plan sets the direction for waste minimisation activities for the next six years and seeks to align our waste activity with the New Zealand Waste Strategy. An ambitious range of targets have been identified to help the district reduce the amount of waste that is generated and sent to landfill and to reduce emissions from landfill waste.

### Governance and Corporate Services

#### Fairlie Administration Building Upgrade (2023/24)

Seismic strengthening to IL3 standard has been completed, along with the installation of a lift, and the upgraded of the Customer Services area.

### Parks and Community Facilities



#### Fairlie Dog Park (2023/24)

This Community Board project is a multiyear project. Stage one included levelling, grassing, fencing, adding a water supply, a drinking fountain, a dog waste bin and seating. Future improvements are planned as funding can be sourced.

#### Lake Ruataniwha, Fairlie and Pukaki Public Toilets

New toilets blocks were completed in these three locations, funded largely by a grant from the Government Tourism Infrastructure Fund (TIFF) with a 15% contribution from ratepayers.

#### Twizel Event Centre

The kitchen upgrade was completed in 2023/24.

#### Twizel swimming pool upgrade

A more accessibility-friendly stair entry was installed and upgrades for wheelchair and better ambulance access were completed.



**Strathconan (Fairlie) Swimming Pool Upgrade (\$214,000)**

Upgrades to the filtration and heating systems were completed before the start of the season in 2023.

**Cemetery Land Purchase (\$168,000)**

Council purchased the land for the future expansion of the cemetery. This was paid for from reserves.

**Peace Avenue Tree Works (\$188,000)**

There are over 493 Peace trees along the State Highway 8 around Fairlie. In February/March 2024 a large number of the Peace trees were carefully pruned by a specialist arborist, including some specific trees that had been identified by NZTA as restricting traffic access (eg wide or large loads).

Following work done to date, we are undertaking maintenance and replacement as required over the ten years from 2024 to 2034 (\$869,058 over 10 years).

**Lake Tekapo Firebreak**

The tidy up of the firebreak was completed. The work included further forestry and wilding pine removals around the Tekapo River.

## 2024/25 and beyond

**Three Waters****Water Pipes Renewal Programme (2024/25 to 2033/34)**

We will continue to replace asbestos cement, cast iron and galvanised steel water mains and service connections across our water supply network in every year for the next 10 years with projects across all our towns. Investment in the programme starts at in 2024/25 (\$180,000) with spending reaching a peak in years six and seven of the plans (\$1,617,309). To a total of \$4.04 million over 10 years.

**Allandale/Spur Road Water Supply (2025/26 to 2026/27)**

We need to upgrade the Allandale/Spur Road water supply to meet drinking water standards for households connected to the supply. We will be discussing this with the users prior to making final decisions and undertaking any work. To capture this in our plan we have included one of the options which is to connect the supply to the new Fairlie water treatment plant (\$3.44 million over 10 years).

**Twizel Intensification and Growth (2031/32 to 2032/33).**

We need to provide more pipes and pumps for water supply to allow for subdivisions and increased residential housing within Twizel to progress (\$2.42m over 10 years).

**Lake Tekapo East Resilience Project with Reservoir and Telemetry (2028/29 to 2029/30)**

We need to upgrade Lake Tekapo water supply and make supplies to properties East of the bridge more resilient with a reservoir and a feed line. (\$1.56m over 10 years).

**Lake Tekapo Wastewater Treatment Plant (2024/25 to 2027/28) (\$8.48 million)**

An upgrade of the wastewater treatment plant is required as the current plant and the discharge site have reached their capacity. Council will review its proposed interim solution to increase capacity of the Lake Tekapo wastewater treatment plant.

We have included budget for this interim solution, \$8.48 million over 10 years, in the LTP (the full replacement could cost up to \$47 million). Ground proofing and investigating a further long-term, cost-effective solution continues. Council will continue to advocate to central government for funding to assist with this project.

