



Agenda

**Notice is hereby given of
an Extraordinary Council Meeting**

Tuesday 13 May 2025

9:30 AM

**Council Chamber
Waimate District Council
125 Queen Street
Waimate**

www.waimatedc.govt.nz

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Waimate District Council, 125 Queen Street, Waimate, on Tuesday 13 May 2025, commencing at 9:30am.

Elected Members

Craig Rowley	Chairperson
Sharyn Cain	Deputy Mayor
John Begg	Councillor
Peter Collins	Councillor
Sandy McAlwee	Councillor
Tom O'Connor	Councillor
Colin Pankhurst	Councillor
Lisa Small	Councillor
Rick Stevens	Councillor

Quorum – no less than five members

Significance Consideration

Evaluation: Council officers, in preparing these reports have had regard to Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. Council and Committee members will make the final assessment on whether the subject under consideration is to be regarded as being significant or not. Unless Council or Committee explicitly determines that the subject under consideration is to be deemed significant then the subject will be deemed as not being significant.

Decision Making

The Council, in considering each matter, must be:

- i. Satisfied that it has sufficient information about the practicable options and their benefits, costs and impacts, bearing in mind the significance of the decision;
- ii. Satisfied that it knows enough about and will give adequate consideration to the views and preferences of affected and interested parties bearing in mind the significance of the decisions to be made.

Stuart Duncan
Chief Executive

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OPENING**1 MEETING OPENING**

The Chair will open the meeting and welcome members.

2 PUBLIC FORUM

There is no Public Forum offered at this Extraordinary Meeting of Council.

3 APOLOGIES

The Chair will call for any apologies.

4 VISITORS**5 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

As per the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968 (as below), the Chair will enquire if there are any Conflicts of Interest to be declared on any item on the agenda, and if so, for any member to declare this interest.

Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968

Councillors are reminded that if they have a pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda, then they must declare this interest and refrain from discussing or voting on this item and are advised to withdraw from the meeting table.

6 IDENTIFICATION OF MAJOR (URGENT) OR MINOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

There is no Identification of Major (Urgent) or Minor Items not on the Agenda offered at this Extraordinary Meeting of Council.

REPORTS

7 GENERAL REPORTS

7.1 LOCAL WATER DONE WELL CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Author: Shey Taylor, Strategic Planner/Policy Advisor

Authoriser: Stuart Duncan, Chief Executive

Attachments: Nil

PURPOSE

1. To present the draft Local Water Done Well Consultation Document for adoption and public consultation. **The document will be provided to Council as a late item under separate cover at the earliest possible opportunity.**

BACKGROUND

2. The coalition government repealed legislation that had been established under the previous government and replaced it with new legislation enacting their Local Water Done Well policy. Although left to individual councils to decide overall arrangements for service delivery, the new approach is that water services must operate more like an independent utility business and will be subject to strict economic, environmental and water quality regulation.
3. The Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024 requires all councils to submit a Water Service Delivery Plan (WSDP) by 3 September 2025. Councils must consult on at least two options for the future of water service delivery from:
 - a. **Internal business unit or division:** Continuation of the existing in-house service delivery model with new ring-fencing and financial sustainability requirements.
 - b. **Single council owned water organisation:** Establishing a new company 100% owned by the council, with strengthened governance and management.
 - c. **Multi-council owned water organisation:** Jointly owned company by multiple councils, offering potential economies of scale.
 - d. **Community trust owned:** A wholly consumer trust owned water organisation, independent of council control.
 - e. **Mixed council and consumer trust owned:** A water organisation part-owned by councils and a consumer trust, enabling financial independence while retaining some council ownership.
4. Council engaged MartinJenkins Consultants to prepare a series of reports to measure each model against the requirements of the Local Water Done Well legislation, namely, sufficiency of investment, funding and financing, affordability, and levels of service delivery.
5. On 29 April 2025, Council agreed to consult on two options, being:

Option 1: An internal water services unit (Council's preferred option)
Keeping water services in-house and overseen by our Council, and

Option 2: Three-council water services organisation
Joining a new water services organisation with Mackenzie District Council and Timaru District Council.
6. This consultation is being undertaken in compliance with the alternative requirements for consultation outlined in the Water Services Preliminary Arrangements Act. Sections 60-64 of the Act provides specific conditions and exemptions from corresponding requirements under the Local Government Act 2002.
7. Under the Water Services Preliminary Arrangements Act Section 63 this consultation may be used to fulfil the consultation requirements to amend Council's Long Term Plan if needed.

8. The consultation will run from 15 May 2025 to 16 June 2025.
9. The Consultation Document will be available on the Council website at waimatedc.govt.nz/yourwater
10. Residents who have opted into Council's "Notify Me" and Engagement HQ systems will be sent a message to inform people that consultation has opened.
11. Promotion of the Consultation Document will include advertising in print media in such papers as the Waimate Trader, the Kurow Bugle, and 'Newsline' in the Timaru Courier. Social media will include regular posting on Council's facebook page.
12. Community Chat sessions have been scheduled for various locations around the district and will be hosted by Councillors and Council staff. These are drop-in events and will provide a forum for members of the public to speak to Councillors and staff and ask any questions raised by the Consultation Document.
13. Hearings for those who wish to speak to their submission are planned for 30 June 2025. Submission feedback will be considered following these hearings and decisions will be made by Council on 1 July 2025.

Options

14. Council adopts the Local Water Done Well Consultation Document; or
15. Council amends the Local Water Done Well Consultation Document.

ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

16. The decisions outlined in this Consultation Document are of high significance and this consultation process has been prepared in accordance with Council's responsibilities under the Local Government Act 2002, the Water Services Preliminary Arrangements Act 2024, and the 301 Significance and Engagement Policy.

CONSIDERATIONS

17. Any amendments to this Consultation Document may result in the delaying of scheduled consultation.

Legislation

18. Local Government Act 2002.
19. Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024.
20. Water Services Acts Repeal Act 2024.

Risk

21. A decision to progress consultation is required on 13 May 2025 so there is sufficient time for the development of the Water Services Delivery Plan and an accompanying implementation plan which is required to be submitted to the Minister of Local Government by 3 September 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Local Water Done Well Consultation Document report is accepted; and
2. That Council adopts the Local Water Done Well Consultation Document for public consultation; and
3. That, if necessary, the Chief Executive be authorised to make any minor and non-material corrections to the Local Water Done Well Consultation Document before the Local Water Done Well Consultation Document is publicly notified.

MEETING CLOSURE