

Mahere wai

Water plan

2024-2034
Long-Term Plan

We want our city to have enough safe water and to be safe from flooding during storm events. We want our wastewater to be effectively collected, treated, and disposed of.

Water services have undergone significant reform in the past few years. The National-led Government has repealed the previous government's Three Waters programme and replaced it with 'Local Water Done Well'.

The Government is still working through the details of what this reform involves, but it does include local government keeping ownership of water assets. Councils will be encouraged to form regional groupings (to get the benefits of size) and Council-Controlled Organisations (to be able to borrow funds without affecting Council balance sheets). Further details will not be developed before the new LTP is adopted. In the meantime, Council has planned and budgeted to provide water, stormwater and wastewater services for the ten years of the new LTP.

Ka aha mātou?

What will we do?

Protect buildings and communities from flooding

What will this mean?

The risk of negative impacts on the community is minimised in flood events. The stormwater system is effective and responsive to the impacts of climate change.

Specific actions

- Plan, develop, maintain, upgrade and provide stormwater infrastructure to manage capacity and accommodate growth
- Plant and manage urban waterways and wetlands
- Provide information and education about water sensitive design, including water tanks, green roofs, swales, rain gardens and detention ponds conservation and storage
- Implement Hei Manga Ora – a partnership project to restore Kawau Stream
[See [Biodiversity and the Manawātū River plan](#)]
- Establish drainage reserves for urban streams in private ownership

New or one-off actions

- Develop and implement a city-wide flood mitigation programme (year 1)
- Develop regulatory requirements for stormwater detention, restriction of impervious surface cover, and water sensitive design (from year 1)
- Develop a new Whakarongo stormwater detention and treatment system (year 1)
- Develop a Stormwater strategy (years 1 and 2)

Provide safe and readily-available water

What will this mean?

Communities have access to a safe water supply. People have the information they need to conserve and reduce water use. Water infrastructure is well maintained and resilient.

Specific actions

- Provide water services to our community
- Manage Turitea Reserve to protect our water supply
- Plan, develop, maintain, upgrade and renew water infrastructure
- Plan and provide water supply services and infrastructure to cater for urban growth
- Meter industrial and commercial water users
- Provide information and education about water conservation and storage

New or one-off actions

- Renew and upgrade water supply infrastructure
- Upgrade the water network across the city to improve resilience
- Improve the quality of the Ashhurst Water Supply
- Upgrade water mains to meet flow needed for firefighting

Manage city wastewater

What will this mean?

City wastewater is effectively and efficiently collected, treated and disposed of. Wastewater infrastructure is well maintained and resilient.

Specific actions

- Plan, develop, maintain, upgrade, and provide wastewater infrastructure to manage capacity and accommodate growth
- Prevent sources of stormwater entry from private property to the wastewater network
- Operate and maintain pressure sewer systems vested in Council

New or one-off actions

- Assess short-listed options for Nature Calls and determine the Best Practicable Option within a \$480m (excluding inflation) cap across the duration of the LTP