**Pipe Replacement Programme (2024/25 to 2033/34)**

Many of our pipes and connections are aging and we have an ongoing programme of renewal in our towns. The new pipes will enable us to cope with growth throughout the district and improve reliability. We are also installing a new pressure main in Lake Tekapo in year 2030/31 and upgrading the reticulation along Lakeside Drive, Lake Tekapo (\$5.65 million over 10 years).

**Intensification and Growth (2031/32 to 2032/33)**

We plan to increase wastewater storage and pump stations to assist District Plan Change 21 which allows more housing development (\$2.76m over 10 years). Stormwater pipe replacement programme (2025/26 and 2029/30, 2030/31) We will improve our stormwater and drainage networks including an extensive programme of pipe renewals and upgrades planned in Fairlie's Sloane Street, Regent Street and around the fire station (\$2.9m over 10 years).

### **Modelling of our Stormwater Networks (2027/28 to 2029/30)**

We will be modelling our stormwater networks over three years to get a better understanding of the primary and secondary flow paths so we can coordinate and prioritise future works (\$165,395).

### **Flooding Alleviation (2028/29)**

We need to improve the resilience of our stormwater network across the district's townships to mitigate flood impacts (\$221,000).

## **Transportation**

### **Unsealed Road Metalling (2024/25 to 2033/34)**

Of the 732 km of roads in our network 520km are unsealed. We have budgeted for a programme of ongoing metalling of our unsealed roads to replace gravel that is lost due to wear and tear in every year of this 10-year plan (\$9.16 million over 10 years).

### **Ongoing Sealed Road Resurfacing Upgrades (2024/25 to 2033/34)**



We have a 10-year programme to reseal the existing sealed roads at appropriate intervals across our network (\$8.55 million over 10 years).

### **Renewing our Bridges (2024/25 to 2033/34)**

We are well behind with renewing our bridges. Our aim is to renew one of our 97 bridges every year and we have allocated \$8.29 million for this.

The Council has deferred the replacement of our largest bridge, the Cass River Bridge, and has called for a detailed business case. Instead, \$282,000 remains in year 3 for bridge renewals district wide. The council's commitment to replacing the Cass River is conditional on consultation with and funding from stakeholders.

### **Road Drainage Renewals (2024/25 to 2033/34)**

Planned work to improve drainage on our roading network includes upgrading our culverts and water-tabling along our roadsides. This is a resilience project as we prepare for more weather severe events (\$2.02 million over 10 years).

### **Upgrading of Footpaths (2024/25 to 2033/34)**

We have 69km of footpaths in our towns and have allocated funding every year for footpath upgrades and renewals (\$3.01 million over 10 years).

### **Minor Improvements (2024/25 to 2033/34)**

We have an ongoing programme of minor improvements including signs, rails, and barriers to improve road safety in our district (\$5.48 million over 10 years).

### **Alps to Ocean (A2O) (2024/25)**

The A2O cycle trail, a 312km trail beginning at Aoraki Mt Cook National Park, going through the Mackenzie basin and down the Waitaki Valley to Oamaru, is one of our major tourist attractions. It requires significant additional investment to complete off-roading of the sections along the east of Lake Pūkaki.

### **Master Plan Funding (2024/25)**



### **Fairlie, Lake Tekapo and Twizel (\$100,000)**

Costs of the Lake Tekapo plan are covered by Central Government's Better Off funding.

The council will allocate funding from the property operating reserve for the Twizel Market Place Urban Design and Fairlie Master Plans.

### **Twizel Events Centre (2024/25)**

The centre, built in 2001, is a key facility for the Twizel community. We have completed a lot of work in recent years upgrading the building to ensure its compliance with various standards. We plan to spend \$200,000 upgrading the centre's ventilation system. This centre, along with those at Fairlie and Lake Tekapo, requires a structural upgrade but the cost of these works are not included in the current LTP.

