

Agenda

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

Tuesday 1 July 2025

1:00pm

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 1 July 2025, commencing at 1:00pm.

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**

There is no formal Opening scheduled for this Extraordinary Meeting of Council.

2 PUBLIC FORUM

There is no Public Forum scheduled for this Extraordinary Meeting of Council.

3 APOLOGIES

The Chair will call for any apologies. An apology has been received from Cr Colin Pankhurst.

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 Mayor (Urgent) or Minor Items not on the Agenda for this Extraordinary Meeting of Council.



REPORTS

7 GENERAL REPORTS

7.1 LOCAL WATER DONE WELL CONSULTATION DECISION

Author: Shey Taylor, Strategic Planner/Policy Advisor
 Nicole Timney, Community Services and Strategy Group Manager

Authoriser: Stuart Duncan, Chief Executive

Attachments: 1. WDC Local Water Done Well 2025 Submissions Summary  

PURPOSE

1. To inform Council as to the result of the Local Water Done Well public engagement and consultation.
2. For Council to make a decision regarding which consultation option will form the basis of the Water Services Delivery Plan to be submitted to the Minister for Local Government by 3 September 2025.

BACKGROUND

3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.

Public Consultation

7. Consultation was 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.
8. 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.
9. The consultation ran from 15 May 2025 to 16 June 2025.
10. The Consultation Document is available on the Council website at waimatedc.govt.nz/yourwater
11. Residents who have opted into Council's "Notify Me" and Engagement HQ systems were informed that consultation had opened.
12. Promotion of the Consultation Document included advertising in print media in such papers as the Waimate Trader, the Kurow Bugle, and 'Newslane' in the Timaru Courier. Social media included regular posting on Council's facebook page.
13. Nine 'Community Chat' sessions were held in various locations around the district, hosted by Councillors and Council staff. These are drop-in events provided a forum for members of the public to speak to Councillors and staff and ask any questions raised by the Consultation Document.
14. Hearings for those who wish to speak to their submission were held on 30 June 2025.

Consultation Results

15. Submissions on the Local Water Done Well 2025 closed on 16 June 2025 at 12pm, with 246 submissions received.
16. 17 submitters indicated that they wish to speak to Council regarding the content of their submission.
17. A summary of consultation results has been provided as an attachment to this agenda item.

ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

18. The decisions outlined in the Consultation Document are of high significance and the consultation process was 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**Legislation**

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

Risk

22. A decision is required on 1 July 2025 so there is sufficient time for the development of a Water Services Delivery 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 Decision report is accepted; and
2. That Council decides which consultation option will form the basis of the Water Services Delivery Plan to be submitted to the Minister for Local Government by 3 September 2025.

Local Water Done Well 2025 Submissions Summary

Consultation took place from 15 May 2025 to 16 June 2025

246 Total Submissions Received

17 Submitters wish to speak to Council

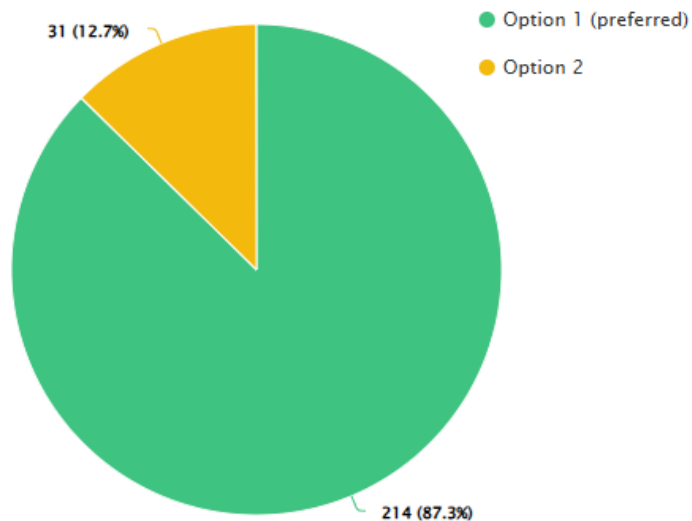
944 people accessed Council's Local Water Done Well website

9 Community Chat sessions

Question 1: Please choose the water service delivery model that you support.

Options	Results	Total votes
Option 1 (Preferred) – Internal Water Service Unit	87.4%	214
Option 2 – Three-Council Water Service Organization	12.6%	31

Note: One submission received with no opinion.



Waimate District Council Local Water Done Well Consultation
18 June 2025

Question 2: Please rank the following factors in order of importance.

(Lower number = perceived as more important)

Options	Average Rank
Affordability <i>Ensuring water services are delivered safely and sustainably, while managing prices charged to customers</i>	1.73
Community Influence <i>Your ability to shape decisions about water services</i>	2.21
Rural Water <i>Your ability to shape decisions about water services</i>	2.55
Access to Finance <i>More access to financing for water services and other Council activities</i>	3.31

Ranked Choice Heatmapping

Across All Submissions				
	Affordability	Community Influence	Rural Water	Access to Finance
Rank 1	101	55	34	15
Rank 2	59	64	47	25
Rank 3	33	50	69	33
Rank 4	7	23	33	112

Across Option 1 Voters				
	Affordability	Community Influence	Rural Water	Access to Finance
Rank 1	86	52	34	7
Rank 2	54	57	42	16
Rank 3	28	42	61	29
Rank 4	6	16	21	107

Across Option 2 Voters				
	Affordability	Community Influence	Rural Water	Access to Finance
Rank 1	15	3	0	8
Rank 2	5	7	5	9
Rank 3	5	8	8	4
Rank 4	1	7	12	5

Waimate District Council Local Water Done Well Consultation
18 June 2025

MEETING CLOSURE