



**I, Kitea Tipuna, Tumu Whakarae Chief Executive, hereby give notice that
Infrastructure and Regulatory Committee Meeting will be held on:**

Date: Tuesday, 23 April 2024
Time: 1:30 pm
Location: Council Chamber, Wairoa District Council,
Coronation Square, Wairoa

AGENDA

Infrastructure and Regulatory Committee Meeting

23 April 2024

MEMBERSHIP: His Worship the Mayor Craig Little, Cr Chaans Tumataroa-Clarke, Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare, Mr Chris Olsen, Cr Benita Cairns

The agenda and associated papers are also available on our website: www.wairoadc.govt.nz

For further information please contact us 06 838 7309 or by email info@wairoadc.govt.nz

Order Of Business

1	Karakia.....	5
2	Apologies for Absence	5
3	Declarations of Conflict of Interest	5
4	Chairperson’s Announcements	5
5	Late Items of Urgent Business.....	5
6	Public Participation	5
7	Minutes of the Previous Meeting.....	5
8	General Items.....	12
8.1	Planning and Regulatory Report - February and March Update 2024	12
8.2	Assets & Infrastructure Group - Update	18
9	Public Excluded Items.....	46
9.1	WAIROA WASTEWATER DISCHARGE CONSENT IMPLEMENTATION - UPATE.....	46

- 1 KARAKIA**
- 2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 3 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**
- 4 CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- 5 LATE ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS**
- 6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A maximum of 30 minutes has been set aside for members of the public to speak on any item on the agenda. Up to 5 minutes per person is allowed. As per Standing Order 15.1 requests to speak must be made to the Chief Executive Officer at least one clear day before the meeting; however this requirement may be waived by the Chairperson. Requests should also outline the matters that will be addressed by the speaker(s).

7 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Ordinary Meeting - 26 March 2024

**MINUTES OF WAIROA DISTRICT COUNCIL
INFRASTRUCTURE AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WAIROA DISTRICT COUNCIL, CORONATION SQUARE, WAIROA
ON TUESDAY, 26 MARCH 2024 AT 10:01 AM**

PRESENT: Cr Chaans Tumataroa-Clarke, Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare, Mr Chris Olsen (via Zoom),

IN ATTENDANCE: **Kitea Tipuna** (Tumu Whakarae | Chief Executive), **Hinetaakoha Viriaere** (Pouwhakarae Whakamahere me te Waeture | Group Manager Planning & Regulatory), **Michael Hardie** (Pouwhakarae – Hua Pūmau | Group Manager Assets and Infrastructure), **Sarayde Tapine** (Kaiurungi Kaupapa Here me Mana Ārahi | Policy and Governance Advisor), **Lisa Malde** (NZTA Acting Regional Manager), **Aydan Chatterton** (NZTA Area Programme Manager, Central North Island),

1 KARAKIA

The Opening Karakia was given by the Chair Chaans Tumataroa-Clarke.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

APOLOGIES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2024/92

Moved: Cr Chaans Tumataroa-Clarke

Seconded: Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare

That the apologies received from His Worship the Mayor Craig Little and Cr Benita Cairns be accepted and leave of absence granted.

CARRIED

3 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil.

4 CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair acknowledged the passing of a long contributing member to the Wairoa community, Gary Mayo following his fight with Cancer.

5 LATE ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A maximum of 30 minutes has been set aside for members of the public to speak on any item on the agenda. Up to 5 minutes per person is allowed. As per Standing Order 14.14

requests to speak must be made to the meeting secretary at least one clear day before the meeting; however this requirement may be waived by the Chairperson.

NZTA PRESENTATION – Wairoa District, Discussing the ‘why’ and ‘how’ of walking and cycling in Wairoa

The Group Manager – Assets and Infrastructure introduced NZTA attendees Lisa and Ayden while also noting that discussions around inviting NZTA to a infrastructure committee to hear the committees roading concerns, predominantly around the state highway that runs through the middle of the town. He noted that Lisa’s attendance was to discuss some of these issues alongside walking and cycling in Wairoa.

Lisa noted the need for identifying those opportunities for walking and cycling linkages for the community as this will put the Council in a better position to move forward with that plan and to receive funding. Lisa further spoke to the current draft GPS on land transport and the NLTP noting that the current strategic priorities identified by the current government are economic growth and productivity, increased maintenance and resilience, safety and value for money and this will drive the direction for NZTA. She also highlighted:

- Other sources of funding through nationally delivered activities such as Streets for People for example. She also noted crown funding and local share as other sources of funding.
- Case study in Waipawa Central Hawke’s Bay – State highway runs through the middle of town as well with community concerns around speed and volume of vehicles going through the township. A town centre masterplan brought the community together on how to address the issue of the highway environment. NZTA worked with Waipawa initially around the temporary fix off jutter bars, however, the community wanted a permanent solution. She noted that it is a comprehensive, streamlined and collaborative process co-designed along the community who therefore have buy in into how to address severance or walking and cycling connectivity. She noted that this is usually done on a testing trial with a pathway to permanence so once the community is happy with it you begin mapping out the process on how to make it a permanent installation. She also highlighted cost-savings presented with this opportunity due to the investigation and consultation design parts being completed together.
- Other funding avenues via a recreational standpoint.

Lisa opened the floor for discussion to talk through the committees plans, desires, concerns and problems including how they might want to manage this issue and prepare for future funding opportunities.

The Group Manager - Assets and Infrastructure noted that the previous strategy Council consulted on wasn’t sufficient enough and that the focus needs to be on a thorough strategy that encompasses the entire district. The Chair noted the effect Cyclone Gabrielle has had on the district and how Wairoa is not in the same position as when the original strategy was developed and how these factors need to be considered in the development of another plan as well.

The Chief Executive asked Lisa what she meant when she referred to the word ‘severance’. She

explained that due to the river dissecting the community into two areas and because the state highway often carries heavy vehicles or a lot of traffic it makes it sometimes difficult to get across or feel safe in that environment.

Cr Eaglesome-Karekare noted people crossing along Paul, Achilles and Queen Streets as children often use these areas to cross before and after school. The Group Manager – Assets and Infrastructure also highlighted the crossing outside of the I-site. Sometimes people crossing on mobility scooters often affect the flow of traffic as they don't fit in the middle median therefore affecting both sides of traffic.

The Chief Executive noted His Worship's advocacy for zebra crossings. Cr Eaglesome-Karekare supported this with large signage to also warn drivers. He further noted state highway 38, Mahia Ave and Carroll Street and the displaced Nuhaka School at the Mormon Church on the state highway towards Gisborne and the road signs and speed restrictions in place for this.

Cr Eaglesome-Karekare also noted connecting the Māhia and Opoutama villages together with a walkway to feel safe.

Mr Olsen asked Lisa what the chances were of receiving funding for this under the current draft GPS. Lisa noted that it looks like unless they can indicate a high uptake and a high demand for people to walk and cycle in that area then it poses to be very difficult. She noted that if the background work hasn't currently been done then she encouraged to wait until the next RLTP to do this. Mr Olsen suggested Council have the plan ready and start from next year to begin the consultation and development of the plan ready for the next RLTP.

7 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2024/93

Moved: Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare

Seconded: Cr Chaans Tumataroa-Clarke

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 27 February 2024 be confirmed.

CARRIED

8 GENERAL ITEMS

8.1 RECEIPT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE MEETING - 20 SEPTEMBER 2022

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2024/94

Moved: Cr Chaans Tumataroa-Clarke

Seconded: Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare

That the Minutes of the Infrastructure and Regulatory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 20 September 2022 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

CARRIED

8.2 ASSETS & INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP - UPDATE

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2024/95

Moved: Cr Chaans Tumataroa-Clarke

Seconded: Mr Chris Olsen

The Pouwhakarae-Hua Pumau | Group Manager Assets & Infrastructure RECOMMENDS that Committee receive the report, and provide direction where appropriate.

CARRIED

The Group Manager – Assets and Infrastructure gave a brief update to this report. He updated the committee that staff received notification the day prior to the meeting that the \$12.1M of Cyclone Gabrielle funding for emergency works will stop as of 30 June under the current governments direction. He noted that Council received \$31M for emergency works and have only spent \$22M so far. He believes that Council would have spent majority of that money by the middle of this year, however, anything remaining has to be returned to NZTA. He raised concerns in relation to Councils plans to use this funding for more longer-term projects and how this is no longer an option. He estimates the shortfall to be around \$5M to be returned back to NZTA.

Mr Olsen suggested the need to amend the current funding application to increase it by the amount anticipated Council will miss out by and for the Mayor to go in and speak to the Chair of NZTA directly. He also suggested a regional approach of Mayors to the NZTA chairperson to discuss the issue.

The Group Manager – Assets and Infrastructure highlighted the Te Reinga bridge permanent replacement and reported about a presentation held to crown infrastructure partners about timelines and this pressure on delivery as they want to deliver it by late 2025, noting the risk in not having the ability to have the bridge completed by then. He also highlighted the WDC submission to the current draft GPS statement as there is inconsistency between the governments direction and Wairoa specifically. He noted that there isnt much mention of the Hawke's Bay region in the GPS and Council as previously stated are keen to support the national items of significant out to Mahia/Nuhaka/Opoutama, resilience and increased maintenance renewals and the review of traffic management and potential wasted revenue in this area. He encouraged feedback and input to the submission from members before Tuesday 02 April as this is when the submission is due.

Mr Olsen asked for how much extra WDC has asked for compared to this current three years from

Waka Kotahi. The Group Manager – Assets & Infrastructure noted that in some areas it is more than 50% noting that this will be a key consultation item with the community to identify priorities for recovery, emergency works, appropriate levels of service and capital works. The committee members then discussed at length existing pressures on timeframes and deadlines especially in terms of funding.