## **Parks and reserves**

### **Man-made Hill, Twizel (2024/25 and 2025/26)**

The hill is a popular recreational area in Twizel. As a result of a development project, it has a bike track and walkways. We will finish the final stage of track development and planting (\$291,500).

### **Ongoing and Future Upgrades**

### **Twizel Sports Fields and Potential Community Hub**

The Council is continuing to support community-led initiatives and has allocated \$30,000 in the LTP to kick start a community-led project for a community hub in Twizel which may also include the permanent library. The Council will continue its annual operational grant to the Twizel Community Care Trust for the community care centre. Twizel's only sports fields are currently in the school grounds.



**Twizel Library Facilities (\$105,000)**

We are committed to providing library services in Twizel. We currently provide funding for the Twizel Area School shared library. Recognising that the school is being redeveloped we have allocated funding in our plan for an interim library with staff now working alongside the community to identify possible sites. The school has given notice and we are moving to an interim library during the 2025/6 financial year.

**Moving Squash Courts in Lake Tekapo (2025/26)**

The current squash courts in Lake Tekapo are in Simpson Lane near the lake. There have been discussions for many years regarding the potential to build new courts adjacent to the community hall. The council is reaffirming its commitment to a 2019 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Tekapo Squash and Rackets Club and has agreed to allocate \$500,000 to progress the relocation of the current squash courts.

**Pukaki Airport**

An airport planning exercise is being scoped. Council intends to work with key stakeholders during 2025/26 to develop a masterplan to guide future airport developments.

**Lake Alexandrina (2024/25 to 2026/27)**

We will continue with our programme of native restoration and developing the carpark (\$239,135).

**Wilding pine removal from council land (2024/25 to 2033/34)**

Wilding pines are a challenge across the district. Removing wilding pines from council land is a priority to reduce the fire risk and for environmental protection (reducing seed source and ongoing spread).

We sought feedback on the level of our investment (\$833,500 currently budgeted over 10 years). We acknowledge the feedback received in the consultation process and our budget includes spending \$75,000 a year on wilding removal over several years.

## Future Upgrades

**Upgrades in Fairlie (2027/28 and 2028/29)**

We plan to upgrade the Fairlie Domain playground to bring it up to specifications in year 4 of our LTP. We have also budgeted for enhancements to lighting and signage in year 5 (\$596,715).

**Cemeteries (2026/31)**

We will spend \$300,834 on works at our cemeteries including developing the extension at Fairlie, clearing wilding pines and replanting at Twizel, and installing a rabbit-proof fence and removing conifers at Burkes Pass.

**Mackenzie Community Centre (2028/29)**

The Mackenzie Community Centre requires a structural upgrade to meet building standards and mould needs to be removed from the building. We plan to spend \$2.4 million on this work in year 5 of the LTP. Staff will engage with the community on how we can improve the centre and the way its spaces can be used.

