

From: Information Management Team <Susan.Sales@huttcity.govt.nz>
Sent on: Monday, March 6, 2023 9:42:44 PM
To: [REDACTED] s7(2)(a)
Subject: Three Waters Polls

Kia ora Geoff

Thank you for your email of 1 December 2022 and reminder of 3 March 2023. I apologise for the delay in responding to your email of 1 December 2022.

A poll about water reforms was conducted by Hutt City Council in 2022. You can find more information about this, including results, on Hutt City Council's website, as follows:
www.huttcity.govt.nz/environment-and-sustainability/water/three-waters-reform

On 1 December 2022, you also asked for information we hold about the following:

1. Tap/drinking water quality across New Zealand, and versus comparable nations, e.g. OECD.
2. Sewerage system quality, including spills into public waterways, across New Zealand and versus comparable nations, e.g. OECD

Hutt City Council does not hold this information. Taumata Arowai is the regulator of drinking water, so we suggest that you refer your query on drinking water to that agency or to Department of Internal Affairs. The most important pieces of legislation covering standards around sewage (other than the Building Act 2004 managed by local authorities) are the Resource Management Act (RMA) 1991 (managed by regional councils), and the Health Act 1956. Public health units, which are run by District Health Boards, ensure that the Health Act is complied with and houses meet sanitary requirements. The treatment of sewage to the environment is controlled under the RMA. We suggest that refer your enquiry to these agencies.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this letter may be published on the Council's website.

Kind regards, Susan

From: Geoff Neal [REDACTED] s7(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, 3 March 2023 2:37 pm
To: info@adc.govt.nz; info@boprc.govt.nz; info@bdc.govt.nz; ecinfo@ecan.govt.nz; info@cdc.govt.nz; info@chbdc.govt.nz; codcalex@codc.govt.nz; info@cic.govt.nz; info@ccc.govt.nz; help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz; dcc@dcc.govt.nz; service@gdc.govt.nz; info@goredc.govt.nz; info@greydc.govt.nz; info@hcc.govt.nz; council@hdc.govt.nz; info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz; info@hbrc.govt.nz; enquiries@horowhenua.govt.nz; info@hurunui.govt.nz; ContactHCC <contact@huttcity.govt.nz>; service@icc.govt.nz; kdc@kaikoura.govt.nz; council@kaipara.govt.nz; kapiti.council@kapiticoast.govt.nz; kaweraudc@kaweraudc.govt.nz; info@mackenzie.govt.nz; public@mdc.govt.nz; help@horizons.govt.nz; mdc@marlborough.govt.nz; mdc@mstn.govt.nz; info@mpdc.govt.nz; info@napier.govt.nz; enquiry@ncc.govt.nz; enquiries@npdc.govt.nz; mailroom@nrc.govt.nz; info@odc.govt.nz; info@orc.govt.nz; info@otodc.govt.nz; info@pncc.govt.nz; enquiries@porirua-ci

