

Hutt City Council

March 2023

Angela Penfold

Principal Advisor



Purpose: update on network consents

On behalf of councils, WWL is obtaining resource consents for discharges from wastewater and stormwater networks to meet the NPS-FM.

- 2024-2034 Investment Needs and Options work
- Timetable for lodging applications
- Managing risk



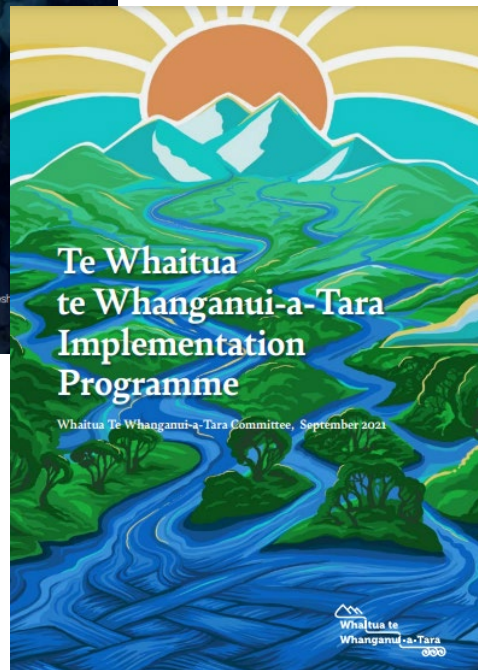
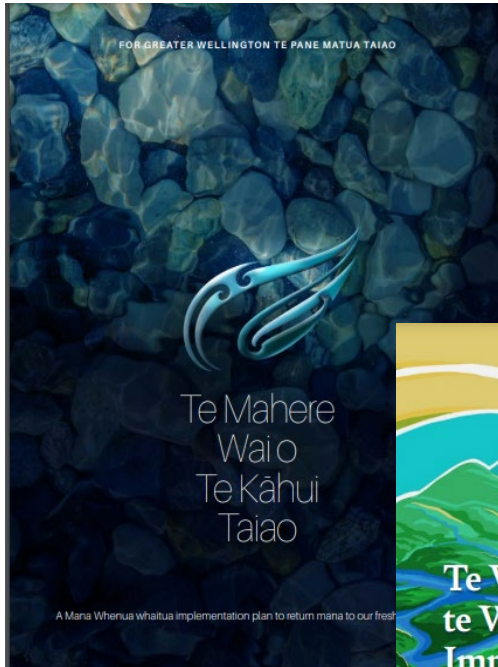
Photo: Taita Rock composite by James Lamb

2024-2034 Investment Needs & Options



- Covers the five strategic priorities and also considers resilience and flooding.
- This work will:
 - a) Inform the 2024-2034 NTU investment work for Entity C.
 - b) Support council if they remain as investor
 - c) Ensure that our Statement of Intent reflects of the investment challenges of our councils

Increasing focus on water quality



- Central Government direction: Te Mana o te Wai is fundamental to water management
- Regional Council implementation: Regional plan incorporates values and priorities identified by Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara
- Wellington Water working with councils to plan to reduce contamination to improve water quality
- New level of service for Councils and Wellington Water

What's covered by the network consents



- Maintaining and improving around 1000 km of council-owned wastewater and stormwater pipes, pump stations and wastewater storage tanks to reduce wet weather overflows
- Working with communities to reduce inflow and infiltration (eg Waiwhetū, Black Creek)
- Reducing contamination entering the stormwater network, eg wetlands, litter traps, controls on new developments



The consent applications have strict timelines

- Existing consents due to expire
- Failure to lodge new applications losing existing protections
- GWRC deadline is **31 May 2023**
- Three Waters National Transition Unit endorses lodgement
- Two applications to lodge for Hutt:
 - Hutt Wastewater Network Overflows consent
 - Regional stormwater consent



But what if ...

Managing through uncertainty



- ? Three waters reform
- ? General election
- ? Resource Management Act reform
- ? 2024-2034 Investment Needs & Options
- ? Client council feedback
- ? Mana whenua engagement
- ? Community engagement
- ? Updates to GWRC Natural Resources Plan

✓ Lodge on the basis of what we know now

≈ Monitor and adapt as required: August checkpoint

A few notes about the scale of investment

Estimated investment for these consents is based on:

- Entity C as investor
- Unconstrained approach
- Very early costs to provide order of magnitude, rather than amounts
- Will come back to Council if it remains as investor
- Will take time to ramp up



Investment for stormwater



Stormwater

- Capex – constructed wetlands, rain gardens, sump traps
- Opex – managing bylaws, education, maintaining assets, street sweeping

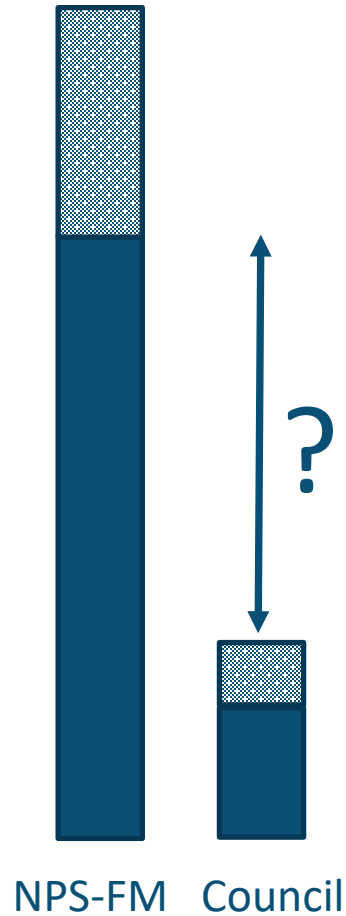
Investment for Hutt City's wastewater

Wet Weather Overflows from the wastewater network

- Capex changes depending on the levels of service:
 - Containment in a 6 month storm event
 - Containment in a 24 month storm event
 - Whaitua recommendation for 1 in 25 year containment
- Opex is mainly for greatly increased maintenance

No treatment plant or main outfall costs

Disconnect between NPS-FM & investment



Working together to address the magnitude of costs

- Everybody needs to work together
- GWRC is seeking greater understanding of the costs and benefits – including financial – of implementing the NPS-FM, with a particular focus on e coli
- Cost and benefit analysis is being prepared by GHD, by the ex chief economist of Auckland Council



Recap



- New level of service is required in response to new regulation
- Te Mana o te Wai is now central
- Consent applications set out pathway but require significant investment
- Applications based on water reforms providing investment
- Will come back to Council if it remains as investor
- 2024-2034 Investment Needs and Options work includes this and other strategic priorities

Questions / comments