**Fairlie Elderly Housing/Potential Aged Care Facilities**

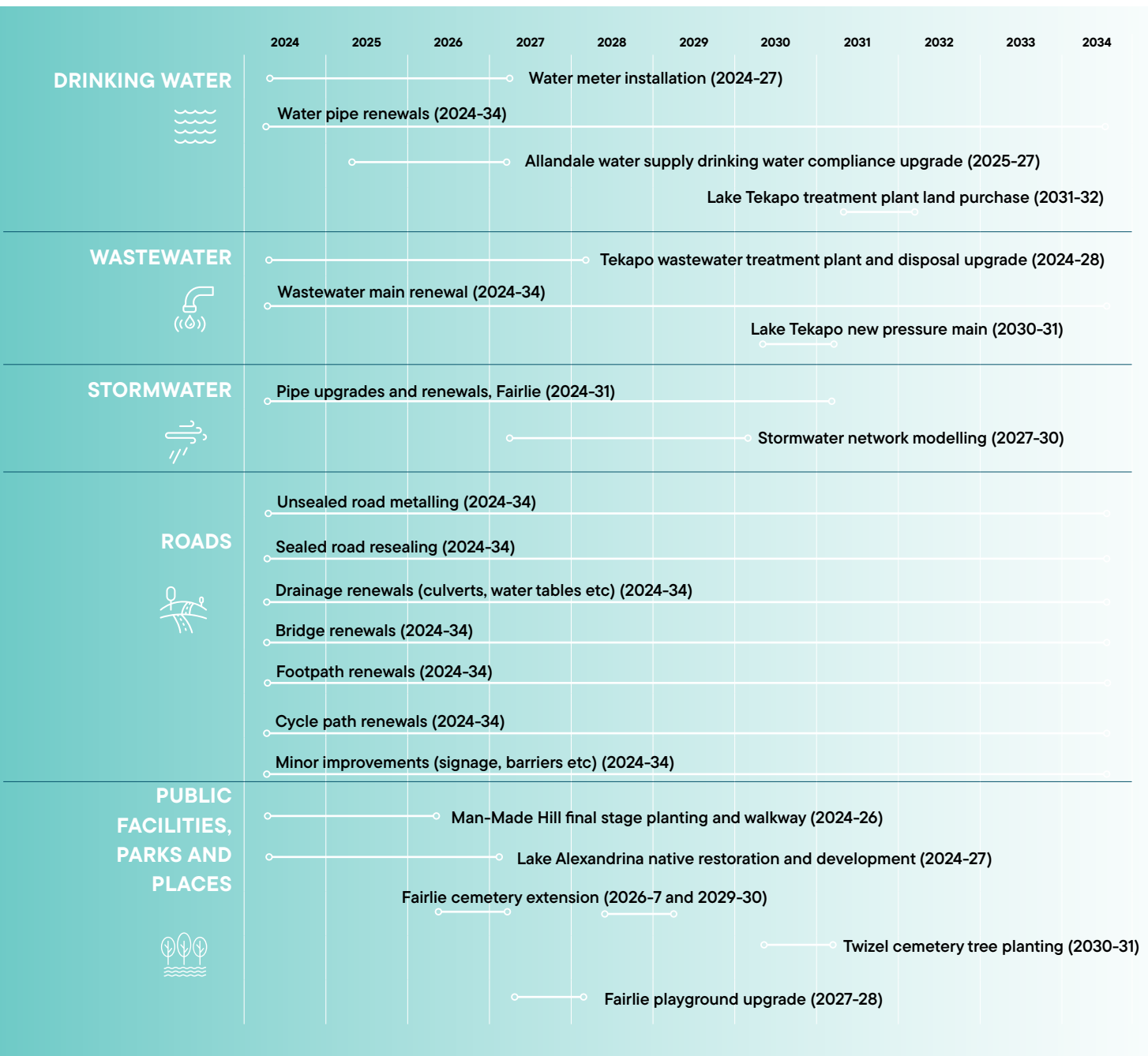
A community trust has been investigating the potential for elderly housing and/or aged care facilities in Fairlie (in addition to the Council's existing pensioner flats). In 2023/24 Council granted \$30,000 to the trust for further site investigations. No further funding is included in this LTP, but it is anticipated that the results of this investigation will be provided to Council, and Council may make future decisions as matters develop.

**Housing**

Council recognises that housing is a serious issue across the Mackenzie, including issues such as housing affordability, housing typology/variety (including the lack of suitable worker housing, elderly housing, young/small family housing), the standard of housing, and the high numbers of houses used for short term rentals.

Council recently commissioned a stocktake which highlights these and other issues, and long-standing investigations of potential joint venture housing. Council plans to develop a policy for short-term lets. Additional medium density zoning has been added to the district as part of the District Plan Review.





The investment in Three Waters and Transportation is guided by the 30 Year Infrastructure Strategy (2021-50) published within our Long Term Plan. Council is also investing in facilities and reserves across the district. Of particular focus within this strategy are:

- Renewal and replacement of aging infrastructure,
- Responding to increased standards and changing priorities, and
- Delivering sustainable infrastructure to a growing population.