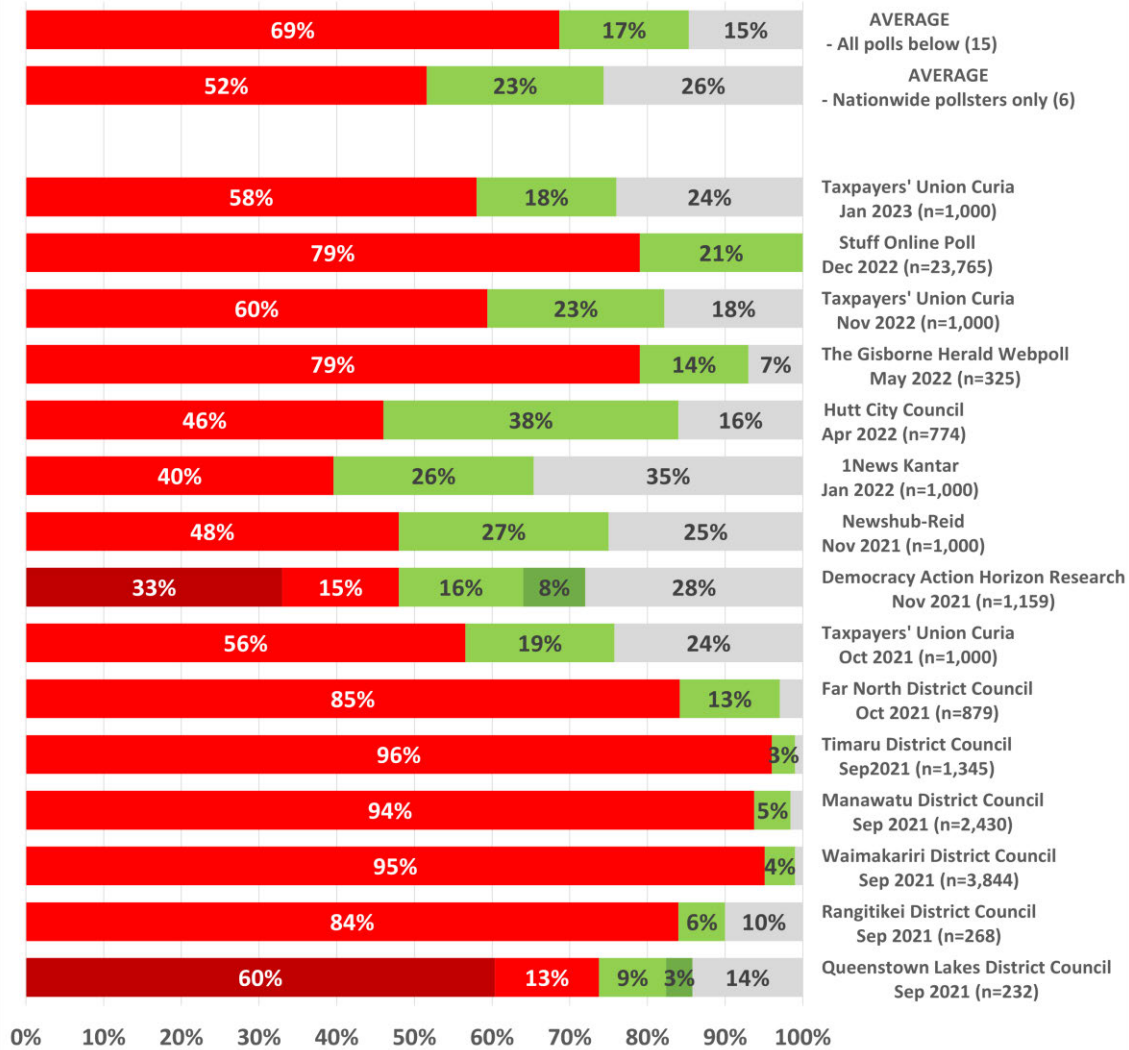
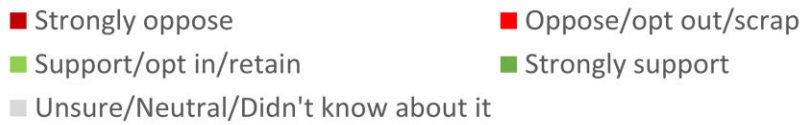
ty.govt.nz; services@qldc.govt.nz; info@rangitikei.govt.nz; info@rotorualc.nz; info@ruapehudc.govt.nz; admin@selwyn.govt.nz; contact@stdc.govt.nz; info@southwaikato.govt.nz; enquiries@swdc.govt.nz; emailsdcsouthlanddc.govt.nz; service@es.govt.nz; stratforddc@stratford.govt.nz; info@trc.govt.nz; info@tararuedc.govt.nz; info@tasman.govt.nz; info@taupo.govt.nz; info@tauranga.govt.nz; customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz; enquiry@timdc.govt.nz; askus@uhcc.govt.nz; info@waidc.govt.nz; office@wmk.govt.nz; council@waimatedc.govt.nz; info@waipadc.govt.nz; administrator@wairoadc.govt.nz; service@waitaki.govt.nz; info@waitomo.govt.nz; info@wcc.govt.nz; info@gw.govt.nz; info@wrc.govt.nz; customerservice@westernbay.govt.nz; council@westlanddc.govt.nz; information@whakatane.govt.nz; wdc@whanganui.govt.nz; mailroom@wdc.govt.nz

Subject: [EXTERNAL] 15x Three Waters Polls

Good afternoon, New Zealand Councils,

Below is an updated summary of **15 Three Waters polls** that show how many Kiwis support and oppose the Three Waters reform in its current form. I just presented this in my latest Three Waters oral submission. It has not yet been published in the media.

