



24 November 2022

Taumata Arowai  
PO Box 628  
Wellington 6140

Submitted via:

[Second Tranche of Drinking Water and Wastewater Network Environmental Performance Measures - Tell us a bit about yourself - Taumata Arowai - Citizen Space](#)

Dear Sir/Madam

**Joint submission from the Manawātū District Council and the Rangitīkei District Council on the second tranche of drinking water and wastewater network environmental performance measures**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the second tranche of drinking water and wastewater network environmental performance measures.

The Manawātū and Rangitīkei District Council's (MDC and RDC) have a shared services agreement for three waters. This is a joint submission on behalf of both Councils.

MDC and RDC generally support the proposed performance measures. However, we would like to provide some suggestions to improve the consistency and value of the information that is collected. MDC and RDC consider that some of the performance measures are too vague, which detracts from their usefulness in terms of setting a performance benchmark.

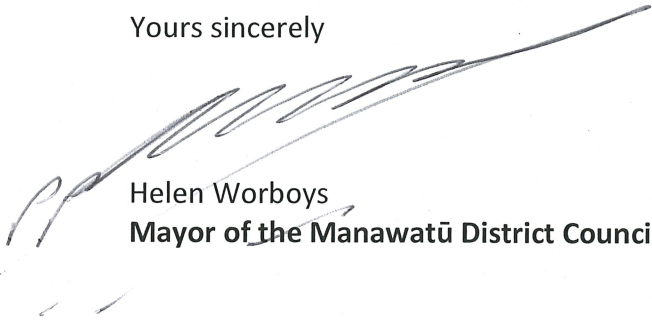
For example, one of the drinking water performance measures that relates to the outcome "*Environmental and public health is projected*" is "*fish passage and screening*." Network operators are required to provide data on whether fish ingress is prevented at all intake points. There is no definition around what screen size is appropriate to prevent fish ingress, which could lead to inconsistent environmental health outcomes. MDC and RDC recommend that the performance measures be further defined where possible, based on best practice, or existing national standards.

Similarly, one of the data points for the drinking water performance measure *use of water resources* asks "*How frequently are water abstraction meters calibrated?*" MDC and RDC recommend that rather than asking this question, it would be preferable to set a target that is tied back to the 'Blue Tick' accreditation programme, which requires service providers to calibrate meters every 5 years.

While we understand that targets will be developed in time, we would prefer that the targets are developed in conjunction with the performance measures. In addition, drop-down menus could be used within templates to facilitate consistent data collection and easier information sharing.

Please direct any questions regarding this submission to the Manawatū District Council's three waters team (email: [Threewaters@mdc.govt.nz](mailto:Threewaters@mdc.govt.nz)).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen Worboys', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Helen Worboys  
Mayor of the Manawatū District Council, JP

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andy Watson', with a stylized, cursive script.

Andy Watson  
Mayor of the Rangitikei District Council