

Waerenga-Whitikahu General Ward

Some key towns in the ward include Meremere, Waerenga, Whitikahu, Mangawara, Te Kauwhata and Waiterimu.

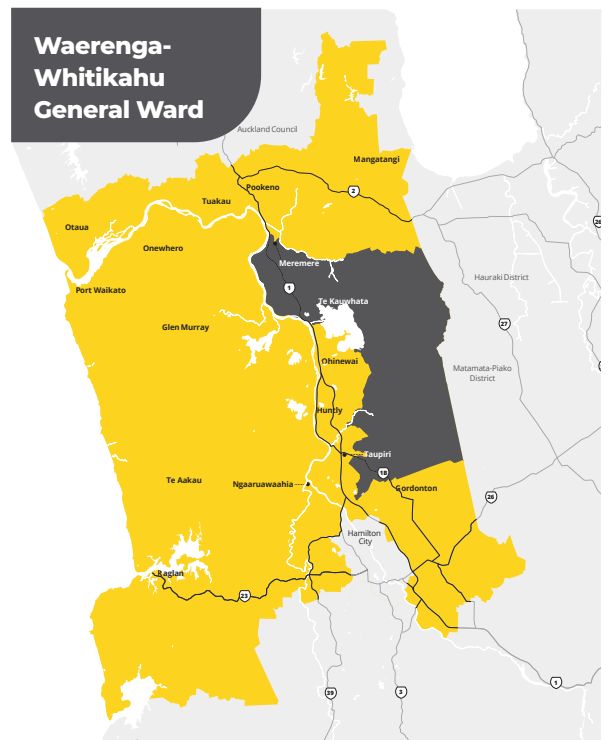
Demographic Summary from Census 2023

	Population (2023) 8,484		Median Age (2023) 37.7	Average Income (2023) \$48,200
	Population Growth (2013-2023) Strong increase		Post-School Qualifications (%) 49% (Post-school) 51% (No)	Māori Population (%) 25%

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

Proposed rating impacts for the area

Te Kauwhata (Residential)	2024/25	2025/26
Rating Valuation	675,000	675,000
Capital Value Rates	1,427.09	1,487.70
UAGC	526.15	548.5
Fixed Targeted Rates	3,062.43	3,489.64
Total Rates	5,015.67	5,525.83
Total % Increase		10.17%
Total \$ Increase		510.17
Increase per week		\$9.81



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	Timeline	Cost
Te Kauwhata Water Supply Treatment Plant Upgrade	Year 1 and Year 2	\$1,500,000 (Year 1), \$4,144,000 (Year 2)
Te Kauwhata Water Supply Reticulation Upgrades	Year 1 and Year 2	\$256,500 (Year 1), \$3,720,275 (Year 2)
Te Kauwhata Wastewater Treatment Plant Consent Renewal	Year 1-3	\$51,300 (Year 1), \$372,028 (Year 2), \$384,305 (Year 3)

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

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](https://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/say-it)



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