15 'Three Waters' Polls



I emailed you all on December 1st 2022 (email trail below), asking if you have run any polling on Three Waters.

- Thank you to the 16 Councils that replied (**Auckland, Carterton, ECAN, Hamilton, Hurunui, Kaipara, Mackenzie, Manawatu, Manawatu-Wanganui, Matamata-Piako, Napier, Palmerston North, Timaru, Waimakariri, Waimate, Waitake**)
- Thank you also to the 5 Councils who has already published polling data (**Far North, Hutt City, Queenstown, Rangitikei, Waimakariri**)
- I'd love to hear from the other 58 Councils, please, if you have done any Three Waters polling over recent years to add to this insights summary.

Across 15 polls, **3:1 Kiwis oppose the current Three Waters reforms in their current form**

- Auckland CC and Napier CC did not ask a general oppose/support question, so weren't included in the graph below. However, 67% of Aucklanders surveyed agreed that there should be elected local representatives, and that graph is also shown below.
- Hamilton CC provided 11 pages of mostly pro-Three Waters content before asking the general oppose/support question, so the results can't be used or compared to the other polls due to design bias. However, there is some great analysis within this research on why Kiwis oppose Three Waters so strongly (mostly the 3 Cs: a) co-governance b) confiscation of local assets, and c) cost concerns)
- Across all 15 polls, 4 : 1 New Zealanders oppose Three Waters than support it (actually 4.1 : 1)
- If we only look at the six nationwide polls run by polling companies, then the ratio is 2.3 : 1
- If we took an average weighting of those two scores, then it is 3.2 : 1.
- Whichever way you look at it, there is strong majority opposition to the current Three Waters reforms in their current form.

I have also included a graph showing that **99% (85,584) of written submissions opposed the Three Waters Services Entity Bill**

I also have the following data if you are interested:

- Water quality has improved, not declined, since 2017.
- Water compliance by water supplier size, showing that, large suppliers are generally performing very well, and the challenges lie with smaller suppliers without economies of scale
- Screenshots and files of the Labour Party's 2020 election policies from October 2020 showing that Three Waters was not mentioned

Unfortunately, it appears that there are no targets set for acceptable water quality (bacterial, protozoal, chemical), nor has there been any benchmarking of New Zealand's drinking, waste, or storm water versus comparable OECD nations.