# Performance Against Our Financial Strategy

**Council's financial strategy outlines how we will manage our finances. It sets out Council's general approach and the principles that we will follow and provides a guide to assess spending proposals.**

The Strategy includes limits on rates levels, rates rise and borrowing and aims to promote financial stability and affordability over the short, medium and long-term.

**Mackenzie District Council's current financial strategy, as set out in our Long Term Plan 2024-2034, Part 4, aims to ensure Council remains financially stable while financing key priorities.**

This section outlines how Council is tracking against this financial strategy and the preceding strategy outlined in the Long Term Plan 2024 - 2034. The key strategy measures for local government are prescribed by the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014.

The table below shows Council's actual performance across the three years preceding this year's election for these

## Key financial measures.

Overall, Mackenzie has performed well against these targets with the underspend on network assets in 2019-20 recovered in the following year and rates increases averaging 8.6% over defined limits.

KEY FUNDING AND FINANCIAL PARAMETERS		ANNUAL REPORT		FORECAST
		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
<b>Rates increases</b> 9% including inflation (LGCI)*	Limit	9.0%	9.0%	9.0%
	Actual	17.4%	9.6%	14.2%
	Achieved	✗	✗	✗
<b>Borrowing</b> Debt to total revenue ratio	Limit	175.0%	175.0%	175.0%
	Actual	45.4%	74.6%	80.9%
	Achieved	✓	✓	✓
<b>Balanced Budget</b> Revenue is equal to or greater than expenditure**	Limit	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	Actual	78.0%	81.7%	88.4%
	Achieved	✗	✗	✗
<b>Essential Services</b> Capital expenditure to depreciation ratio	Limit	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	Actual	124.1%	254.0%	131.4%
	Achieved	✓	✓	✓
<b>Debt servicing benchmark</b> Borrowing costs are equal or less than 10% of revenue**	Limit	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%
	Actual	1.7%	3.1%	3.4%
	Achieved	✓	✓	✓

\* LGCI is the Local Government Cost Index.

\*\* Revenue and expenditure as defined in the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014.



Projections to 30 June 2029 show the rates increase for the 2025–26 financial year exceeds the target, as signalled in the LTP. The balanced budget provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 (s100) allow a council to not fully fund all expenditure (including depreciation) provided it can demonstrate that it

is financially prudent to do so. We have previously decided not to fully cash fund the depreciation cost of various assets where we believe funds will be available from third parties (e.g. Waka Kotahi NZ Transport) or we do not expect to renew or replace an asset at the end of its useful life.

KEY FUNDING AND FINANCIAL PARAMETERS		ANNUAL PLAN	LONG TERM PLAN FORECASTS			
		2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	
<b>Rates increases</b> 9% + inflation (LGCI)*	Limit	9.0%	9.0%	9.0%	9.0%	
	Actual	10.7%	6.8%	6.8%	4.8%	
	Achieved	✗	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Borrowing</b> Debt to total revenue ratio	Limit	175.0%	175.0%	175.0%	175.0%	
	Actual	76.9%	78.3%	77.1%	69.2%	
	Achieved	✓	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Balanced Budget</b> Revenue is equal to or greater than expenditure**	Limit	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	
	Actual	88.4%	99.4%	99.2%	101.0%	
	Achieved	✗	✗	✗	✓	
<b>Essential Services</b> Capital expenditure to depreciation ratio	Limit	100%	100%	100%	100%	
	Actual	88.3%	215.4%	111.2%	73.2%	
	Achieved	✗	✓	✓	✗	
<b>Debt servicing benchmark</b> Borrowing costs are equal or less than 10% of revenue**	Limit	10%	10%	10%	10%	
	Actual	3.6%	3.4%	4.1%	3.9%	
	Achieved	✓	✓	✓	✓	

\* LGCI is the Local Government Cost Index.

\*\* Revenue and expenditure as defined in the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014.

