

BRIEFING: THREE WATERS SUBMISSION

8 FEBRUARY 2023 – 3.20PM

ATTENDEES

Elected Members: Mayor Barry, Cr Barratt, Cr Briggs, Cr Brown, Cr Dyer, Cr Edwards, Deputy Mayor Lewis, Cr Mitchell, Cr Morgan, Cr Parkin, Cr Shaw, Cr Stallinger, Cr Tupou. M Fisher (PCB), K Yung (PCB).

Staff: B Hodgins, Strategic Advisor; J Miller, Chief Executive, J Livschitz, Group Chief Financial Officer; A Blackshaw, Director Neighbourhoods and Communities; J Griffiths, Director Strategy and Engagement; K Puketapu-Dentice, Director Economy and Development; A Geddes, Director Environment and Sustainability, R Hardie, Head of Strategy and Policy, D Nunnian, Manager Financial Strategy and Planning (via audio-visual link), H Singh, Advisor Strategic Planning and Business (via audio-visual link), M Palmer, Enterprise Portfolio Management Office (via audio-visual link), M Nuth, Principal Advisor, Research and Evaluation (via audio-visual link).

Mana Whenua representatives: R Te One (Wellington Tenths Trust)

APOLOGIES

Sheree Freeman (PCB)

Belinda Moss (ECB)

Emily Keddell (ECB)

PRESENTER

B Hodgins, Strategic Advisor

KEY OBJECTIVES OF THE BRIEFING

The purpose is to discuss Council's proposed submissions on two water services bills to central government and obtain feedback before the draft submission is finalised.

INTRODUCTION

The focus is on the Water Services Legislation Bill. Officers have not prepared a submission for the Water Services Economic Regulation and Consumer Protection Bill, but could potentially support submissions by Taituara, Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) or other councils. Wellington Water Limited is delivering its own submission.

Officers have looked at the Water Services Legislation Bill submissions from Taituara and LGNZ and has been working with other councils when drafting its submission.

PRESENTATION BY BRUCE HODGINS, STRATEGIC ADVISOR

Slide 1 (Header)

Slide 2 – Contents.

Slide 3 – The Bills: Water Services Legislation Bill and Water Services Economic Efficiency and Consumer Protection Bill.

Slide 4 – Suite of Legislation to establish the new service delivery system: What the bills aim to do.

Slide 5 – HCC Council submission – process: Council has been working with other councils in the Wellington region on key issues. Most points are also covered by Local Government New Zealand and Taituara. One additional key concern has been identified by Hutt City Council.

Slide 6 – Submission point - the requirement to collect revenue on behalf of the Water Services Entity: Most councils are expected to submit against this. The requirement will involve considerable work and will take Hutt City Council twelve months to have systems in place. It is likely to cause public confusion over accountability for Three Waters.

Slide 7 – Submission point - powers of entry: This point is not mentioned in submissions by other organisations. To gain entry to private property Council would potentially have a lengthy process to undergo before it carries out renewals or maintenance.

Slide 8 – Powers of entry - wastewater example.

Slide 9 – Other submission points: Other submission points Council wants to emphasise are based on the following rationale:

- Water is fundamental to achieving community wellbeing
- Council is the primary organisation undertaking growth plans and placemaking in its city. It's growth and planning are reliant on three waters services

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION POINTS

- The voice of Mana Whenua will be captured in Council's submission.
- The exclusion of social, environmental, cultural and economic well beings does not align with Taumata Arowai aspirations.

NEXT STEPS

Officers will provide a draft submission on the Water Services Legislation Bill to the Council meeting on 23 February 2023. Council's extension on its submission expires on 24 February 2023.

If Councillors have further feedback, they should send it to the Strategic Advisor via the Elected Members email channel by Friday 17 February and copy in all councillors.

The Strategic Advisor will circulate the LGNZ and Taiatura submissions to all councillors.

BRIEFING MATERIALS

Attachment 1 – Presentation: Three Waters Submission.

The briefing closed at 3.32pm