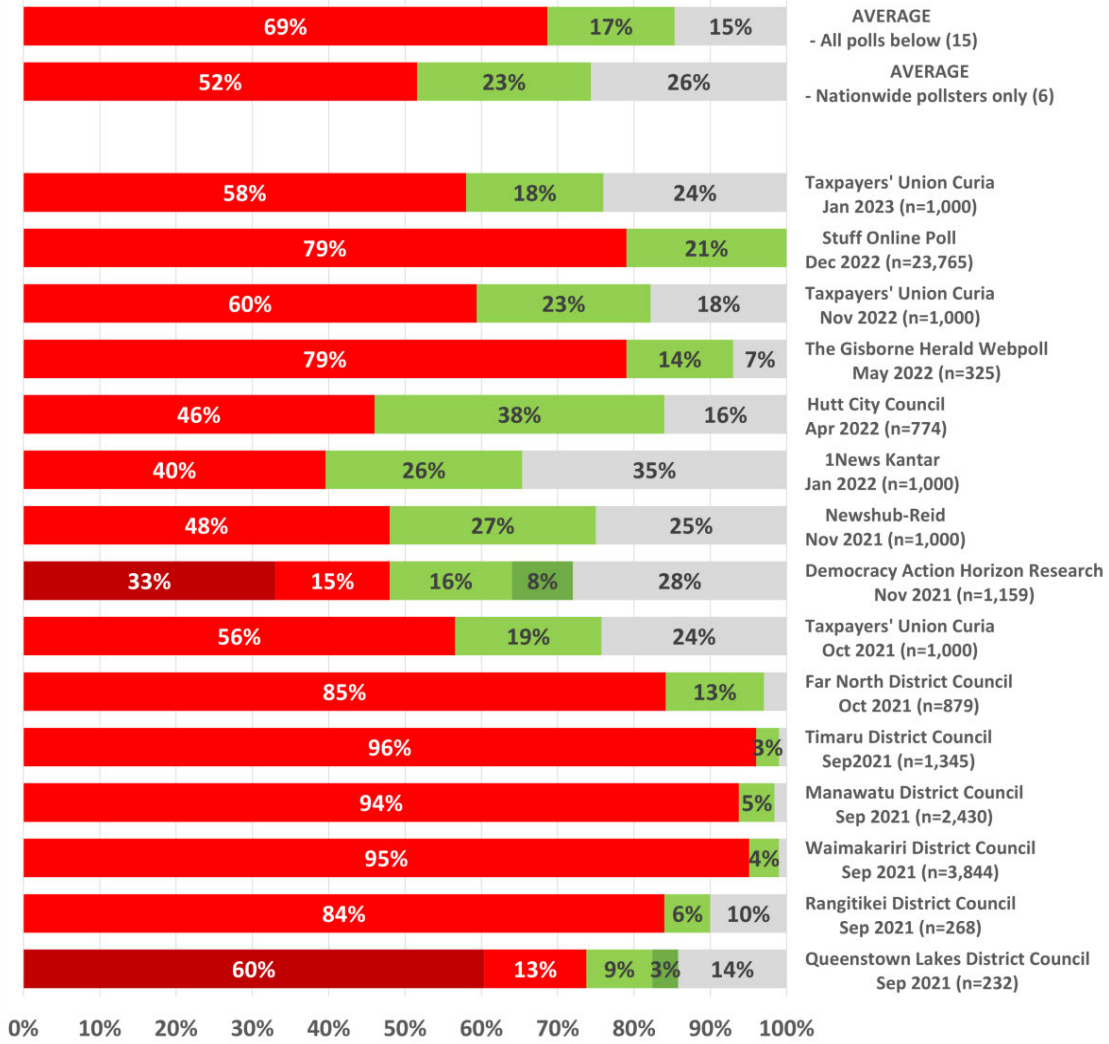
Kind regards

Geoff

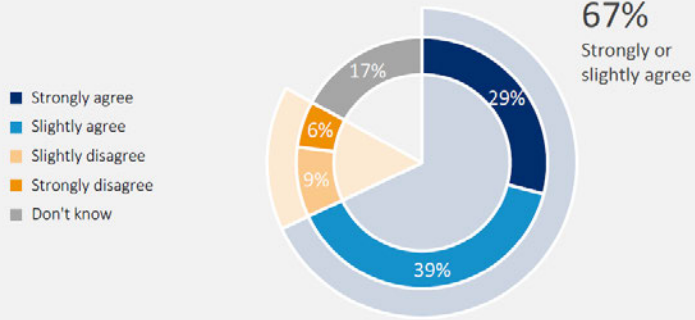
s7(2)(a)

15 'Three Waters' Polls

- Strongly oppose
- Support/opt in/retain
- Unsure/Neutral/Didn't know about it
- Oppose/opt out/scrap
- Strongly support



