

Some FAQ's

Highlights

For all services:

- Our charge out rate will increase by \$5/hour from 1 July 2021 for all services. Administrative resource management services will increase to \$115/hour. Consent processing and compliance monitoring services will increase to \$135/hour. Technical expert advice services will increase to \$150/hour.

For existing consent holders with consent monitoring charges

- The customer service charge will increase from \$40/year to \$70/year
- The cost to be recovered for state of the environment (SoE) monitoring charges from consent holders will increase from 12.6% to 15% of our total Environmental Science programme costs. This is proposed to come into effect from 1 July 2022

Why are changes proposed?

The Charging Policy has not changed since 2019. Costs to provide services have changed since then, so we are keeping up with these changes. The Council has also reconsidered the cost of monitoring the environment and the appropriate balance of cost being borne by the regional ratepayer and cost attributable to those undertaking consented activities that affect the environment.

How long will the charge as proposed be in place?

We intend to keep the charges in place for 3 years until 2024. However if costs for providing our services increase by more than 3.7% a further \$5/hour increase will be made to all our services.

What do state of the environment monitoring charges cover?

These charges cover the costs of us undertaking monitoring of the environment - groundwater, air quality, and our rivers, streams, and coasts.

What is the proposed increase for state of the environment monitoring charges?

The various consented activities will have a different increase in charges because the total consents and the Environmental Science programmes connected to those activities have changed over time. The highest increase is for discharge to air with a 60% average increase. The lowest increase is for discharges to land with a 10% average increase.

How will this affect my existing consent?

As SoE monitoring changes have changed in different ways for different consent types, we are happy to provide an itemised estimate of what your resource consent charge is proposed to be from 1 July 2022. Call us on 0800 496734 or e-mail a request to notifications@gw.govt.nz

How can I express my approval or disapproval to the changes?

You can make a submission to GWRC by 6 May 2021. You can do this by filling through an online submission form or downloading a submission form at <https://www.gw.govt.nz/have-your-say/>. Alternatively you can contact Stephen Thawley or Penny Fairbrother on 0800 496734 to present a verbal submission