8.3 PLANNING AND REGULATORY REPORT (JANUARY AND FEBRUARY UPDATE)

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2024/96

Moved: Cr Chaans Tumataroa-Clarke

Seconded: Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare

The Group Manager Planning and Regulatory Services RECOMMENDS that Committee receive the report.

CARRIED

The Group Manager – Planning and Regulatory spoke briefly to this report. She highlighted the rapid building assessment space noting that in the last year from 08 March 2023 there has been a reduction in number of placards for commercial and residential premises, however, numbers are still high and there is still a long way to go. She noted that reinstatement works in the last month have increased considerably and this trend is expected to continue. She advised that as of this day, yellow restricted access stickered homes is at 93 for residential, white at 157 and green at 105.

Members briefly discussed the status of each sticker and what people are required to do to move from one colour to the next. The Chair requested what people had to do to move from white to green placards. The Group Manager – Planning and Regulatory noted that the checklist contains points below that only building inspectors can sign off and move people from white to green stickers:

- Pre-line inspection.
- Permission given to line walls.
- Walls lined.
- Water supplies restored.
- Working toilet.
- Cabinetry, kitchen, bathroom and wash-house installed.
- Wet areas installed and cabinet floors and walls sealed.
- Any documents required.
- Electrical certification and sign-off.

Mr Olsen noted the approximate 10% decrease in number of stickered homes in the last month and that where this work continues it will look good for Wairoa in a years time from now in the removal of placards and whanau being back in their homes.

The Chief Executive noted the pressure on building teams on the remonitoring and re-placarding of homes and if they are adequately resourced to carry out this work. She noted that the team is managing however there is a focus of building competency within the organisation as some Building Officers are still in training and this will enable officers to process consents more efficiently and effectively while also being in-house as well. She also noted that advertisement will be going out soon for another Planner.

The Meeting closed at 11:10am with a closing karakia given by the Chair Chaans Tumataroa-Clarke.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Infrastructure and Regulatory Committee Meeting held on 23 April 2024.

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CHAIRPERSON

8 GENERAL ITEMS

8.1 PLANNING AND REGULATORY REPORT - FEBRUARY AND MARCH UPDATE 2024

- Author:** Hinetaakoha Viriaere, Pouwhakarae - Whakamahere me te Waeture | Group Manager Planning and Regulatory
- Authoriser:** Gary Borg, Pouwhakarae - Putea Tautawhi Rangapu | Group Manager Finance and Corporate Support
- Appendices:** 1. PLANNING AND REGULATORY DEPARTMENT REPORTS - February 2024 - March 2024.pdf [↓](#)

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the report is to provide an update from the Planning and Regulatory Group for the reporting period February and March 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

The Pouwhakarae - Whakamahere me te Waeture | Group Manager Planning and Regulatory RECOMMENDS that Committee receive the report 'PLANNING AND REGULATORY DEPARTMENT REPORTS - February 2024 - March 2024'.

Confirmation of statutory compliance

In accordance with section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002, this report is approved as:

- a. containing sufficient information about the options and their benefits and costs, bearing in mind the significance of the decisions; and,
- b. is based on adequate knowledge about, and adequate consideration of, the views and preferences of affected and interested parties bearing in mind the significance of the decision.



PLANNING & REGULATORY GROUP REPORTS

Due 10th of each month

MONTH: February 2024 – March 2024

1. PLANNING & REGULATORY SUMMARY

GENERAL:

- The Compliance team is working with the SPCA to organise the cat de-sexing mobile caravan to come to Wairoa. At this stage, arrangements are still being made for potential sites. We are looking at this to take place in August 2024.
- In conjunction with the Recovery Team significant progress has been made in the building reinstatement space for the month of March with 21 Whanau having their placards removed.
- Alcohol premises inspections have been conducted throughout all licenced premises in the district. Non-compliance has been seen. However, an education approach is being taken in the first instances.



2. PLANNING & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Resource Consents	February	March
Consent applications received	2	3
Ancillary applications received (COC, Sec 223, 224, 221 etc)	1	1
Ancillary applications granted (COC, Sec 223, 224, 221 etc)	1	1
Decisions notified	2	3
Proportion of consents processed within statutory timeframes	100%	100%
Proportion of ancillary applications processed within statutory applications	100%	100%
Onsite visits/inspections undertaken	6	7
RMA breaches recorded	0	
Infringements issued	0	0
Pre application meetings (In person)	3	4

3. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

3.1 Liquor Licensing

	February	March
New licences Issued (Managers/club/on/off)	4	0
Renewals issued (Managers/club/on/off)	2	2
Special licences applied for	2	2
Proportion of licences issued within statutory timeframes	100%	100%

3.2 Health licensing

	February	March
Health licences Issued	0	0
Food Control Registration / NPs New	1	0
Food Control Plan Re: Registration	3	5
Food Premises visited for compliance	3	7
Proportion of licences issued within statutory timeframes	100%	100%
Warnings Issued for compliance	0	0
Infringements issued	0	0



3.3 Noise Control

	February	March
Call outs received	6	16
Premises Visited	4	9
Warnings Issued/Items Seized	0	0
Infringements issued	0	0

4. BUILDING CONTROL

Building Consents	February	March
Consents received	13	11
Consents granted	5	6
Residential consents issued	3	5
Total value of new building consent/work (received)	\$1,483,930	\$12,797,000
Proportion of building consents processed within statutory timeframes	100%	75%
Proportion of CCC's issued within statutory timeframes	100%	100%
Building consent exemptions issued	0	0
Inspections undertaken	24	29
Property Information		
LIM's received	5	2
Proportion of LIM's issued within statutory timeframes	100%	50%

- The BCA experienced a National Flooding event as a result of Cyclone Gabrielle, in excess of 300 buildings were affected in the Wairoa.
- BCA resources will be under pressure as the cyclone recovery progresses.
- In conjunction with the Recovery Team significant progress has been made in the building reinstatement space for the month of March with 21 Whanau having their placards removed & moving back into the dwellings.



4.1 Rapid Building Assessments – March 2024

Rapid Building Assessments Tally - February 2024	Commercial	Residential
Red – entry prohibited	0	3
Yellow – restricted access	34	104
White – can be used	35	164
Green – building reinstated	43	87

Rapid Building Assessments Tally - March 2024	Commercial	Residential
Red – entry prohibited	0	3
Yellow – restricted access	34	91
White – can be used	35	156
Green – building reinstated	43	108

Following a Rapid Building assessment, a building or home will receive either a white, yellow or red placard (notice)

- **Green – building reinstated:** All required remediation work has been completed, WDC building inspectors have signed off the works & WDC records updated.
- **White – can be used:** The building may have suffered little or no damage and can be used.
- **Yellow – restricted access:** The building may have moderate damage and access is restricted. Access may be restricted to some of the building only or may be restricted for short-term entry only.
- **Red – entry prohibited:** The building cannot be used, and entry is prohibited because it has sustained moderate or heavy damage and poses a significant risk to health or life.

5. COMPLIANCE

5.1 Dog Control

	February	March
Call outs received	33	35
Impounded	15	12
Warnings issued	10	6
Infringements issued	7	13
Pending court cases	0	0
Dogs destroyed	3	5
Dogs rehomed	0	0

5.2 Stock Control



	February	March
Call outs received (farm animals)	5	6
Impounded farm animals	2	2
Warning issued on stray farm animals	0	0
Infringements issued	0	0
Pending court cases	0	0
Animals destroyed	0	0

- The Compliance team is working with the SPCA to organise the cat de-sexing mobile caravan to come to Wairoa. At this stage, arrangements are still being made for potential sites. We are looking at this to take place in August 2024.
- The amount of roaming dogs has increased. The Compliance Team will endeavour to increase media/communications around this issue.

5.3 Freedom Camping

	February	March
Number of Patrols	7	5
Warnings issued	0	0
Infringements issued	0	0
Pending court cases	0	0

- Freedom campers were quiet over the easter holidays. Our Manaaki Tanagata kaimahi have also reported low numbers.
- A formal Freedom Camping report for the 2023/2024 period was sent to the Regulatory Manager, the Compliance and Licensing Manager, and the Māori Relationships Manager. This report is available upon request.

6. COMPLIANCE – TRADE WASTE

6.1 Trade Waste Compliance Management

	February	MArch
Premises Inspected	7	7
New Trade Waste Licenses Issued	0	0
Trade Waste Licenses Renewed	5	5
Trade Waste Management Plans Initiated	3	3

8.2 ASSETS & INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP - UPDATE

Author: Mike Hardie, Pouwhakarae-Hua Pumau | Group Manager Assets & Infrastructure

Authoriser: Gary Borg, Pouwhakarae - Putea Tautawhi Rangapu | Group Manager Finance and Corporate Support

Appendices:

1. Project Dashboard [↓](#)
2. Monitoring Report [↓](#)
3. Local Water Done Well: Information for Councils [↓](#)
4. Walkway Realignment Plans_Draft [↓](#)

PURPOSE

This report provides information for Committee on Assets & Infrastructure Group and the differing activities within.

RECOMMENDATION

The Pouwhakarae-Hua Pumau | Group Manager Assets & Infrastructure RECOMMENDS that Committee receive the report, and provide direction where appropriate.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 This report is aimed at providing the Infrastructure & Regulatory Committee key information of key assets and infrastructure items at a high level.
- 2.2 This report includes a summary of projects “at a glance”. Additional reports will be provided on specific areas and where further direction is sought from the Infrastructure & Regulatory Committee.
- 2.3 As a general rule, projects valued under \$100,000 will be reported by exception only, for example if considered of high public interest. Anything under this value is normally covered off under the delegation’s manual or within existing contracts. Additional projects can and will be provided where further direction is sought from the Infrastructure & Regulatory Committee.