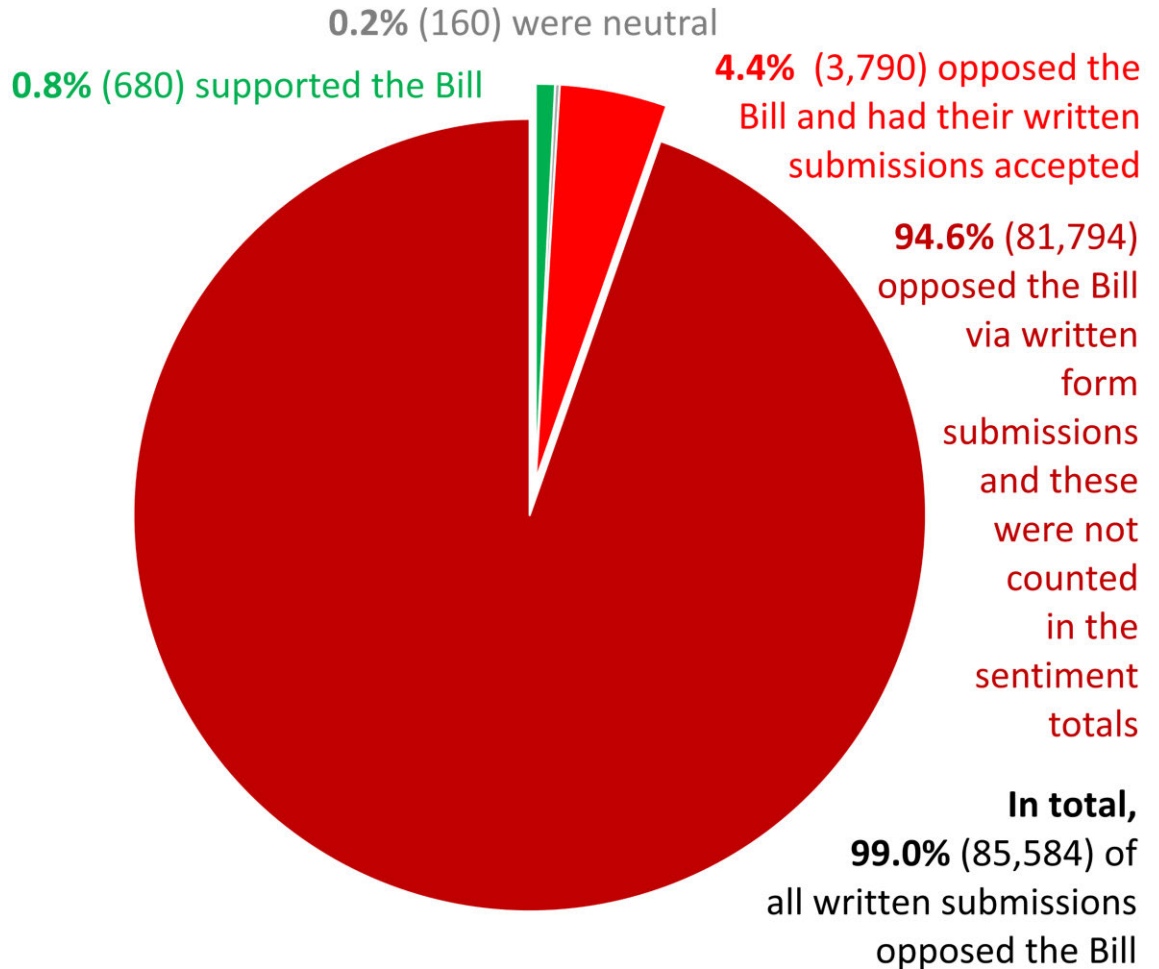
Level of agreement with Auckland Council's proposal on who Entity A should be answerable to



