



Why have I received this invoice?

The Council investigates alleged breaches of environmental legislation.

These may relate to a contravention of:

- The Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA)
- A National Environmental Standard
- A regulation
- A rule in a plan
- A resource consent

You have received this invoice because Council has carried out work under the RMA for which cost recovery applies.

Depending on your circumstances, charges may relate to:

- Investigation of a contravention, and/or
- Work associated with an abatement notice or enforcement order

Investigation Charges (Section 36(1)(caab))

When are these charges applied?

Council may investigate alleged non-compliance. Charges are applied only where:

- An investigation has been carried out; and
- An enforcement officer has formed the opinion that a contravention has occurred; and
- Work was required to determine the nature and extent of that contravention.

Abatement Notice and Enforcement Order Charges (Section 36(1)(caac))

When are these charges applied?

Charges may also apply where you are:

- The subject of an abatement notice, or
- The subject of an enforcement order

What do these charges cover?

Charges relate to Council's functions associated with the notice or order, including:

- Preparing and issuing the notice or order
- Administering the notice or order
- Ongoing supervision of requirements
- Monitoring compliance with the notice or order
- Follow-up inspections and verification

These charges reflect the ongoing work required to ensure compliance is achieved and maintained.

How Charges are Calculated

Charges are based on actual and reasonable costs incurred by Council. The formula for these charges is a fixed hourly charge rate multiplied by the officer's time.

Additional Charges

Where applicable, additional costs may include:

- Travel costs
- Laboratory analysis

Charges are applied to recover actual and reasonable costs incurred by Council.

Important Information

These charges are not a fine – they are **cost recovery only**.

They are separate from enforcement actions, which may include:

- Education or advice
- Formal warnings
- Abatement notices
- Infringement notices
- Prosecution

Why Council charges for this work

Council's approach is based on:

- Fairness to the wider community
- Ensuring those responsible for contraventions or subject to regulatory action bear the associated costs

How to Reduce Further Costs

You can help minimise costs by:

- Responding promptly to Council requests
- Providing accurate and timely information
- Complying with any notice or order issued
- Taking action to address issues as early as possible

Delays or continued non-compliance may result in additional costs.

Your Rights of Objection

The RMA provides a right of objection to additional charges made under section 36(7) of the Act.

Further Information

A copy of the following is available on Council's website:

- Fees and Charges Schedule
- RMA Enforcement Policy
- RMA Compliance Strategy

Council's Approach

Council carries out its compliance and enforcement functions in a manner that is:

- Fair and proportionate
- Consistent and transparent
- Evidence-based
- Focused on achieving positive environmental outcomes



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