3. DIRECTION

- 3.1 This section will outline the direction that Council officers are seeking from the Infrastructure & Regulatory Committee. It will outline how projects align with Council’s direction and how these projects are being delivered in line with relevant policies and strategies i.e., Infrastructure strategy, procurement guidelines, AMPs, LTP, Annual Plan.
- 3.2 Committee Direction Tracker

This table documents specific direction from previous Committee meetings. It will allow Council officers to track progress on these high-level matters and ensure they are closed out. Commentary can be provided on status of progress or any issues around this. Tasks will be deleted off tracker once they are completed or no longer relevant.

<i>Committee</i>	<i>Committee Direction/Action</i>	<i>Status/Progress</i>	<i>Commentary</i>
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Meeting Date	Required		
11 Apr 2023	Provide report on Pensioner Housing every 3 rd Committee Meeting		Next report on this due May 2024
18 July 2023	Uneconomic Road Policy/Road maintenance rationalisation		Workshop held in December 2023. More work underway to plan this out.
18 July 2023	Tuai community consultation around water chlorination		Communication plan updated and targeting June 2024 for initial hui.
5 September 2023	Report of wastewater inflow/infiltration at Mahia Heights		Still working on this ,smoke testing and camera work to be done.
5 September 2023	Follow up on Level 1 Lab status – Water Treatment		Draft report has been complete, this will be presented at next Council meeting.

4. MONITORING

- 4.1 This section will refer to the project dashboard **see Appendices 1**. Any project areas such as budget or delivery that are highlighted Amber or Red in the dashboard will be commented on here. (Please note this project dashboard forms part of an Excel spread sheet capturing all Project activities, Property, Solid Waste, Land Transport, 3 Waters)
- 4.2 **See Appendices 2** Monitoring report shows current spends on operational budgets and a summary of CSR data for 3 main area spends: Land Transport, 3 Waters, Property/Solid Waste.

5. RISKS

- 5.1 This section will refer to the project dashboard **see Appendices 1**. Any risks outlined will be summarised with mitigation actions outlined. This will focus on the high or extreme risk levels.

6. RESOURCES

- 6.1 This section will discuss levels of resourcing such as budget, equipment, contractors, or staffing.

7. PRESENTATION

- 7.1 Presentation - WDC Environmental Engineer Teri Wathen-Smith recently presented at the Water Services Managers Group meeting, which was held on the 27th of March in Napier. Gisborne, Wairoa, Napier and Hastings Councils were invited to present and share their experience of Cyclone Gabrielle, focusing on their waters infrastructure and how this was impacted during and what recovery looks like for them. Teri covered how the cyclone impacted the town, the three waters assets, and how Council & contractors dealt with the clean up immediately, and then ongoing issues since the event and where WDC are currently at. Teri will share the presentation with the Committee.

8. THREE WATERS

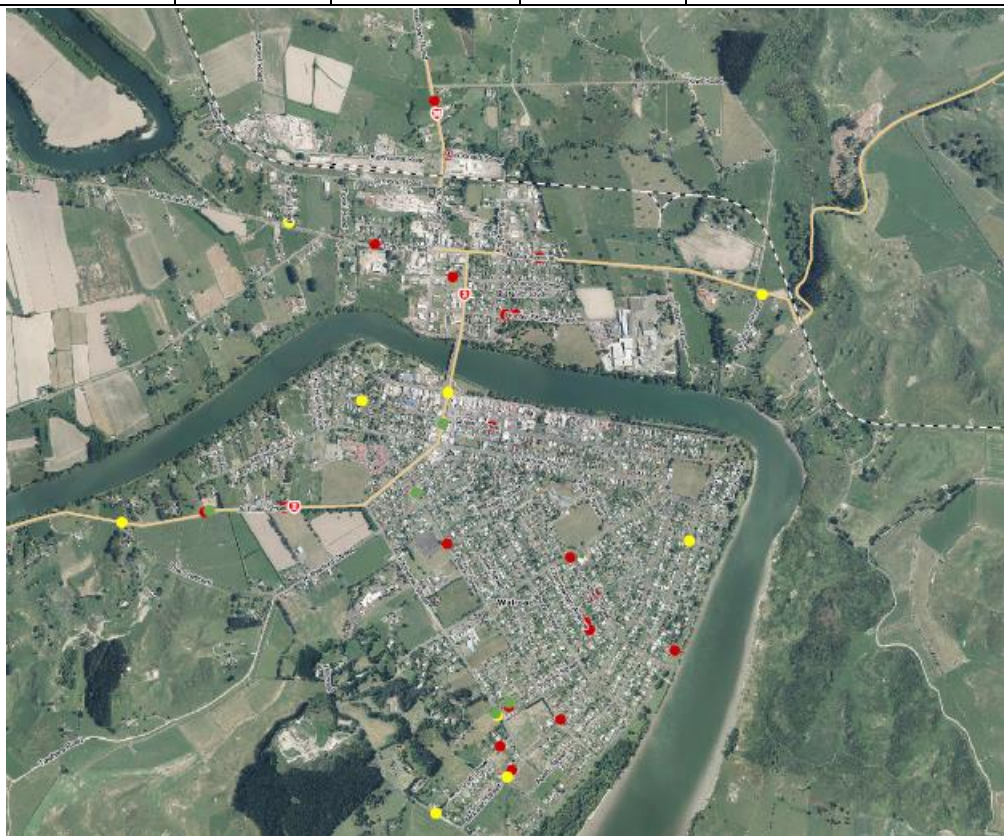
8.1 Watermain Breaks

- 8.1.1. An analysis has been undertaken to highlight a risk/consequence following the cyclone, regarding watermain breaks.

- 8.1.2. The analysis compares watermain breaks 2 years prior to the cyclone and the 1 year following the cyclone.

- 8.1.3. Data:

Year	Number of main breaks	Total costs	Pipe material	Comments
March 2021-February 2022	9	\$23k	At least 98% of the pipes that failed are AC100 and galvanised pipe	Yellow dots on map below
March 2022 – February 2023	5	\$11k		Green dots on map below
March 2023-February 2024	20	\$64k		Red dots on map below. Predominantly April 2023 – June 2023.



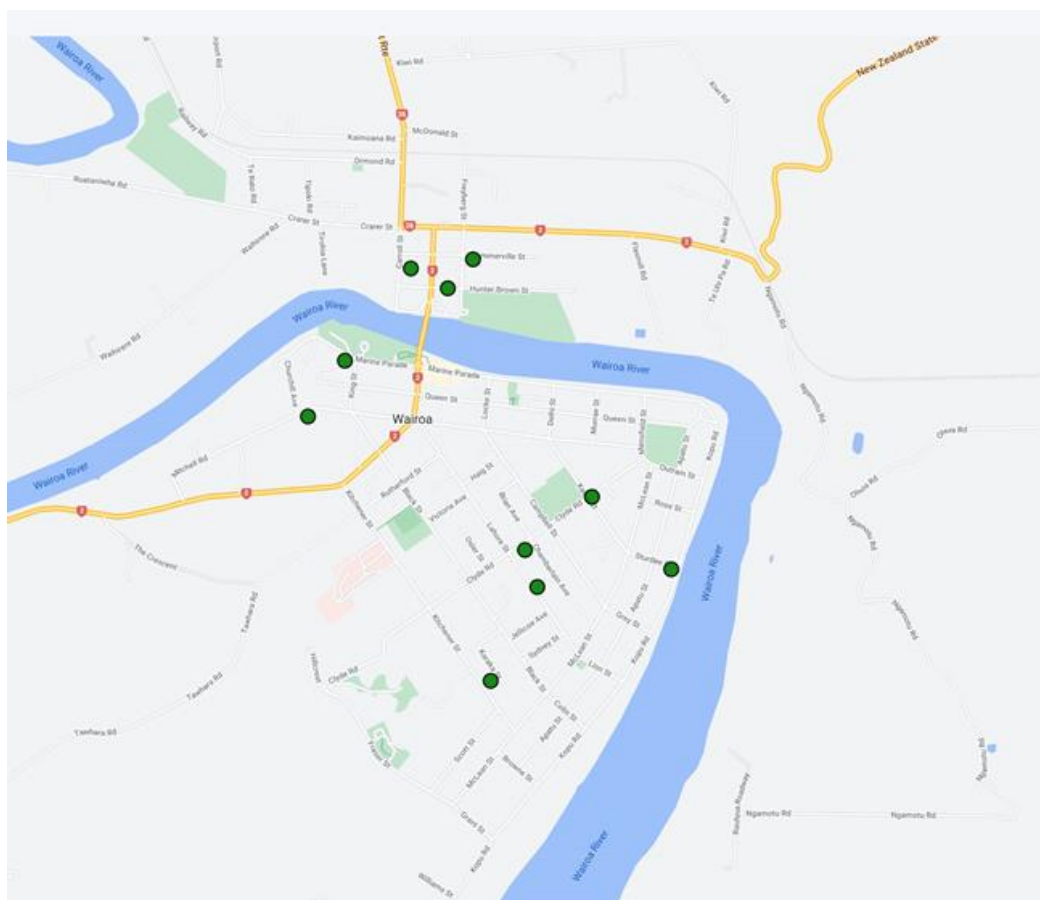
There was a large increase following the cyclone. The weak points of the reticulation network were exacerbated by the water supply having to be managed following the cyclone.

Plans moving forward:

These failures are unsurprising as previous pipe samples have indicated these areas have weaknesses and pipes are at end of life. Renewals and forward works plans are built around this information.

8.2 Wastewater Sensors

- 8.2.1. Sewer manhole sensors have been installed as a trial in certain locations across the network in Wairoa (green dots). These act like an early warning system, officers/contractors will receive texts letting them know that sewer is starting to surcharge, and communication plans can be implemented. The next phase is to install some in the stormwater network.



