

What are my payment options if I decide to connect or connect later?

Current Estimated Capital costs and Development Contribution Charges (Including GST)			
Decide to Connect		Decide Not to Connect	
Estimated Capital cost of \$19,635.76	Option 1: A one-off payment due after project completed	Estimated Capital cost of \$19,635.76	Option 1: A one-off payment due after project completed
	Option 2: As targeted rates over a maximum period of 10 years		Option 2: As targeted rates over a maximum period of 10 years
Current Development Contribution charges of \$4,710.00	Required to pay when you connect to the network	Development Contribution charges	Pay only when you decide to connect in the future
Estimated Total to Pay	\$24,345.76	Estimated Total to Pay	\$19,635.76
Current Water Rates per annum			
Water serviced rates	\$577.73 per annum (fixed) + \$1.71/m³ for water usage	Water serviceable rates	\$866.60 per annum

What if I don't want to connect?

Your property will still be liable for targeted rates covering the capital cost of the project (but not the Development Contributions). In this case, your property will be considered water serviceable once the project is completed and will be charged the water serviceable rate, proposed at \$866.60 per annum (subject to change in later years).

What is the difference between Water Serviced and Water Serviceable?

Water Serviced means your property is

- connected, either directly or indirectly, through a private line to the Council's water supply network;
- in relation to any rate for the ordinary supply of water, any separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit to which water is supplied.

Water Serviceable means your property is

- capable of being effectively connected, either directly or through a private line to the Council's water supply network, but which is not so connected;
- in relation to any targeted rate for the ordinary supply of water, any rating unit to which water can be but is not supplied (being any rating unit situated within 100 meters from any part of the water reticulation system).

What is the meaning/definition of DC charge payables for Water extensions?

Development Contributions (DCs) are payments required by councils from developers (in this case the residents who are contributing for this extension) to help cover the cost of infrastructure needed to support growth.

In the context of water extensions, a DC charge is payable when a development:

- Creates additional demand on Council's water services; and
- Connects to Council's water network, regardless of whether the infrastructure is newly built or extended by the developer.

Under the Development Contributions Policy (DCP), any new dwelling or new lot is considered to generate one “unit of demand.” This charge applies even when connecting to existing infrastructure via an extension, as the overall network still needs to accommodate and serve the additional demand.

For more information, please refer to the Development Contributions page on the Council’s website.

Why do we need to pay DC charges in addition to the infrastructure contribution costs?

DC charges and infrastructure contributions serve different purposes and fund different types of costs:

Charge Type	What It Covers
Infrastructure Costs	Direct costs of installing or upgrading physical assets (e.g., pipes, pumps).
Development Contribution (DC)	A share of the cost of existing or planned network-wide infrastructure, like treatment plants, bulk mains, reservoirs, etc.

Even where local infrastructure is funded or constructed by a developer or existing residents, the development still benefits from the broader network infrastructure (treatment plant, reservoirs etc.). Development Contributions ensure that growth-related costs are fairly distributed among those who create the demand, rather than by existing ratepayers for the service.

For more information, please refer to the Development Contributions page on the Council’s website.

Why is the extension costing so much?

The extension requires the construction of an entirely new water supply pipeline network to service 145 properties (159 SUIP units) in the Wharekaho area. This new network must comply with the Taumata Arowai (Water Services Authority) water supply regulations and Council’s level of service for water supply and firefight requirements and provides quality infrastructure capable of managing seasonal demand.

What is a SUIP unit?

This means Separately Used or Inhabited Part of a rating unit includes any part inhabited or used by a person other than the owner, and who has the right to inhabit or use that part by virtue of a tenancy lease, license, or other agreement (such as a separate dwelling, flat, or unit on a property that receives its own water connection) and they will be charged individually.

This means that if your property contains multiple SUIPs as described above, it will be charged based on the number of those units, as each receives its own water/wastewater connection.

How do I know if I’m an affected property owner?

Every property owner has been provided with a letter outlining the project which is also being publicly advertised.

When did the Council decide on this?

The decision to plan and implement Water treatment and network improvements/extensions in Wharekaho was approved in the [2024-2034 Long Term Plan](#).

When would work on the extension project start and be completed?

It is proposed that the extension project starts in the 2026/27 financial year and projected to complete in early to mid-2028.

What are these new standards for water supply?

Changes have been made to the Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules 2022 which came into effect on 1 January 2025. This means public water suppliers have to follow strict monitoring and reporting plan to ensure the water is safe and regularly tested. More information on the rules can be found on the Taumata Arowai website:

[Standards, Rules, and Aesthetic Values | Taumata Arowai](#)
[Guidance on Rules for medium supplies | Taumata Arowai](#)

How can I share my thoughts on this Project?

Please take part in our online survey available on the project webpage. Hard copy feedback forms are also included with the community engagement letters we've sent out. These forms can also be downloaded via this same page or picked up from Council service centres, just ask for a copy from our friendly staff. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us on 07 868 0200 or customer.services@tcdd.govt.nz