



Open Briefing: Transfer agreement and Tiaki Wai support

7 May 2026 – 12.44pm

Attendees

Elected Members: Cr Barratt, Deputy Mayor Brown, Cr Dyer, Cr Edwards, Cr Lewis, Cr Mitchell, Cr Parkin, Cr Puketapu, Cr Ravi, Cr Shaw, Cr Stallinger, Cr Tonga-Grant (via audio-visual link) and Cr Yung.

Staff: J Miller, Chief Executive; A Blackshaw, Director Neighbourhoods and Communities; J Kingsbury, Director Economy and Development; J Griffiths, Director Strategy and Engagement; J Livschitz, Group Chief Financial Officer; B Cato, Chief Legal Officer (via audio-visual link); S Gardner, Water Services Transition Manager; H Bell, Advisor Water Services; R Hardie, Head of Strategy and Policy; D Nunnian, Manager Financial Planning and Performance; K Stannard, Head of Democratic Services and H Clegg, Minute Taker.

Apologies

Mayor Fauono Laban

Presenter

S Gardner, Water Services Transition Manager

Introduction and Key Objectives of the Briefing

The purpose of the briefing is to update councillors on the progress of the Transfer Agreement.

Presentation by S Gardner, Water Services Transition Manager

Slide 1 (Header) – Transfer agreement

Slide 2 – Water services transition – update

Slide 3 – Key Steps for the Transfer Agreement

Slide 4 – Post Decision Dates Pending

Slide 5 – Briefings and Council Papers since October 2025

Slide 6 – Transfer Agreement Summary

Slide 7 – Transfer Schedules 1-18

Slide 8 – HCC Specific Transfer Arrangements

Slide 9 – Mechanisms of Transfer – Additional Processes

Slide 10 – Land Transfer – Example of Post Transfer Agreement Process
Requirements

Slide 11 – Decisions for 13 May 2026 – Summary

Questions and discussion points

- Wellington Water Ltd has traditionally maintained culverts and sumps within road reserves in Lower Hutt, although this approach has not been used consistently across the wider region. The Transfer Agreement recognises this arrangement, and the practice will continue in Lower Hutt after 1 July 2026.
- Activities previously carried out under Drainage Board legislation are being wound up.
- A process is in place to deal with any assets that may have been overlooked during the transfer.
- Councils are seeking legal assurances from Toitū Te Whenua | Land Information New Zealand regarding Tiaki Wai's access to reserve land. Officers acknowledged there remains some nervousness among shareholder councils due to the complexity of the transfer process.

Briefing materials

Attachment 1 – Presentation: Transfer agreement and Tiaki Wai support

The briefing closed at 1.02pm