8.3 Local Water Done Well

- 8.3.1. Please see attached information from DIA, "Local Water Done Well: Information for Councils. Summary below:
- 8.3.2. The Minister of Local Government provided an update about the next stage of Local Water Done Well (LWDW). This followed Cabinet agreement to the first set of policies that will establish the LWDW framework and the transitional arrangements for the new water services system.

8.3.3. This includes streamlined processes for setting up water services council-controlled organisations, requirements for councils to develop Water Services Delivery Plans, and steps towards future economic regulation.

8.3.4. Current funding arrangements will be retained to support implementation of LWDW

As the Minister has indicated to mayors, the Government has reviewed all funding under the previous Government's water reform programme and considered opportunities to retain existing funding arrangements to support Local Water Done Well.

Better Off funding

Cabinet has agreed that councils will retain their existing allocation of Better Off funding. The Department will work in partnership with councils to identify opportunities for councils to redirect unspent Better Off funding to increase investment in water infrastructure or to help establish new water services delivery organisations.

Council Transition Support funding

Cabinet has also agreed that current Council Transition Support funding will be retained. Remaining funding can be used by councils for work relating to Local Water Done Well. This could be used to support the transition to Local Water Done Well, including supporting the establishment of new water services delivery organisations, or other planning work to support the transition to Local Water Done Well

8.2 Water Treatment

8.2.1. Resilience Work

8.2.1.1. A focus of resilient infrastructure following the cyclone and moving into the long term plans and Infrastructure strategies, the Water Treatment Plant team are exploring different options to improve the assets they manage.

8.2.1.2. Water Intake

8.2.1.2.1. Air vent protection

8.2.1.2.1.1. It is believed that the flood doors at the Water Intake were successful in keeping water out, but it appears that the air vent is where the water got in and flooded the intake chamber, causing pump failure and ultimately the water restrictions for the week following the cyclone.

8.2.1.2.1.2. A design is being prepared which would allow a simple yet effective solution to close the vents off when significant bad weather is forecast. This would need to be managed with an operations plan to ensure the vents remain open at all other times.

8.2.1.2.2. Submersible pumps

8.2.1.2.2.1. Investigations are underway to produce designs that would allow submersible pumps to be installed, which in the case of an emergency and repeat of Cyclone Gabrielle, would allow for water intake to continue working.

8.2.1.3. Boundary station

8.2.1.3.1. Flood doors

8.2.1.3.1.1. The boundary station is situated next to the Awatere Stream, which often bursts its banks. During the cyclone this occurred and flooded the boundary station. Current thinking is to install flood doors to keep water out.

8.2.1.3.2. Submersible pumps

8.2.1.3.2.1. Investigations are underway to produce designs that would allow submersible pumps to be installed, which in the case of an emergency and repeat of Cyclone Gabrielle, would allow for water intake to continue working.

8.2.1.4. All of these solutions will be put through a risk matrix to ensure there is balance between likelihood, severity, cost, level of resilience required, and focus on the right critical assets.

8.2.2. Laboratory Status

8.2.2.1. Morrison Low have been engaged to provide a report for Council to consider, which effectively outlines the preferred option to close the Level 2 lab, not upgrade to Level 1 status, and undertake testing outside of the district. This has differing levels of impact to the organisation and external agencies, which will be outlined in the report to Council before an official decision is made. This will be presented to Council at next meeting.

8.2.3. Mahanga Water Supply

8.2.3.1. WSP have been engaged to revisit the Mahanga Water Supply issues and bring them all together in a clear/concise, and up to date report that can advise Council on options moving forward. Currently this site is uncompliant with the new drinking rules.

9. PROPERTY (OPEN/BUILT SPACES)

9.1 Celtic Clubrooms ownership transferred to Council and building renovation design completed. Most activity involves initial mould treatment from extensive water damage, remove and replace waterpipe, remove and replace water damaged flooring/walls/ceiling/cabinets, then redecorate and weatherproof. Contract procurement and costing underway, with final repair cost likely to be \$100k plus, so a report will be brought to Council with options.

9.2 CCTV

9.2.1. Vandalism and unlawful activity are ever increasing. Those responsible are well aware that our facilities lack coverage and as such are repeatedly targeted. This includes, graffiti, vandalism, dumping, toilet thefts, solar and ventilation thefts, burnouts etc.

9.2.2. Council has minimal funds that only cover CBD, with the system no longer supported. Police have no budget and need community support. The project is assessing current cctv assets end of life, the coverage for assets across the district and long-term partnerships. Costings have been received to upgrade server, \$18K, current town assets, \$30K and systems to provide comms across the district to key assets.

Overall district wide coverage for facilities and road corridors is assessed to be \$250K. This is well outside current Property funding levels.

- 9.2.3. A group have evolved with Police, HBRC, Contractors and council teams to assess system needs, locations, sharing core equipment, synergy, plus functionality.

10. SOLID WASTE

- 10.1 WMMP - Council is required to adopt a Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) to fulfil their obligations under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA) and review it every six years. Due to the cyclone, council's review date has been extended to June 2024, with work on this having commenced November 2023.

10.1.1.1. A workshop/briefing was held with Council, summarizing the Waste Assessment, outline of proposals and next steps.

10.1.1.2. Feedback from the Medical Officer of Health (MOH) has been received and reviewed. WSP continue to draft the next WMMP, noting the feedback on the Waste Assessment from MOH will be incorporated.

10.1.1.3. Deadline for having the WMMP delivered is July 2024 and will include the key work program elements and actions for solid waste including the Capital Infrastructure projects.

- 10.2 Landfill Decision - The Wairoa Landfill current cell is nearing capacity (within 2-3 years) especially with the influx of waste arising from Cyclone Gabrielle. Council needs to decide whether to extend landfill operations by developing a new cell, or move to an out of district disposal option (Ōmarunui)

10.2.1. The Options assessment has been workshopped with councillors. The session provided a detailed overview to assist council in making a more informed decision.

10.2.1.1. Council staff presented to the Ōmarunui Landfill joint committee meeting held on Tuesday 20th February. The green light was given to explore this potential option further.

- 10.3 Kerbside Expansion - Council were successful in securing WMF funding to develop a kerbside feasibility study and implementation costs.

10.3.1. Work is progressing well on the feasibility study with the draft report nearing completion.

10.3.2. A workshop was held with Council indicating the preferred service option before progressing to public engagement as part of the LTP.

10.3.3. Finalising of service recommendations on the future service model with be presented to Council by end of June 2024.

- 10.4 Refuse Transfer Station Infrastructure Upgrades – Council have submitted an expression of interest application for WMF funding for the planned facility upgrades, noting the request is for 75% of capital costs for the development.

10.4.1.1. A 50% council contribution has been submitted in councils LTP budgets to ensure costs are still being considered if 75% funding is not achieved.

10.4.1.2. The EOI has been received and assigned to the investment manager. Estimated timelines for decision is 3-4months.

- 10.4.1.3. WSP are finalising a technical memo outlining organic processing options. This memo will be shared with council staff and the community to inform potential suppliers/partner organisations. It is recommended that a community-based discussion on potential organics processing be initiated to understand how Council can best manage organics locally.

11. PROJECTS

- 11.1 Please see Appendix 1 Project Dashboard for details on project expenditure & status.

- 11.2 Summary of key projects:

- 11.2.1. Wairoa Airport Runway Extension

- 11.2.1.1. This new project is currently in the design phase. Currently on track for end of April 2025 completion. Focus: completion of Cultural Impact Assessment, land testing for contamination, runway length confirmation of 300m, earthworks consent and ecological assessment, archive plans

- 11.2.1.2. Phase 2: lighting and trenching

- 11.2.2. Wairoa River Reserve Restoration

- 11.2.2.1. Revised preliminary concept design was completed and presented to Council on 13th February 2024. This was endorsed by Council. Preliminary design and costings are due in the next month or two. Currently on track for end of Oct 2024 completion.

- 11.2.2.2. Focus: Partner with community group to meet prerequisite funding requirement

- 11.2.3. TWEW Project – Gemmell’s Development

- 11.2.3.1. Full Code of Compliance Certificate is aimed at being completed by the end of April.

- 11.2.4. The Winter’s Redevelopment

- 11.2.4.1. Stead Construction have been engaged as the lead contractor for the main build.

- 11.2.4.2. The following stages are programmed over the following few months:

- 11.2.4.2.1. Demolition: Completed first week of Feb

- 11.2.4.2.2. Civil works commenced, excavation commenced March 25th, 60% complete.

- 11.2.4.2.3. Consenting: Building consent lodged 1st March

- 11.2.4.2.4. Building construction: April-Oct (Commenced)

- 11.2.4.2.5. Delivery: CCC aimed for end of November 2024

- 11.2.5. Mahia Recreational Spaces – Multi-Sport Courts & Playground

- 11.2.5.1. The playground work was completed and opened to the public on the 16th of December 2023. It has been a great success over the summer, with positive reviews from the public. There have been a couple minor maintenance requests

throughout the last month, however they have been promptly resolved thanks to the diligence of our local community and contractors.



Work on the multi-sport court at Ormond Memorial Reserve is currently on pause while an additional resource consent application is lodged for noise levels. We have encountered some objections, causing an s92 and s37 letters of extensions to be presented consecutively as we gather further information supporting fence heights, sitemaps and finally the utilisation of an Independent Commissioner. This will ensure that WDC remain impartial to final decision, and also that we have followed procedure correctly.

11.2.6. Wairoa Riverside Campground Improvement/Recovery Works

11.2.6.1. Work is progressing at the Campground, albeit slowly due to design and supply challenges. Most are now overcome however have caused overall delays in our project deadline, now projected for end of May 2024.

11.2.6.2. The female toilets and kitchen have been completed, as have the front awning and concreting. Earthworks out front have been majority completed, with some final work to tidy up required. Male toilets are well underway.



