



Three Waters Reform

RANGITĪKEI DISTRICT

Letter to all Residents and Ratepayers from Mayor Andy Watson

Central Government is proposing to reform the delivery of Three Waters across New Zealand.

Three Waters includes drinking water, waste water and storm water. Here in Rangitikei, these services are delivered by Manawātū District Council under a shared services agreement with Rangitikei District Council. The services provided are funded through rates.



Central Government has given councils until the end of September to provide feedback on the proposed reform. Before we provide feedback, we would like to hear from our community about what you think.

The proposal is to move Three Water services from the 67 councils of New Zealand into four large publicly owned entities.

Councils will collectively remain the 'owners' of the entities on behalf of their communities, with mana whenua having a joint oversight role. Three waters assets and service delivery will remain in public ownership with protections proposed in legislation against privatisation. There will be no shareholding or dividends.

Rangitikei is included in 'Entity B', which will be made up of 22 councils, including our neighbours Whanganui and Ruapehu and others in Waikato, Tauranga, Bay of Plenty and Taranaki. It is important to note that Manawātū will come under a different entity.

Regardless of who delivers the three waters service, we will have:

- Access to clean and safe drinking water
- A wastewater system that safely takes away and treats the water from your toilets, showers, sink etc.
- A stormwater network that effectively manages surface water and improves its quality before discharging it into our waterways.

We want to hear from you:

We have created a web page to explain what we know about the proposed reform. Please visit www.rangitikei.govt.nz/threewatersreform

Please take part in the survey, use this QR code to take you to there, and tell us your thoughts and concerns about the reform. Please complete this by 5pm, 24 September 2021. Council will collate your thoughts into consideration as it prepares its feedback which is due on 30 September 2021.



How else can you have your say?

The Three Waters reform proposal is complex, and we understand that you may want to meet with your Councillors and I to discuss. On Friday, 17 September at 2.30pm we will hold a Facebook live session with myself and our Chief Executive Peter Beggs, in which you can ask any questions you wish.

Once we have reviewed all feedback, the Council will meet on 30 September to consider its position and respond to Central Government's proposal. We will keep you updated on how the reform progresses via our website and Facebook page. We look forward to receiving your feedback.

Ngā manaakitanga, **Andy Watson**, Mayor of Rangitikei District.

Three Waters Reform – Quick background

In July 2020, Central Government launched the Three Waters Reform Programme – a three-year programme to reform local government three waters (drinking, waste and stormwater) service delivery arrangements.

The reform programme follows a Central Government Inquiry into Havelock North Drinking Water, which was set up following a campylobacter outbreak in 2016 where 5500 people became ill and four people are thought to have died from associated causes.

Central Government also established Taumata Arowai, which will become the country's drinking water regulator, when the Water Services Bill is passed. This is expected later this year.

Central Government is proposing to establish four publicly-owned entities to take responsibility for drinking water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure across New Zealand.

Currently 67 different councils own and operate the majority of the drinking water, wastewater and stormwater services across Aotearoa New Zealand.

Rangitikei District is proposed to be part of 'Entity B', which takes in 22 local authorities (Thames- Coromandel, Hamilton, Hauraki, Matamata-Piako, Waikato, Waipa, Waitomo, South Waikato, Stratford, Taupō, Tauranga, Western Bay of Plenty, Ōpōtiki, Kawerau, Rotorua Lakes, New Plymouth, Ōtorohanga, Rangitikei, Ruapehu, South Taranaki and Whanganui). Instead of your district council supplying your drinking water, storm water and wastewater services, they will be supplied by an entity that will work across the 'Entity B' geographical area.

More information can be found on the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) website:

www.dia.govt.nz/Three-waters-review



Te Wiki o te Reo Māori

This week is Māori Language Week.

Aotearoa has celebrated Te Wiki o te Reo Māori every year since 14 September 1975. This date commemorates the presentation of the 1972 Māori language petition to parliament. Te Reo Māori is a taonga (treasure) to all New Zealanders and has endangered language status.

Kia kaha te reo Māori -

Let's make the Māori language strong.

Project Update

Bulls Bus Lane - Te Matapihi

Construction is about to begin for the new bus lane at Te Matapihi - Bulls Community Centre. The bus lane will loop behind the centre along Funnell Street connecting Criterion and Dalzeil Streets. Work will start Monday 25 October and is expected to be completed by end of February 2022.



Notice of Meeting



Youth Council

The meeting that was scheduled for 14 September has been postponed and will be re-scheduled once we are at COVID Level 1.

Any queries, please phone 06 327 0099 or 0800 422 522.



The vaccine helps protect us all

Everyone over the age of 12 can now book in for a vaccine.

0800 28 29 26
BookMyVaccine.nz

Unite against COVID-19

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

Representation Review

Council is now consulting on its "Initial Proposal" for representation for the 2022 Local Government elections.

Have your say by 8 October 2021

www.rangitikei.govt.nz/representationreview



Food Business Grading Bylaw
Council is undertaking a review of its Food Business Grading Bylaw.

Have your say by 30 September 2021

www.rangitikei.govt.nz/consultations

Kōrero Mai
Have YOUR say!