Note: The requirement to set limits on rates income was removed from legislation in 2019.



# Our Finances

The following pages summarise some key financial information about Mackenzie District Council including actual financial results for the two financial years ending 30 June 2023 and 2024; and forecast performance for the following five years through to 30 June 2029.

## 1. Funding Impact Statement

Rates continue to be the largest contributor to Council's operating income in future forecasts.

Subsidies and grants are major contributors to capital funding however debt is drawn down from the 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2026-27 financial years as major projects to replace and upgrade three waters infrastructure are undertaken.

<b>Funding Impact Statements for the years ended 30 June 2023-2029</b>	<b>Annual Report</b>		<b>Forecast</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Long Term Plan 2024-34</b>		
<b>\$000</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>	<b>2027-28</b>	<b>2028-29</b>
<b>Sources of operating funding</b>							
General rates, uniform annual general charge, rates penalties	6,959	7,687	8,492	8,508	10,402	10,714	11,002
Targeted rates	7,673	8,387	9,871	11,734	11,243	12,394	13,208
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	4,125	2,284	2,552	1,958	1,511	1,361	1,405
Fees and charges	2,570	2,663	2,162	2,742	2,236	2,288	2,340
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees, other receipts	3,004	2,551	3,948	3,189	3,843	2,685	2,491
Interest and dividends from investments	617	503	361	436	465	467	605
<b>Total operating funding</b>	<b>24,948</b>	<b>24,076</b>	<b>27,386</b>	<b>28,567</b>	<b>29,700</b>	<b>29,909</b>	<b>31,051</b>
<b>Applications of operating funding</b>							
Payments to staff and suppliers	26,292	25,036	25,601	24,302	23,625	22,821	23,335
Finance costs	451	846	1,005	1,074	1,065	1,285	1,277
Other operating funding applications	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total applications of operating funding</b>	<b>26,743</b>	<b>25,883</b>	<b>26,606</b>	<b>25,376</b>	<b>24,690</b>	<b>24,106</b>	<b>24,612</b>
<b>Surplus (deficit) of operating funding</b>	<b>(1,795)</b>	<b>(1,807)</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>3,190</b>	<b>5,010</b>	<b>5,803</b>	<b>6,439</b>
<b>Sources of capital funding</b>							
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	1,409	3,332	2,586	1,306	1,675	1,469	1,503
Development and financial contributions	1,196	556	543	706	1,053	1,078	1,103
Increase (decrease) in debt	1,114	9,442	3,000	459	4,634	(127)	(908)
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	100	9	22	-	-	-	-
Lump sum contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total sources of capital funding</b>	<b>3,819</b>	<b>13,340</b>	<b>6,151</b>	<b>2,471</b>	<b>7,362</b>	<b>2,420</b>	<b>1,698</b>
<b>Applications of capital funding</b>							
Capital expenditure							
- to meet additional demand	246	-	235	335	5,293	2,914	3
- to improve the level of services	5,124	13,679	3,764	3,639	2,992	1,286	3,797
- to replace existing assets	4,803	5,453	5,839	3,464	4,012	3,648	3,687
Increase (decrease) in reserves	5,264	(3,303)	(2,907)	(1,777)	-	-	-
Increase (decrease) in investments	(13,413)	(4,296)	-	-	75	375	650
<b>Total applications of capital funding</b>	<b>2,024</b>	<b>11,533</b>	<b>6,931</b>	<b>5,661</b>	<b>12,372</b>	<b>8,223</b>	<b>8,137</b>
<b>Surplus (deficit) of capital funding</b>	<b>1,795</b>	<b>1,807</b>	<b>(780)</b>	<b>(3,190)</b>	<b>(5,010)</b>	<b>(5,803)</b>	<b>(6,439)</b>
<b>FUNDING BALANCE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## 2. Summary Balance Sheet

Council's balance sheet remains strong during this period with Council debt expected to remain less than 10% of the total asset value.