11.2.7. Māhia Recycling Centre

- 11.2.7.1. Following delays since 2021, MBIE have given one final extension – project must be completed by December 2024. No exceptions.
- 11.2.7.2. Working on pre-engagement and engagement with the Community.
- 11.2.7.3. Reclassification of land from Reserve to General Purpose now underway. To be confirmed at next council meeting (7th May) and then public notification period commences, followed by an official reclassification/re-registering of land title change.
- 11.2.7.4. Aiming for construction and completion by November 2024.

11.2.8. Library Upgrade

- 11.2.8.1. The roof has been confirmed for completion by mid-July. This is crucial to be installed before Winter, but the current priority is completing the campground first. Kiosk, new wind lobby, security doors and emergency lighting/electricals all being re-designed and re-costed by Architect - following several conversations taking place 2023 and the library staff's requests and needs. Timeframe unknown until re-design is completed.

12. LAND TRANSPORT

12.1 Recovery (Cyclone Gabrielle) & June/November 2023 Weather Events

12.1.1. Cyclone Gabrielle

Activity/Programme	Funding secured for 'Response Phase' @ 100 FAR	Expenditure to date
Initial funding request	\$16,175,000	\$16,175,000
Cost-scope adjustment request	\$31,852,549	\$22,230,639 (As at 29 February 2024)

Funding applications for Reinstatement/Repair have been submitted for Cyclone Gabrielle, June 2023 and November 2023 weather events. Exact Council costs will be requested through Council once applications are finalised, as there will likely be some affordability/prioritisation discussions that will need to take place through the LTP planning and discussions.

12.2 Te Reinga Bridge – Permanent Replacement

12.2.1. Crown Infrastructure Partners have funded Council \$14m to construct a new bridge at Te Reinga. Project outcomes:

12.2.1.1. to restore the Te Reinga Bridge to its former level of service meeting modern equivalent design standards

12.2.1.2. to ensure that the route is resilient in maintaining connectivity for the community during future storm events; and

12.2.1.3. to deliver economic and social benefits by restoring the bridge to its former carrying capacity.

12.2.2. High Risk

12.2.2.1. Milestones

12.2.2.1.1. 27 Sep 2024 – Site Work Commencement

12.2.2.1.2. 7 Aug 2024 – Practical Completion milestone

12.2.2.1.3. There are some significant concerns from the project team around these deadlines. It has potential to sacrifice quality or price, both which aren't good for WDC.

12.2.2.1.4. Mitigation

12.2.2.1.4.1. Although agreement loosely indicates there is subject to change timelines, a recent application to tweak the deadlines was met by resistance. This is still an avenue we will continue to push as long as we can ensure we are doing all we can to move ahead.

12.2.2.1.4.2. WDC are working with the project team and externals to ensure a procurement method focusing on an accelerated early contractor scenario to try and meet these unrealistic deadlines.

12.2.2.1.4.3. Request governance advocacy in this space.

12.2.2.1.5. Other risks include engagement/consultation/property & land issue.

12.3 Walkway/Cycleway Realignment

12.3.1. Please see attached draft plans for a proposed realignment of sections of the walkway on the river reserves. The purpose is to realign to higher ground to avoid continual flooding/silt issues.

12.3.2. One section (Osler's) can be funded out of the River Reserves Project, one section (Eastend) can be funded out of emergency works due to damage suffered from Cyclone, but the large section on Spooners Point is currently unfunded.

12.4 Seeking guidance/support from Committee around approaches to funding and the designs.

Further Information

Attachments

Item	Financials											Delivery	
	Risk		Project		Variation			Forecast		Delivery			
Project	Raw	Res.	Commenced	Phase	Budget	Variation Budget	Spend to date	Forecast spend	Delivery date	%	Commentary		
9 Flood Damage Repairs, Mohaka Waiau, Package 4			1/06/2021	Delivery	\$ 1,355,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 2,254,641	On Going	Jun 24	70	Awarded to Fulton Hogan. Delays from Cyclone Gabrielle. Variations/Two new packages of work were added to this contract. Work continuing with one retaining wall and one gabion.		
5 Flood Damage Repairs Waikaremoana Ruakituri Package 3			1/10/2021	Delivery	\$ 1,100,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 4,405,906	On Going	Jun 24	75	Awarded to QRS. Delays expected from Cyclone Gabrielle. Awamote site is progressing well with the good weather. The large slip on Papuni Road is completed. Earthworks package has		
4 Structural Bridge Repairs 2022			1/12/2022	Delivery	\$ 926,930	\$ 9,000,000	\$ 10,915,234	Opoti Br and /	Jun 24	50	Awarded to QRS, variations added from Cyclone Gabrielle. Avalon Bridge and Opoti Bridge ongoing. Bearing pads to be done at		
s Beach Revetment			1/12/2023	Design	\$ 800,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,201,043	Jun 24		Ereopiti Bridge this week. Te Reinga Br and Te Puna Br complete. Awarded to Pryde Contracting		
3 Structural Bridge Repairs 2023/24			1/02/2024	Delivery	\$ 526,345	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 526,345			Awarded to Ritchie Civil Ltd. One site completed.		
a Recycling Centre			1/01/2023	Design	\$ 229,000	\$ -	\$ 16,818	\$ 229,000	Dec 24	15	Following delays since 2021, MBIE have given one final extension – project must be completed by December 2024. No exceptions.		
inga Toilets			1/07/2023	Delivery	\$ 146,800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 146,800	Apr 24		Working on pre-engagement and engagement with the Toilet installed. Parking/Signage to be completed. Invoice on completion.		
ts Upgrade, Nuhaka, Oraka (TIF round 6).			1/12/2022	Delivery	\$ 212,000	\$ 262,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 262,000	Jun 24	50	Nuhaka: Septic system replaced and operating well so far. A new water tank has been installed, along with new picnic tables.		
Ground Upgrade (TIF round 6).			1/12/2022	Delivery	\$ 165,000	\$ 674,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 839,000	Apr 24	70	Modernise Ablution Block. Create outdoors area at Ablution Bk. Delay to project completion date due to supply chain problems, which is now expected to be May 2024.		
Destination Playground			Not Started	Investigative	\$ -	\$ 310,000	\$ -	\$ 310,000	Jun 24	5	New playground at higher location. Picnic tables/benches on lakefront. Two meetings at Tuai have been had but yet to develop further. A community hui is in the planning stages to develop a		
oner Housing Healthy Homes			1/12/2022	Design	\$ -	\$ 198,000	\$ 113,000	\$ 198,000	Nov 23	100	Improve flats air quality and heat in line with central govt new standards. Complete		
a Destination Playground & Spaces (Community Partnership)			1/02/2023	Delivery	\$ 66,000	\$ 716,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 716,000	Jun 24	15	Community Partnership Project developing recreational spaces. Funding secured externally. Playground opened 15th December 2023. Currently experiencing delays starting multi-sport court.		
iring Netball Courts resurface			1/04/2023	Completed	\$ 240,000	\$ -	\$ 220,000	\$ 240,000	Nov 23	100	Court resurface works complete.		
RY Roof Replacement			1/01/2024	Delivery	\$ 120,000	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ 150,000	May 24	5	Remaining funds to go towards building upgrade for CCC which Replace roof in line with refurbishment project plans. Mitigation for roof failing performance. Planned works discussion with Building team completed. Non-consented replacement approved.		
Refurbishment			1/07/2022	Delivery	\$ 120,000	\$ 380,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 120,000	Jun 24	30	Works to maintain Halls weatherproof and functional. Wairoa WMH works focus on exterior windows, stormwater, interior toilets and asbestos mgmt. Tuai has refurbished weatherproof.		
tery Beams, Access extension plus septic waste field upgrade			1/07/2022	Delivery	\$ 120,875	\$ 120,875	\$ 2,500	\$ 120,875	Mar 24	5	Extension of lower cemetery Beams 43) plus internal acces to same. Upgrade septic field at lower cemetery and new upper cemetery toilet building.		
ells Building			13/07/1905	Delivery	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 5,700,000	\$ 5,700,000	\$ 5,700,000	Dec 23	95	Facility open and operating. The team is working through a snag list and final CCC requirements which are expected to be completed by March 2024.		

Page 31

3 WATERS ACTIVITY

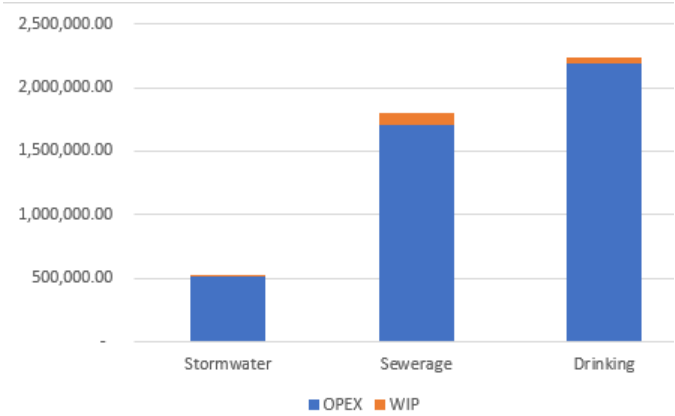
CONTRACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE 3 WATERS ACTIVITY

