



BETTER OFF FUNDING

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Q. What is the better off funding?

A. Under the Three Waters Reform programme, The Department of Internal Affairs has allocated \$7.88 million to Waikato District Council to spend on projects that meet the criteria of the fund. Waikato District Council wants our people to help design how we will spend this money and bring to life our vision of 'liveable, thriving, and connected communities.'

Q. Who can access this fund?

A. Anyone can access this fund. Whether you are an individual, part of a community group, represent a marae, or work for a local business, you are eligible. The projects applied for must meet the Department of Internal Affairs criteria as well as align to Waikato District's vision of liveable, thriving, connected communities, does not exceed the \$7.88 million maximum payable amount of the fund, and can be delivered before 30 June 2027.

Q. Where do I apply?

A. You will need to fill out an application form, which you can find on the Waikato District Council website.

Once you have completed your application, you can either:

- Print it off and post it to us (attention 3 Waters Reform Programme Manager)
- Drop it off to one of our offices
- Complete the editable PDF application and email it to betteroff@waidc.govt.nz

We recognize that words sometimes do not do justice to the kaupapa.

Therefore, in addition to filling out the application form, you can also make a video submission to support your application, attend one of our marae events, or one of our online 'zuis'.

For video submissions, we recommend making a private video on YouTube and emailing us the private link on betteroff@waidc.govt.nz along with your application form.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Q. Can I make multiple submissions?

A. Yes, you can make multiple submissions. You will need to complete a separate application form for each project in which you are applying for.

Q. Who makes the decision on whether my application is successful?

A. The assessment panel will assess the applications and develop a shortlist. This shortlist will be provided to our Councillors on 26 September 2022, who will make the decision on which projects are recommended to the DIA.

Our Councillors will also be given the other projects that did not make the shortlist with justifications from the assessment panel as to why they were not recommended.

The final decision, however, is the Department of Internal Affairs' to make. Once our Councillors decide which projects to put forward, Council will send the list to the DIA for final decisions.

Q. Is there a limit on how much I can apply for?

A. The projects cannot commit Waikato District Council beyond the maximum payable amount through the Better-off Fund under tranche 1, which is valued at \$7.88 million.

Q. How long are applications open for?

A. Applications open on Monday 18 July and close at 5.00pm on Friday 19 August 2022.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Q. Is there any support available to help me with my application?

A. Yes there is:

- You can email us at betteroff@waidc.govt.nz if you have any questions.
- We will host two online drop-in sessions via Zoom (these will be shared via Waikato District Council Facebook page). The two drop in sessions will provide a chance to speak with an assessment panel member and ask any questions you may have. These two online drop-ins (zuis) are:
 1. Thursday 21 July 2022 6:30pm-7:30pm
 2. Friday 22 July 2022 12:30-1:30pm
- We will also be hosting presentation sessions at local marae which gives you a chance to speak about your project *kanohi ki te kanohi* (face to face) with 2 panel members, ask any questions, and get guidance on how to fortify your application for success. For more information on marae presentation sessions, please contact Sam Toka sam.toka@waidc.govt.nz

Q. Do I have to go to a marae to present further on my project?

A. No, you are not required to attend a marae hui to apply for the funding. All applicants must complete an application form and send it to us by 5.00pm on Friday, 19 August 2022.

To support you in your application, we encourage attendance at either an online Q&A or marae hui, as this will enable you to interact with an assessment panelist and ask any questions you may have.