Base: All respondents (2,003)
Source: Q4

Water Services Entity Bill

Submission Sentiment



From: Geoff Neal

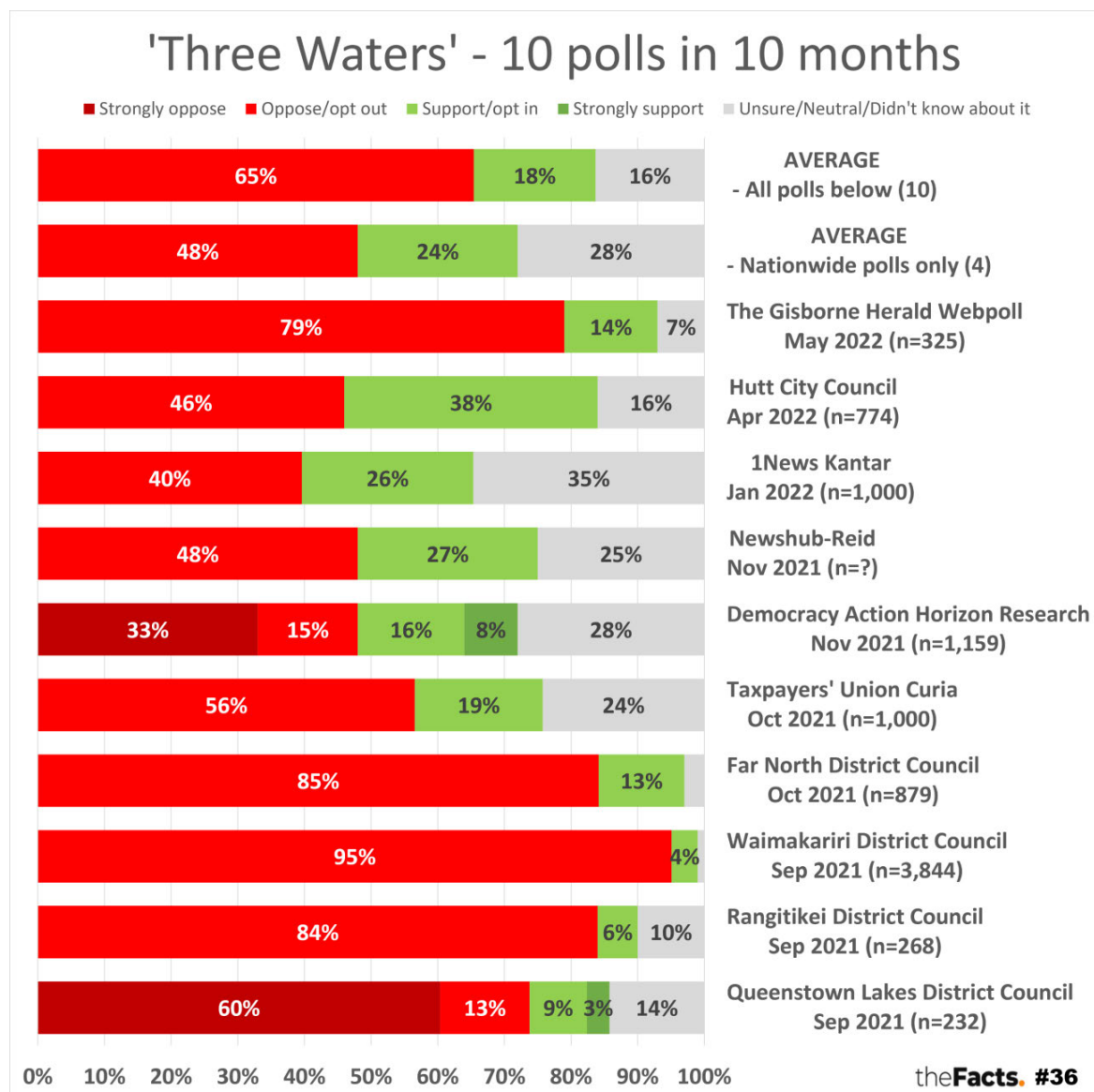
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 1:35 PM