NAME	TERM	VALUE
3 Waters Maintenance	Term extended	\$7.7Mb + Variations

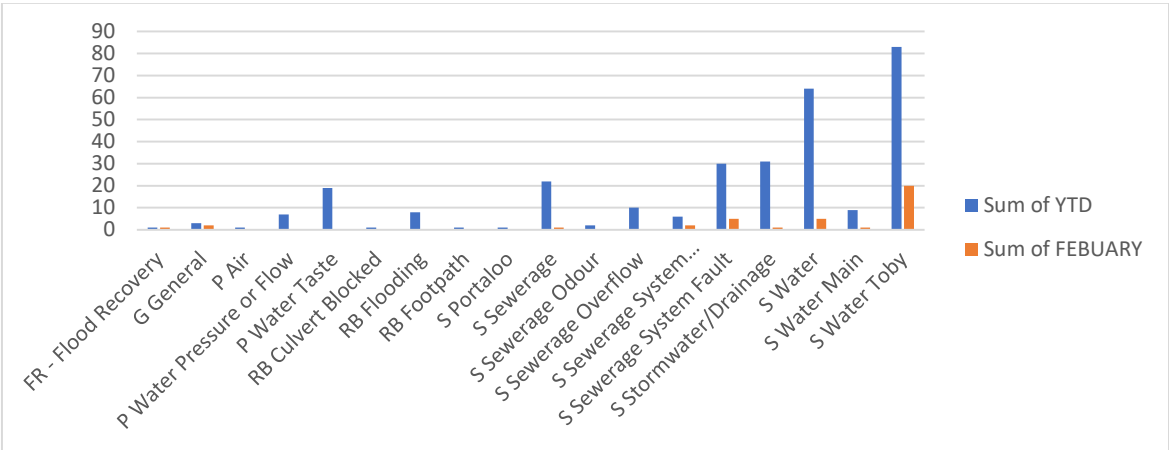
MONTHLY CONTRACT SPEND



3 WATERS SPEND – YTD



CUSTOMER REQUESTS – YTD, MONTHLY



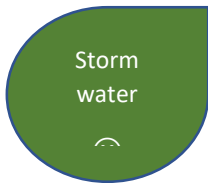
COMPLIANCE



- Blue Bay Scheme compliant



- No compliance issues



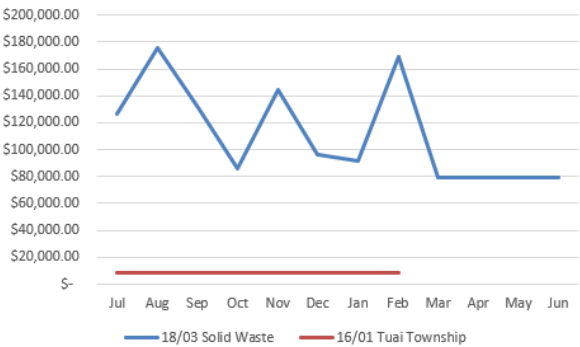
- Undergoing resource consent process
- Silt cleaning work post cyclone is still on going

WASTE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY

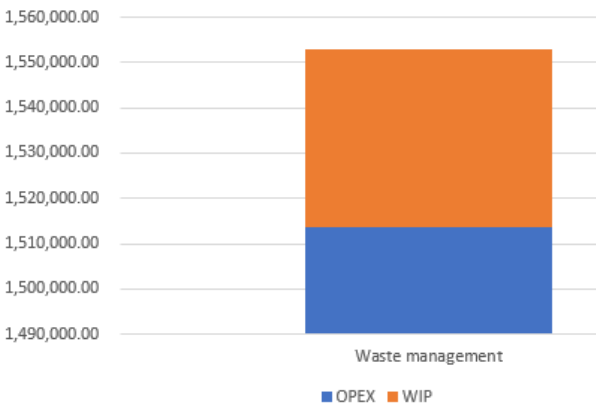
CONTRACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE WASTE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY

NAME	TERM	VALUE
18/03 Solid Waste	7y	\$4584428.57
16/01 Tuai Township	3y	\$247,740

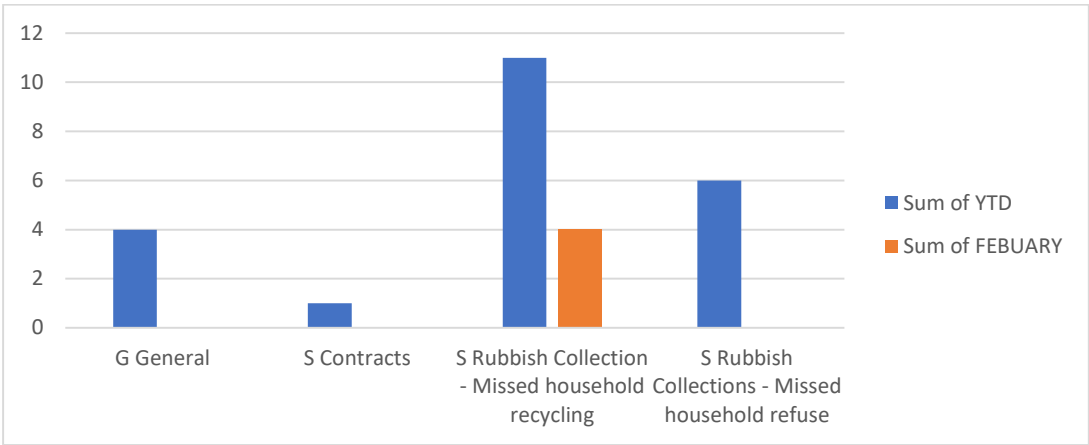
MONTHLY CONTRACT SPEND



WASTE MANAGEMENT SPEND YTD



CUSTOMER REQUESTS – YTD, FEBRUARY



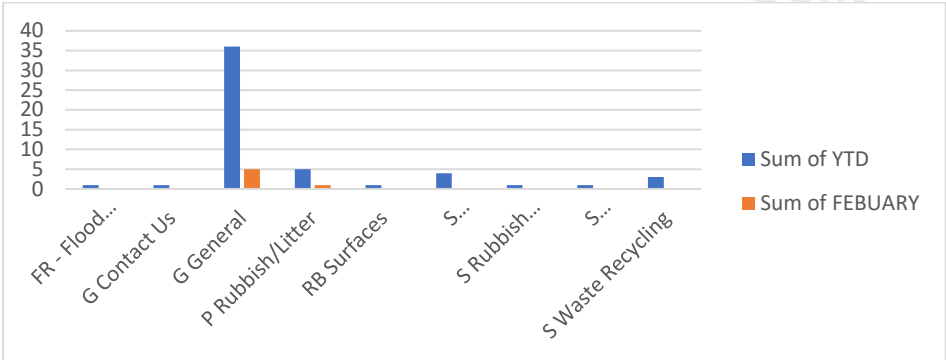
COMPLIANCE



The land fill is nearing the end of its life being 2026, also compliance is becoming an issue as noted in the latest 2022 WSP Solid Waste Services Review, Consequently Councils strategic risk register is indicating this as Extreme and High risks.

This risk is being mitigated with both short term and more importantly long-term solutions – refer Council report – **SOLID WASTE SERVICE REVIEW-14 JUNE 2022**

SOLID WASTE ACTIVITY
CUSTOMER REQUESTS – YTD, JANUARY

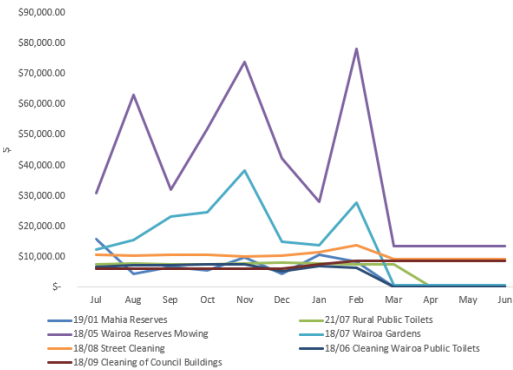


PROPERTY ACTIVITY

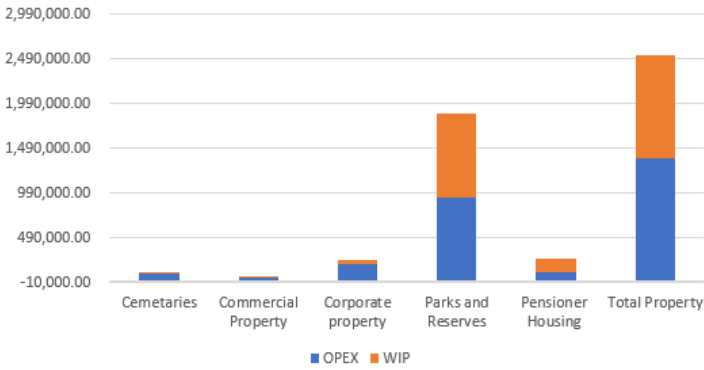
CONTRACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPERTY ACTIVITY

NAME	TERM	VALUE		
Mahia Reserves	3Y	\$115,580	Street Cleaning	3Y
Rural Public Toilets	1Y	\$140,188	Cleaning Wairoa Public Toilets	3Y
Wairoa Reserves Mowing	3Y	\$538,783	Cleaning of Council Buildings	
Wairoa Gardens	3Y	\$511,410		

