

# Drinking Water Network Environmental Performance Measures

9 March 2022



# Ko wai, ko au, ko tātou

Ko te wai ahau, ko ahau te wai.  
He whakaaturanga tātau nō te wai.  
Ko te ora te wai ko te ora o te  
tangata.  
He taonga te wai me tiaki.  
Ko wai tātou.  
Ko wai tātou.

I am wai, wai is me.  
We are reflections of our wai.  
The health of te wai is the health of te  
tangata.  
Wai is a taonga that must be protected.  
Ko wai tātou.  
We are wai. Wai is us.



# What we will cover today

- **Overview**
  - Bill Bayfield, Chief Executive – public consultation, who the new requirements will apply to and timeframes, why they are being introduced, Te Mana o te Wai
- **Drinking Water Network Environmental Performance**
  - Isobel Oldfield, Lead Policy Advisor – discussion document, drinking water network environmental performance measures, next steps
- **Te puna kōrero / Have your say**
- **Pātai / questions**
  - Opportunity to answer any further pātai / questions you might have



Unclassified

# Overview

# Public consultation

- We are currently seeking feedback on a number of documents which flesh out aspects of the regulatory framework enabled by the Water Services Act 2021.
- The draft Drinking Water Network Environmental Performance Measures is one of these documents.  
([te-puna-korero.taumataarowai.govt.nz/regulatory/drinking-water-network-environment-performance](https://te-puna-korero.taumataarowai.govt.nz/regulatory/drinking-water-network-environment-performance)).
- Submissions on this document are open until **28 March 2022**. Once consultation is closed, we will work with network operators to refine the measures and develop guidance material. Let us know if you would like to be a part of this.

