

Consultation FAQs

Q. Why does Maritime NZ do funding reviews?

A. The purpose of a funding review is to ensure we are sustainably funded for the range of regulatory activities and functions required under legislation. Transport sector agencies are required to carry out a full review of fees, levies and Crown funding every six years, with a mid-point review every three years.

Funding for Maritime NZ comes from a combination of:

- levies (Maritime Levies, Health and Safety at Work Act Levy (the Working Safer Levy), Fuel Excise Duty (FED), Oil Pollution Levies)
- direct fees
- Crown funding

Q. Why did Maritime NZ have a funding review consultation in 2023?

A. A review of maritime levies rates was originally scheduled to occur during 2021/22. Government agreed to delay this review due to the disruption from COVID-19 impacts, and the interim funding they have been providing Maritime NZ to cover this will finish on 30 June 2024.

Over July – August 2023, we consulted to get feedback on proposed changes to Maritime Levies and Oil Pollution Levies. Following a thorough review of submissions we made recommendations to the Minister of Transport. Cabinet has agreed to the changes and we are now working to ensure levies changes go through legislation and will take effect from 1 July 2024.

Levies FAQs

Q. Do Maritime Levies apply to me and what are they used for?

A. Maritime Levies apply to all commercial ships (New Zealand and foreign) operating in New Zealand waters, whether on a permanent, temporary, or occasional basis.

Funding from Maritime Levies allows us to maintain important functions critical to maritime safety and protection of the marine environment.

Q. Do Oil Pollution Levies (OPL) apply to me and what are they used for?

A. The OPL funds New Zealand's oil spill preparedness and response functions. It applies to all commercial vessels over 100 gross tons and more than 24 metres in length (except those operating in fresh water) that use oil as fuel and/or carry oil as cargo.

Q. How much are levies increasing and when will this happen?

A. The changes for different vessels have varying percentages of increases or decreases, please have a look at our website page for more details.

The factors used to calculate the Maritime Levies have increased by 27.6% and the percentage of sector share of Oil Pollution Levies varies across sectors depending on the risk brought to the system through a particular sector.

The changes are expected to be in place from 1 July 2024. In the interim, the levy rates currently set out in legislation continue to apply.

Q. How do I know what I will pay from 1 July 2024?

A. You can calculate your Maritime Levy charge by using the 'Estimate your levy' online tool here: www.maritimenz.govt.nz/funding. This will give you an estimate of your Maritime Levies charge and Oil Pollution Levies charge from 1 July 2024.