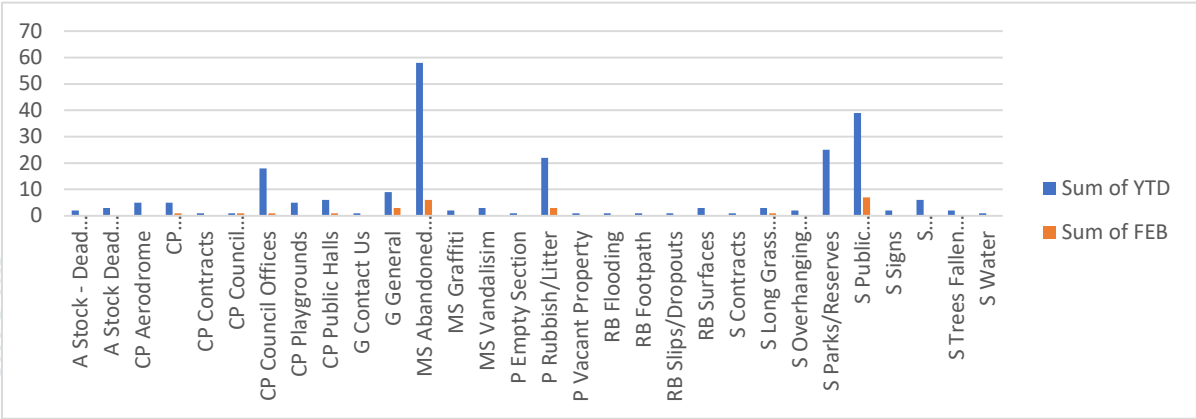
MONTHLY CONTRACT SPEND



PROPERTY SPEND - YTD



CUSTOMER REQUESTS – YTD, FEBRUARY

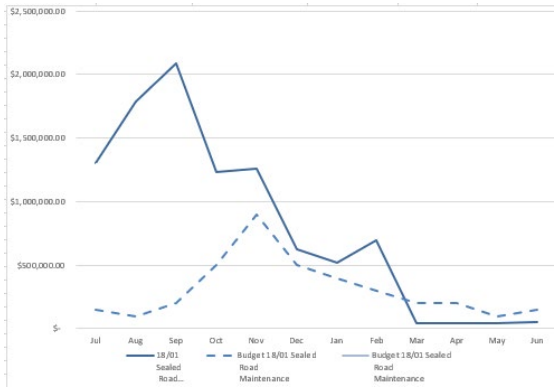


TRANSPORT ACTIVITY

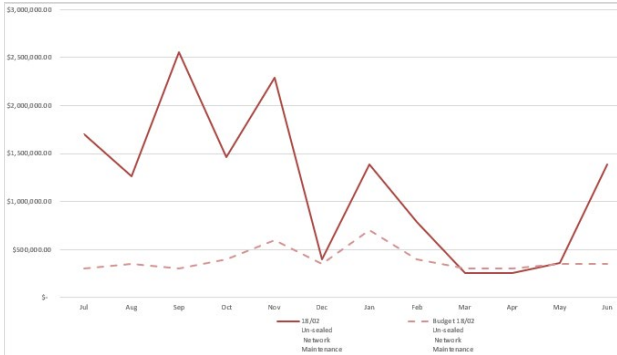
CONTRACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE TRANSPORT ACTIVITY

NAME	TERM
18/01 Sealed Road Network Maintenance Contract	3y + Term extension of 4yrs
18/02 Unsealed Pavement Maintenance Contract	3y + Term extension of 4yrs 3m

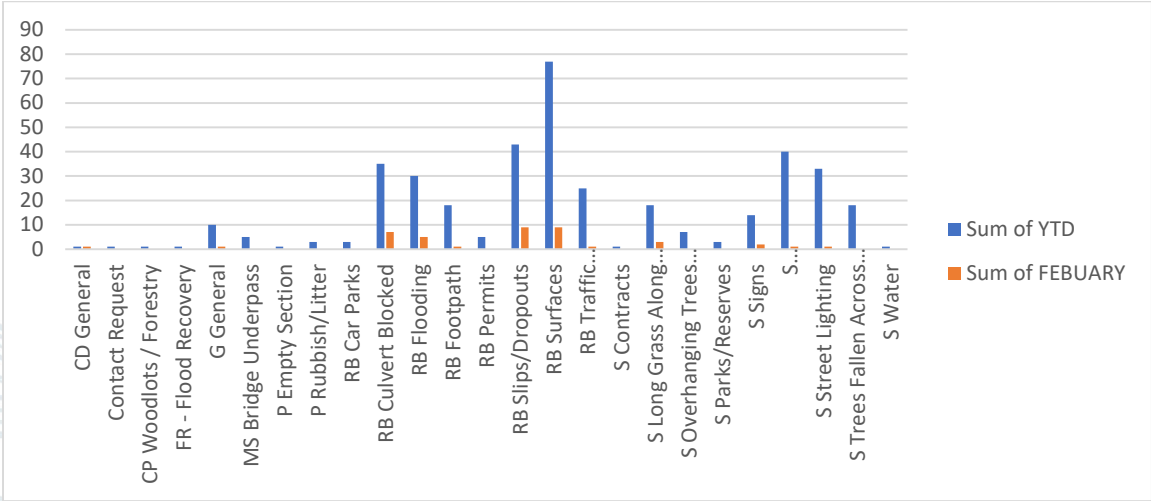
18/01 MONTHLY CONTRACT SPEND



18/02 MONTHLY CONTRACT SPEND

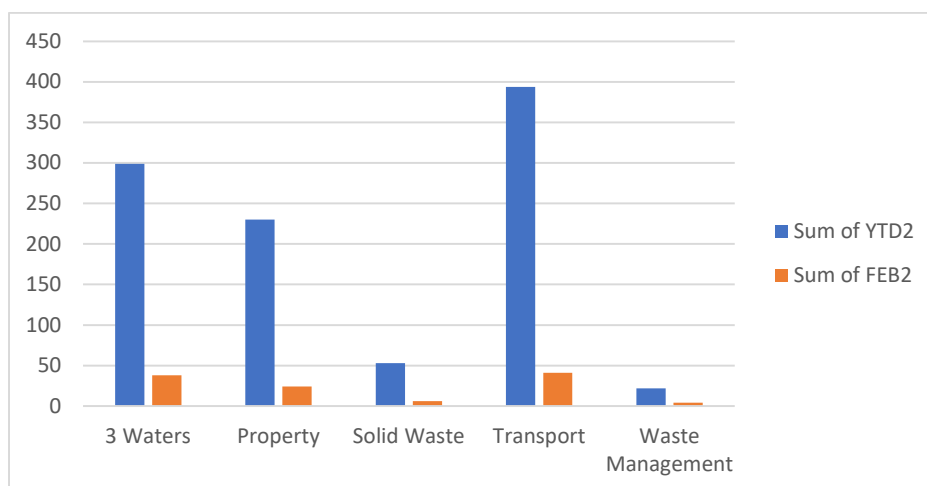


CUSTOMER REQUESTS – YTD, FEBRUARY



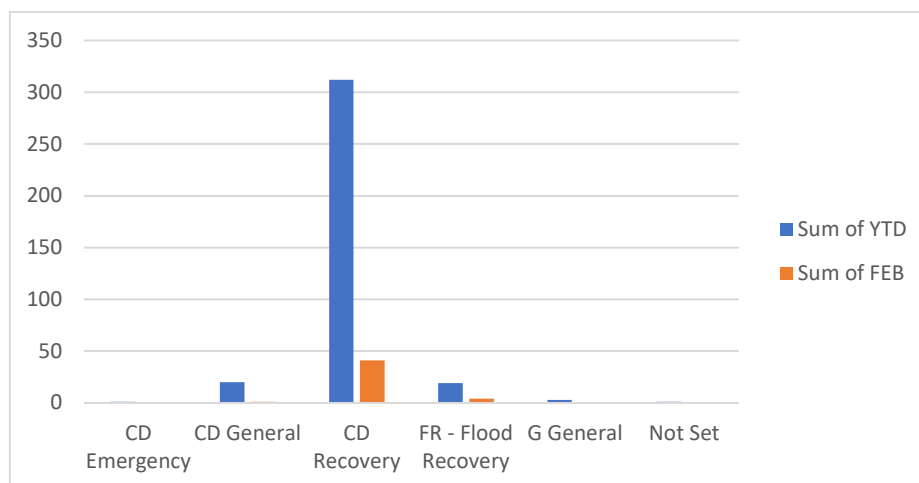
TOTAL CSR'S FOR 3 WATERS, TRANSPORT, PROPERTY, WASTE MANAGEMENT AND SOLID WASTE

CUSTOMER REQUESTS – YTD, FEBRUARY



TOTAL CSR'S FOR RECOVER

CUSTOMER REQUESTS – YTD, FEBRUARY





April 2024

Local Water Done Well: Information for councils

This document provides an overview of policy decisions that will be reflected in the proposed Local Government Water Services (Transitional Provisions) Bill, which will soon be considered for introduction to Parliament. It also contains information on other transitional matters that may be of interest to councils.

It is based on Cabinet decisions announced by the Minister of Local Government in April 2024.

Introduction

Measures to be introduced through new legislation in mid-2024 will establish the Local Water Done Well framework and the transitional arrangements for the new water services system.

The measures include requirements for councils to develop Water Services Delivery Plans, steps towards future economic regulation, and streamlined processes for setting up water services council-controlled organisations (water services CCOs).

Water Services Delivery Plans

What are they?

The overarching purpose of the Plans is for councils – individually or jointly – to publicly demonstrate their intention and commitment to deliver water services in ways that are financially sustainable, meet regulatory quality standards for water network infrastructure and water quality, and unlock housing growth.

What do they mean for councils?

Through the development of these Plans, councils will provide an assessment of their water infrastructure, how much they need to invest, and how they plan to finance and deliver it through their preferred service delivery model.

Ringfencing of water services and revenue from other council activities is a key feature of the Plans.

The Plans will be a way for councils to provide transparency to their communities about the costs and financing of water services, and empower them to make decisions about managing and delivering high-quality water services that reflect their local needs and circumstances.

The Plans can also be prepared jointly, and so provide an opportunity for councils to have conversations with other councils about joint arrangements for water services delivery.

What information do they need to cover?

The Plans cover information across three key areas:

1. Financial and asset information	Information about each council's financial and asset information and performance measures, pricing and other related policies, methodologies, and assumptions
2. Investment required	Planned levels of investment, approach to operations, and whether these are sufficient to deliver proposed level of service, meet infrastructure standards and meet regulatory standards
3. Service delivery arrangements	Councils' proposed service delivery arrangements – including proposals for joint arrangements, across more than one council

To demonstrate financial sustainability, councils will have to show what needs to be invested to deliver water services to regulated standards and to provide for growth. They will also have to show how they will fund and finance long-term investment in water infrastructure, including renewals and operating costs.