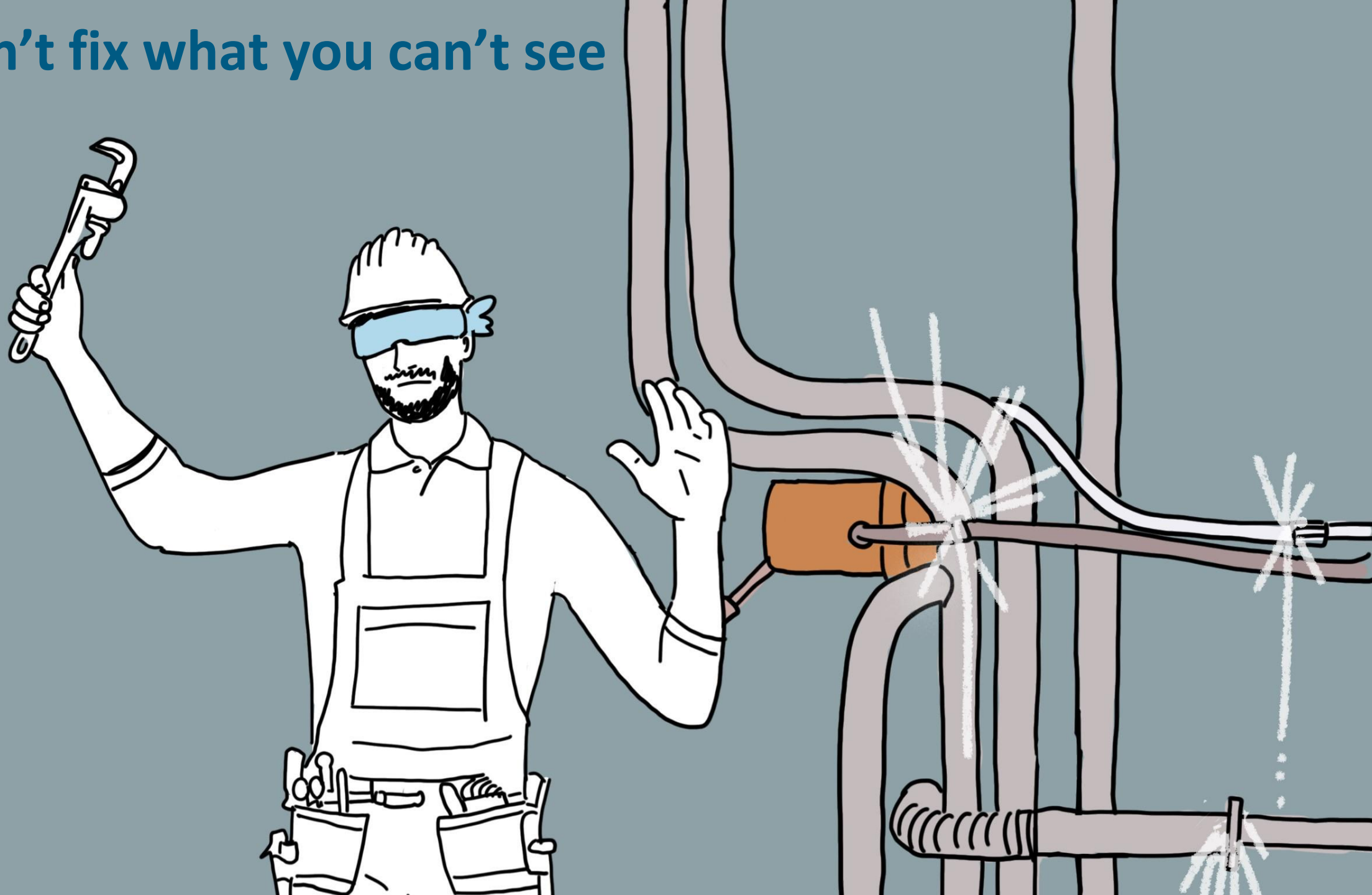


# Who will they apply to and what timeframe?

- The new drinking water network environmental performance measures only apply to networks and network operators. The measures therefore only apply to drinking water supplies that are run by or on behalf of councils, council-controlled organisations or government departments.
- The measures will be phased over three years, with data collection for the first group of measures starting from **1 July 2022**.
- Further measures will be introduced from **1 July 2023** and from **1 July 2024**.
- Wastewater and stormwater measures are also required under the Water Services Act 2021 from 2023, however, those provisions particularly stormwater are being reconsidered and may be delayed.



You can't fix what you can't see



# Why introduce these requirements?

- Requirements are designed to provide greater transparency on:
  - the performance of networks
  - the impacts they have on public health and the environment
  - and to contribute to the continuous improvement of the quality of water services.
- We know councils are asked for similar information from other agencies. We are working with those agencies to manage any overlaps and to make it easy as possible for you.
- We are working in close conjunction with the Three Waters National Transition Unit, MBIE and Commerce Commission to integrate with the future Economic Regulator.





# Taumata Arowai takes a lead from Te Mana o te Wai



These principals are about restoring and preserving the health, wellbeing, and balance between water, people, and environment.