To: 'info@adc.govt.nz' <info@adc.govt.nz>; 'info@boprc.govt.nz' <info@boprc.govt.nz>;
'info@bdc.govt.nz' <info@bdc.govt.nz>; 'ecinfo@ecan.govt.nz' <ecinfo@ecan.govt.nz>;
'info@cdc.govt.nz' <info@cdc.govt.nz>; 'info@chbdc.govt.nz' <info@chbdc.govt.nz>;
'codcalex@codc.govt.nz' <codcalex@codc.govt.nz>; 'info@cic.govt.nz' <info@cic.govt.nz>;
'info@ccc.govt.nz' <info@ccc.govt.nz>; 'help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz' <help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz>;
'dcc@dcc.govt.nz' <dcc@dcc.govt.nz>; 'service@gdc.govt.nz' <service@gdc.govt.nz>;
'info@goredc.govt.nz' <info@goredc.govt.nz>; 'info@greydc.govt.nz' <info@greydc.govt.nz>;
'info@hcc.govt.nz' <info@hcc.govt.nz>; 'council@hdc.govt.nz' <council@hdc.govt.nz>;
'info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz' <info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz>; 'info@hbrc.govt.nz' <info@hbrc.govt.nz>;
'enquiries@horowhenua.govt.nz' <enquiries@horowhenua.govt.nz>; 'info@hurunui.govt.nz'
<info@hurunui.govt.nz>; 'contact@huttcity.govt.nz' <contact@huttcity.govt.nz>;
'service@icc.govt.nz' <service@icc.govt.nz>; 'kdc@kaikoura.govt.nz' <kdc@kaikoura.govt.nz>;
'council@kaipara.govt.nz' <council@kaipara.govt.nz>; 'kapiti.council@kapiticoast.govt.nz'
<kapiti.council@kapiticoast.govt.nz>; 'kaweraudc@kaweraudc.govt.nz'
<kaweraudc@kaweraudc.govt.nz>; 'info@mackenzie.govt.nz' <info@mackenzie.govt.nz>;
'public@mdc.govt.nz' <public@mdc.govt.nz>; 'help@horizons.govt.nz' <help@horizons.govt.nz>;
'mdc@marlborough.govt.nz' <mdc@marlborough.govt.nz>; 'mdc@mstn.govt.nz'
<mdc@mstn.govt.nz>; 'info@mpdc.govt.nz' <info@mpdc.govt.nz>; 'info@napier.govt.nz'
<info@napier.govt.nz>; 'enquiry@ncc.govt.nz' <enquiry@ncc.govt.nz>; 'enquiries@npdc.govt.nz'
<enquiries@npdc.govt.nz>; 'mailroom@nrc.govt.nz' <mailroom@nrc.govt.nz>; 'info@odc.govt.nz'
<info@odc.govt.nz>; 'info@orc.govt.nz' <info@orc.govt.nz>; 'info@otodc.govt.nz'
<info@otodc.govt.nz>; 'info@pncc.govt.nz' <info@pncc.govt.nz>; 'enquiries@porirua.govt.nz'
<enquiries@porirua.govt.nz>; 'services@qldc.govt.nz' <services@qldc.govt.nz>;
'info@rangitikei.govt.nz' <info@rangitikei.govt.nz>; 'info@rotorua.govt.nz' <info@rotorua.govt.nz>;
'info@ruapehu.govt.nz' <info@ruapehu.govt.nz>; 'admin@selwyn.govt.nz'
<admin@selwyn.govt.nz>; 'contact@stdc.govt.nz' <contact@stdc.govt.nz>;
'info@southwaikato.govt.nz' <info@southwaikato.govt.nz>; 'enquiries@swdc.govt.nz'
<enquiries@swdc.govt.nz>; 'emailsdc@southlanddc.govt.nz' <emailsdc@southlanddc.govt.nz>;
'service@es.govt.nz' <service@es.govt.nz>; 'stratforddc@stratford.govt.nz'
<stratforddc@stratford.govt.nz>; 'info@trc.govt.nz' <info@trc.govt.nz>; 'info@tararua.govt.nz'
<info@tararua.govt.nz>; 'info@tasman.govt.nz' <info@tasman.govt.nz>; 'info@taupo.govt.nz'
<info@taupo.govt.nz>; 'info@tauranga.govt.nz' <info@tauranga.govt.nz>;
'customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz' <customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz>; 'enquiry@timdc.govt.nz'
<enquiry@timdc.govt.nz>; 'askus@uhcc.govt.nz' <askus@uhcc.govt.nz>; 'info@waidc.govt.nz'
<info@waidc.govt.nz>; 'office@wmk.govt.nz' <office@wmk.govt.nz>; 'council@waimatedc.govt.nz'
<council@waimatedc.govt.nz>; 'info@waipadc.govt.nz' <info@waipadc.govt.nz>;
'administrator@wairoadc.govt.nz' <administrator@wairoadc.govt.nz>; 'service@waitaki.govt.nz'
<service@waitaki.govt.nz>; 'info@waitomo.govt.nz' <info@waitomo.govt.nz>; 'info@wcc.govt.nz'
<info@wcc.govt.nz>; 'info@gw.govt.nz' <info@gw.govt.nz>; 'info@wrc.govt.nz'
<info@wrc.govt.nz>; 'customerservice@westernbay.govt.nz'
<customerservice@westernbay.govt.nz>; 'council@westlanddc.govt.nz'
<council@westlanddc.govt.nz>; 'information@whakatane.govt.nz'
<information@whakatane.govt.nz>; 'wdc@whanganui.govt.nz' <wdc@whanganui.govt.nz>;
'mailroom@wdc.govt.nz' <mailroom@wdc.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: Three Waters Polling