What is the process and timeline for producing a Plan?

Activity	Indicative timing / milestone
DIA releases Plan guidance Councils formally begin development of Plans	Mid-2024 Local Government Water Services (Transitional Provisions) Bill enacted
DIA/council check-in Councils identify contact point(s), whether they will be submitting an individual or joint Plan, whether they need technical support	+ 3 months (following Bill enactment)
DIA/council check-in(s) to monitor progress	+ 6-9 months (following Bill enactment)
Councils submit final Plan to DIA	Within 12 months (of Bill enactment)
DIA accepts the Plan meets statutory requirements or refers back to council for further work	Following submission of Plan
Council publishes Plan on council website	Once Plan is accepted by DIA


What happens if council(s) don't submit a Plan?

There will be a series of check-ins by the Department of Internal Affairs throughout the Plan development process to ensure councils are on track in preparing and submitting an acceptable plan. There will be guidance and some 'light touch' technical support provided by DIA.


During the Plan preparation process, councils may request, and the Minister of Local Government will be able to appoint, a Crown Facilitator who could provide additional assistance (at councils' expense). For example, the Crown Facilitator could assist and advise a council on how to prepare a Plan, or work across a group of councils to facilitate or negotiate a joint Plan (including providing an arbitration role if requested and agreed by councils).

If a council fails to submit a plan by the statutory deadline, the Minister of Local Government will be able to appoint someone to prepare a Plan on that council’s behalf, and (if necessary) to direct the council to adopt and submit this Plan (a ‘regulatory backstop’ power). Again, any expenses associated with this appointee and the preparation of the Plan would be covered by the council.


Key information




Plans are one-off, transitional documents, to set a pathway forward to sustainability.




Plans can be developed by individual councils, or jointly where groups of councils are planning to jointly establish a water organisation.




Plans must include drinking water, wastewater and stormwater – but councils have flexibility about transferring stormwater in proposed new service delivery arrangements.



It will be up to councils to determine how best to engage with their communities as part of the Plan development process.



Plans have no regulatory function – LTPs continue to be councils’ primary planning and accountability document.



Plans cover a 10-year timeframe, with detailed information provided on the first three years.

Steps towards future economic regulation

Economic regulation is a key feature of Local Water Done Well. It is intended to ensure consumers pay efficient, cost-reflective prices for water services, that those services are delivered to an acceptable quality, and that water services providers are investing sufficiently in their infrastructure.

Development of an economic regulation system for water services will be led by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment. Relevant provisions would be included in the third Local Water Done Well Bill (to be passed in mid-2025), and implemented by the Commerce Commission after that point.

Through the Water Service Delivery Plans, councils will be asked to provide baseline information about their water services operations, assets, revenue, expenditure, pricing, and projected capital expenditure, as well as necessary financing arrangements.

This is not a regulatory information gathering exercise, but is a useful first step to build the capability of councils and prepare the Commerce Commission ahead of the full economic regulation regime being introduced from the middle of next year.

All councils that have water service delivery responsibilities (either directly or through existing council-controlled organisations) will be subject to these requirements. As well as the Plans being published, information collected through them will be shared with the Commerce Commission, to help them with the development of the future regulatory regime.

The Bill will also provide for some councils to be subject to an early form of information disclosure by the Commerce Commission, prior to the full economic regulation regime.

This will build on the information collected through the Plans, and is intended to be for councils that have more advanced asset/financial management practices, or those that moved quickly to establish new organisations and are ready for a faster track toward more detailed oversight.

Streamlined processes for establishing council-controlled organisations

Under Local Water Done Well, a range of structural and financing tools will be available to councils to use for water services including a new class of financially independent council-owned organisations.

These options will be included in the third Local Water Done Well Bill, with policy decisions expected to be announced in mid-2024. This Bill is expected to be introduced in December 2024, and passed in mid-2025.

However, it is recognised that some councils may want to move quickly to start shifting the delivery of water services into more financially sustainable models. The Local Government Water Services (Transitional Provisions) Bill will include provisions that help streamline the process for establishing water services CCOs, as currently provided for under the Local Government Act 2002.

The Bill will contain a bespoke set of consultation and decision-making arrangements that will enable councils to streamline this process, while continuing to provide the opportunity for community input. These streamlined arrangements are voluntary for councils to choose to use, as an alternative to some of the standard requirements in the Local Government Act.

The arrangements include provisions that:

- Clarify that councils can set up joint committees that can consult on a proposal across multiple districts (instead of each council carrying out separate consultation), and to make recommendations to participating councils
- Set minimum consultation and information requirements – so one round of consultation is required, and information only needs to be provided on the analysis of two options (status quo + preferred option)
- Enable councils to consider the collective benefits/impacts of a proposal (across multiple districts), in addition to the interests of their individual districts – and to factor in the view of other participating councils.

Current Better Off and Transition Support funding arrangements will be retained

Cabinet has agreed to retain existing funding arrangements under the previous Government's water reform programme, and has asked the Department of Internal Affairs to work with councils and Iwi Collectives to align these to Local Water Done Well.

This includes:

Local Water Done Well: Information for councils (April 2024)

- Retaining current Better Off funding for all councils, but for the Department of Internal Affairs to work with councils to identify opportunities to redirect unspent Better Off funding to increase investment in water infrastructure or to help establish new water services delivery organisations.
- Retaining current Council Transition Support funding to enable councils to use this funding for work relating to Local Water Done Well, including supporting the establishment of new water services delivery organisations, or other planning work to support the transition to Local Water Done Well.

The Department of Internal Affairs will work with councils on any changes to current contractual arrangements to reflect decisions in relation to aligning funding to LWDW.

The Department of Internal Affairs will follow up with individual councils to provide further details.

Next steps

The Government will provide details in mid-2024 on the broader range of structural and financing tools, including through the New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA), which will be available to councils to ensure they can access the long-term debt required for investment in water services infrastructure. These tools will be implemented through further legislation that will establish the enduring settings for the new system.

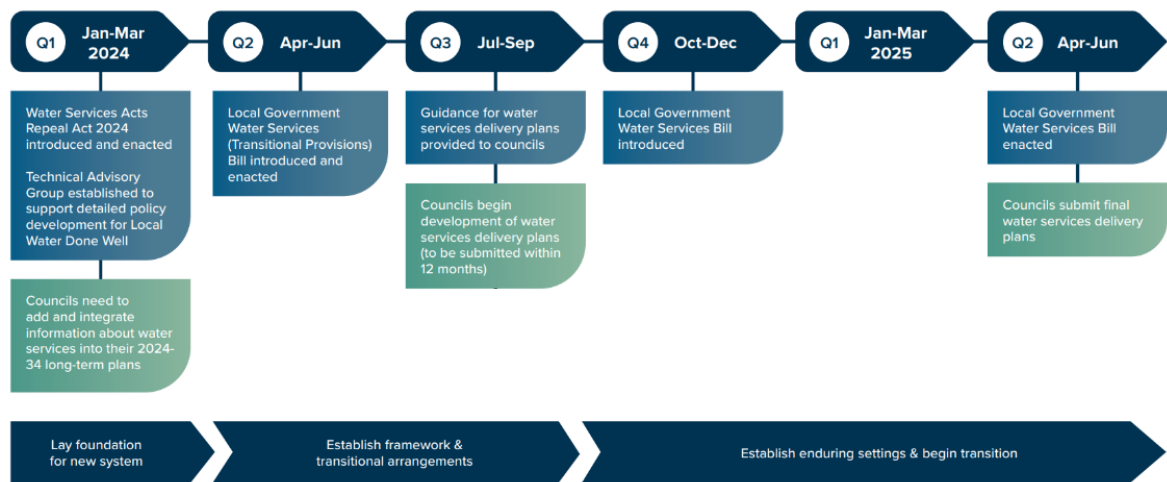
Policy areas to be included in further legislation include:

- Setting long-term requirements for financial sustainability
- Providing for a range of structural and financing tools, including a new class of financially independent council organisations
- Planning, accountability and reporting frameworks for water services
- Considering the empowering legislation for Taumata Arowai to ensure the regulatory regime is efficient, effective, and fit-for-purpose, and standards are proportionate for different types of drinking water suppliers
- Providing for a complete economic regulation regime
- Considering additional Ministerial powers of assistance and intervention in relation to water services, and regulatory powers to ensure effective delivery of financially sustainable water services.

Indicative timeline

The below timeline provides an indicative outline of policy, legislation and related council activity. It is subject to parliamentary processes and timetables.

Local Water Done Well: Information for councils (April 2024)




Further information

Once the proposed Local Government Water Services (Transitional Provisions) Bill has been introduced to Parliament, it will be available at www.legislation.govt.nz.

For further information about Local Water Done Well, visit www.dia.govt.nz/Water-Services-Policy-and-Legislation

Questions? Contact waterservices@dia.govt.nz



		Design	AJH , VG			Title Plan - East End	
		Drawn	AJH			Contract Wairoa Riverbank Pathway Realignment	
		Checked				Scale NTS	Date Mar 24
		Approved				Job No.	Sheet 02 Rev



		Design	AJH , VG			Title Plan - Oslers	
		Drawn	AJH			Contract Wairoa Riverbank Pathway Realignment	
		Checked					
		Approved				Scale NTS	Date Mar 24
						Job No.	Sheet 01



Pram Extensions	
Marine Parade Culvert Crossing	

Design	AJH , VG
Drawn	AJH
Checked	
Approved	



Title	Plan 1 - Spooners Pt to Rose St
Contract	Wairoa Riverbank Pathway Realignment
Scale	1:1000
Date	Mar 24
Job No.	
Sheet	05
Rev	01

9 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS**RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC****RECOMMENDATION**

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
9.1 - WAIROA WASTEWATER DISCHARGE CONSENT IMPLEMENTATION - UPATE	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7