### Summary Statement Of Financial Position as at 30 June 2023-2029

	Annual Report		Forecast	Budget	Long Term Plan 2024-34		
\$000	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
<b>Assets</b>							
Current assets	19,807	10,164	11,666	14,201	16,192	16,693	17,472
Financial assets	14,210	15,876	16,068	16,668	17,002	17,654	18,332
Property, plant and equipment	353,996	389,683	391,087	396,586	468,586	469,548	475,206
Intangible assets	3,217	3,707	3,952	3,933	3,218	3,218	3,218
Investment property	5,334	5,684	5,824	5,698	5,373	5,385	5,397
Other assets	342	342	342	342	342	342	342
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>396,906</b>	<b>425,456</b>	<b>428,939</b>	<b>437,428</b>	<b>510,713</b>	<b>512,840</b>	<b>519,967</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>							
Borrowing	11,540	20,811	23,811	23,652	25,649	25,522	24,614
Other liabilities	7,031	7,108	8,374	6,906	7,472	7,599	7,728
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>18,571</b>	<b>27,918</b>	<b>32,185</b>	<b>30,558</b>	<b>33,121</b>	<b>33,121</b>	<b>32,342</b>
<b>Ratepayer Equity</b>	<b>378,335</b>	<b>397,539</b>	<b>396,754</b>	<b>406,870</b>	<b>477,592</b>	<b>479,719</b>	<b>487,625</b>





## Key Election Dates

**Fri  
4 July**

Candidate nominations open. Roll opens for public inspection

**Fri  
1 Aug**

Ratepayer electoral roll closes

**Fri  
1 Aug**

Candidate nominations close (at noon)

Candidates Announced

**Fri  
8 Aug**

**9-22  
Sept**

Voting papers sent to enrolled voters

Voting opens

**Tues  
9 Sept**

**Sat  
11 Oct**

Voting closes (at noon)

Progress and preliminary results published

**Tues  
9 Sept**

**Mon  
13 Oct**

Final results announced after the official count

**Fri  
17 Oct**

Official declaration of results

### How do I enrol to vote?

You can enrol as a resident if you:

- are 18 years or older are a New Zealand citizen or permanent
- resident have lived in Aotearoa New Zealand continuously for 12 months or more at some time in your life.
- If you're enrolled to vote for the parliamentary elections, then you're automatically enrolled for council elections too.

### To check if you're enrolled or to update your details

- Visit [vote.nz](http://vote.nz)
- Phone 0800 36 76 56 Freetext your name and address to 3676.

## Further Information

### **The Long Term Plan 2024–2034**

[www.mackenzie.govt.nz](http://www.mackenzie.govt.nz) > council > strategies plans and reports > [Long Term Plan 2024-2034](#)

The Long Term Plan, prepared every three years, is a strategic planning document which forecasts Council's budgets and project priorities over its ten year life.

Part four of this document includes our Infrastructure Strategy and our Financial Strategy.

### **Annual Report 2023/24**

[www.mackenzie.govt.nz](http://www.mackenzie.govt.nz) > council > strategies plans and reports > [Annual Report 2023 - 24](#)

The Annual Report is prepared every year to report on how the Council performed against its targeted budget and work programme for the year and to report any variations.

### **Annual Plan 2025/26**

[www.mackenzie.govt.nz](http://www.mackenzie.govt.nz) > council > strategies plans and reports > [Annual Plan 2025-26](#)

The Annual Plan is produced in the years when we do not produce a Long Term Plan. The Annual Plan updates the work programme and budget in detail for the year the plan cover

### **Three Waters Reform**

<https://threewaters.govt.nz/>

Central government's rationale and proposal for new organisations to deliver water supply, wastewater and stormwater services independent of local councils

### **Resource Management Act Reforms**

<https://environment.govt.nz> > what-government-is-doing > areas-of-work > rma > resource-management-system-reform

Information about the legislation to be introduced to create a new resource management system to replace the current Resource Management Act 1991







**Mackenzie**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL