




Tuakau-Pookeno General Ward

Some key towns in the ward include Tuakau, Pookeno, Harrisville.

Demographic Summary from Census 2023

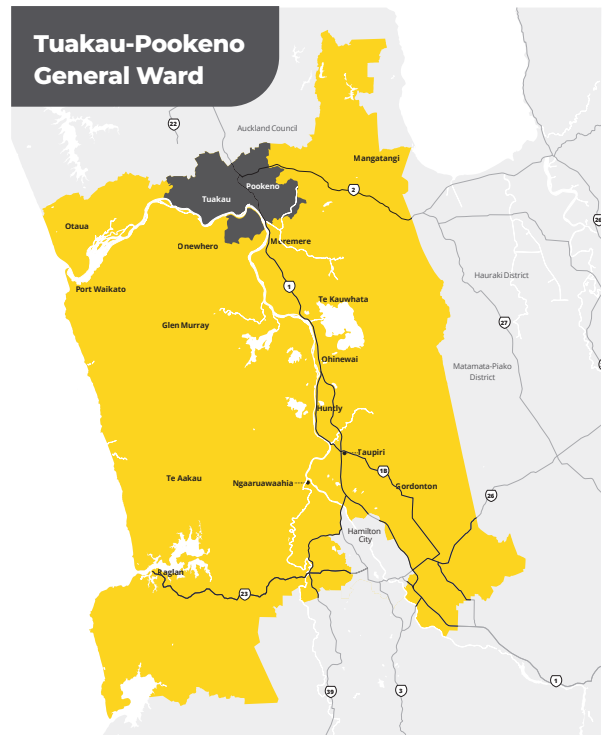
	Population (2023) 15,960		Median Age (2023) 35.4		Average Income (2023) \$51,400
	Population Growth (2013-2023) Rapid increase		Post-School Qualifications (%) 51% (Post-school) 49% (No)		Maaori Population (%) 21%

Here is a snapshot of Waikato District Council's plans for the Tuakau-Pookeno General Ward area in the draft 2025-2034 Long Term Plan (LTP).

Proposed rating impacts for the area

Pookeno (Residential)	2024/25	2025/26
Rating Valuation	950,000	950,000
Capital Value Rates	2,008.49	2,093.79
UAGC	526.15	548.5
Fixed Targeted Rates	3,085.43	3,512.64
Total Rates	5,620.07	6,154.93
Total % Increase		9.52%
Total \$ Increase		534.86
Increase per week		\$10.29

You can use our rates calculator at waikatodistrict.govt.nz/rid to see how the proposed rates might affect your property.



Key proposed projects and points of interest for your area over the next nine years



Capital Projects (First three years of the draft 2025-2034 Long Term Plan)

Project	Location	Timeline	Cost
Stormwater Ponds	Pookeno	Year 1	\$422,712
Tuakau Wastewater Extensions	Tuakau	Year 1 and 3	\$1.54 million (Year 1), \$2.20 million (Year 3)
Harrisville Road Reservoir Land Purchase and Upgrade	Tuakau	Year 1 and 2	\$1.50 million (Year 1), \$1.04 million (Year 2)
South Tuakau Reservoir Upgrades	Tuakau	Year 2 and 3	\$4.14 million (Year 2), \$10.17 million (Year 3)

In the Council's preferred option, the CCO will take over all water and wastewater services starting from year 2.

Consultation and Community Matters



Tuakau Waste Collection From 1 July 2027, wheelie bins will be replaced with a bag collection service. From 1 July 2025, new homes will receive bags instead of bins. If an old or damaged bin is no longer usable, it will be replaced with bags.

Pensioner Housing There are 34 pensioner housing units in Ngaaruwaahia, Huntly, and Tuakau. The Council is still considering whether to sell these units.

Museum Funding The Council is reviewing how to distribute the \$80,000 funding for museums. Currently, Tuakau Museum receives \$10,000 per year.

Tuakau Resource and Recovery Centre A new waste and recycling centre will open in the 2026/27 financial year.

South Tuakau Reservoir Upgrades Planned upgrades will take place in Year 2 and 3 of the Long Term Plan (LTP), costing \$4.14 million and \$10.17 million, respectively.

Pookeno Community Hub The new community hub's construction will now take two years to ensure a high-quality space for the community. It will be a flexible place for learning and connection, set to be completed by 30 June 2026.

Pookeno Munro Road Bridge Upgrades to Munro road bridge and road starting in year 3 of the LTP.

Pookeno Harrisville Road Bridge Upgrades to Harrisville road bridge and road starting in year 3 of the LTP.

Pookeno Walking and Cycling Improvements Walking and cycling improvements starting in year 3 of the LTP.

Impact on affordability

- This draft LTP proposes a general rate increase of 4.25% from 1 July 2025, with expected increases between 1.5% and 4.5% in subsequent years.
- Proposed investments over the next nine years include \$787.1 million in roading, \$651.1 million in drinking water, \$747.9 million in wastewater management, \$145.3 million in stormwater, and \$1,782.95 million in other core services.
- The focus of this LTP is on the 'must haves' and effective delivery of what we said we were going to do. While there are many aspirations and needs across the district, some are not affordable right now as we focus on maintaining services and projects within current budget constraints.
- Council costs have increased by 20 per cent since the previous LTP, with construction costs rising by 27 per cent. This requires careful planning and prioritisation for the draft 2025-2034 LTP and is reflected in our consultation document.

Have your say on what matters most

Ensuring local voices are heard is vital. Submissions on the draft LTP will be taken to council chambers for discussion and decision-making.

Share your views at waikatodistrict.govt.nz/say-it



Consultation on the draft 2025-2034 LTP runs from 11 April to 11 May 2025.