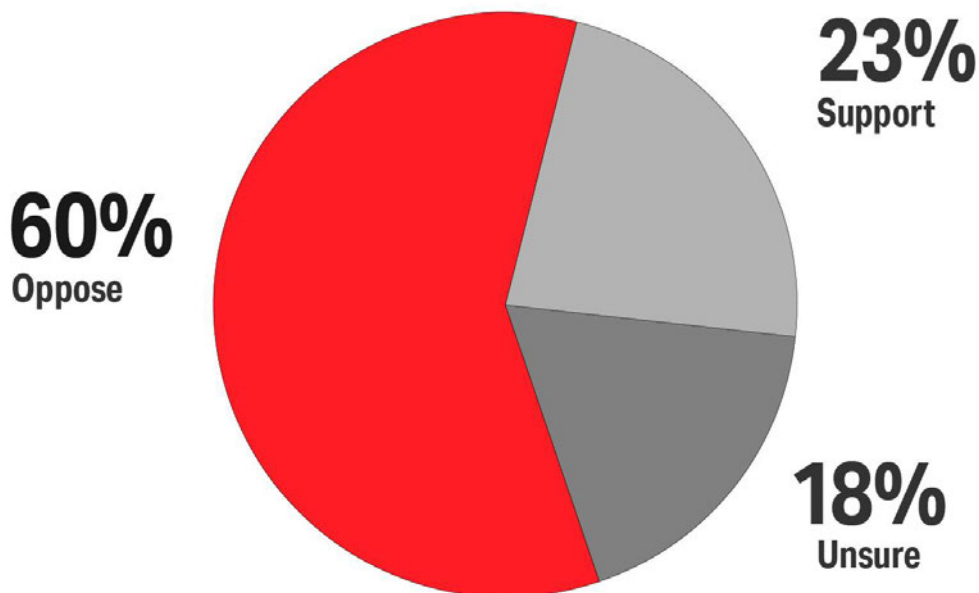
Good afternoon, New Zealand Councils,

Thank you for helping us with our Three Waters polling summary below in July.



We would like to update the data with any polls commissioned since then so that we can better understand the views of voters. The only one we have seen since, though, is the recent [Curia poll](#) showing 60% opposition and 23% support (both up 4 percentage points from 56% and 19% in October 2021).

Do you support or oppose the proposed Three Waters reforms?



Source: Taxpayers' Union-Curia Poll
Polling Period: Thu 3 to Tue 8 Nov 2022



Can you please let us know if you have conducted any public polling/research not listed in the 10 poll summary below.

We'd also love to see any data you have on:

3. Tap/drinking water quality across New Zealand, and versus comparable nations, e.g. OECD.
4. Sewerage system quality, including spills into public waterways, across New Zealand and versus comparable nations, e.g. OECD

Despite the level of public debate on Three Waters, these critical metrics don't seem to have been shared with the public to help us better understand the situation and issues.

We are also talking with several water experts/organisations, and will share any new data we find out in return.

Kind regards
Geoff and theFacts Team

s7(2)(a)