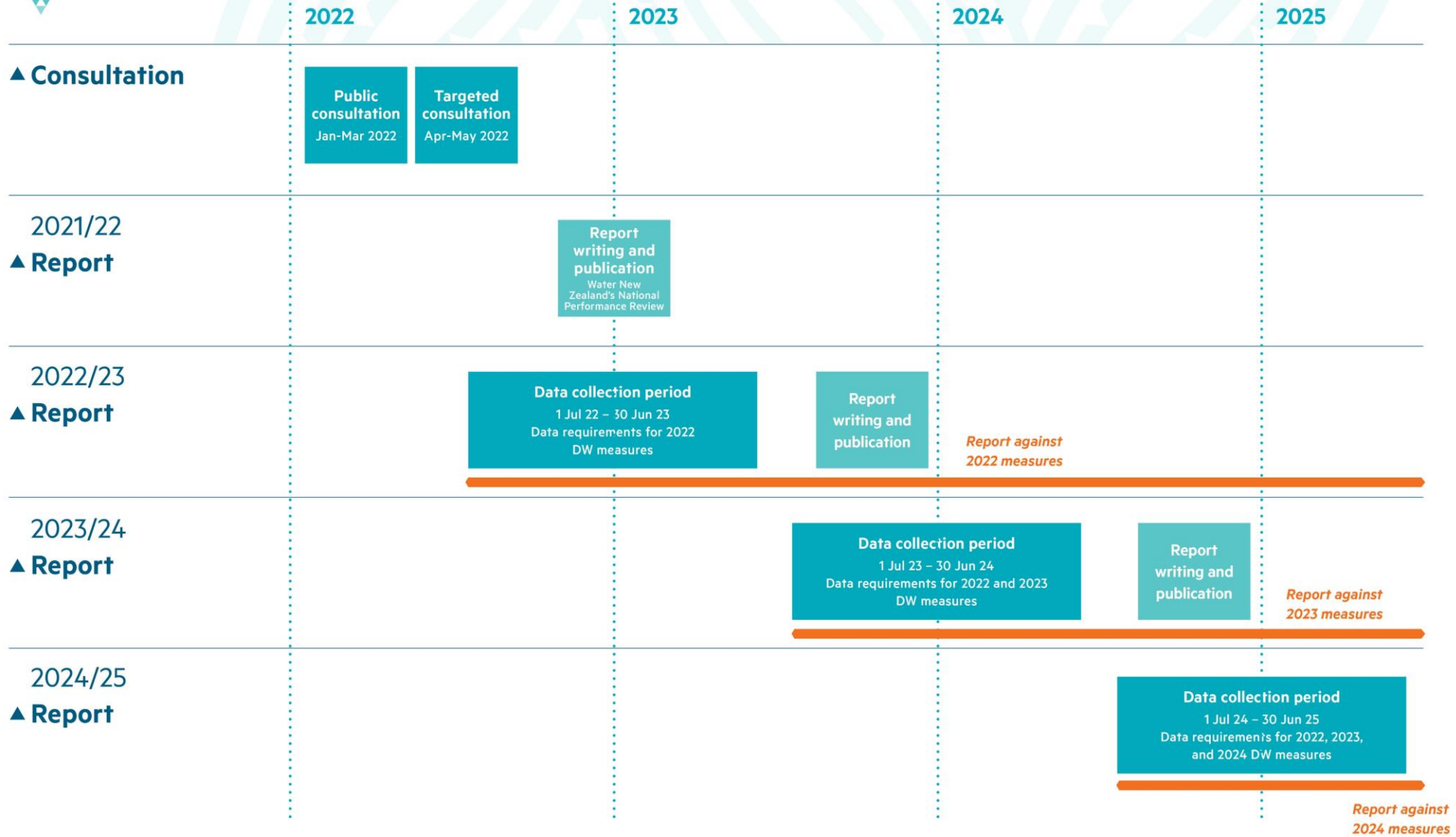
We are embracing this Aotearoa centric approach and aspire to being a Crown leader in giving effect to Te Mana o te Wai throughout the design of Taumata Arowai.

# **Discussion document: Drinking Water Network Environmental Performance Measures**

# Who will the new requirements apply to?

- The new requirements only apply to networks and network operators. A network operator (including a 'drinking water network operator') is defined in the Act as:
  - local authorities, council-controlled organisations, or subsidiaries of council-controlled organisations
  - government departments (for example, the Department of Conservation or the Ministry of Education)
  - the New Zealand Defence Force.
- We are focusing on drinking water networks first, with wastewater and stormwater measures introduced at a later stage.
- We will be engaging separately with government departments to ensure the measures we develop reflect the scale, complexity and unique characteristics of those networks.







# Drinking water environmental performance measures

- **Is the environment and public health protected?**
  - Example measure: resource consent compliance
  - From July 2022 we want to know what resource consents you hold
  - From July 2023 we want to know more about compliance
- **Are services economically sustainable?**
  - Example measure: water supply capital investment projects
- **Are services reliable?**
  - Example measure: asset condition
  - From July 2022 we want you to report this in whatever form you currently measure asset condition
  - Later on, we want to introduce more consistency



# Drinking water environmental performance measures

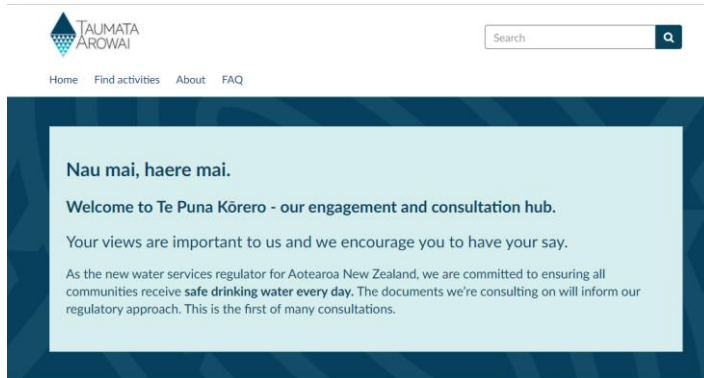
- **Are resources used efficiently?**
  - Example measure: network water losses
- **Are services resilient?**
  - From July 2022 we want to know whether networks have sufficient fire-fighting capacity;
  - From July 2023 we want to know about the ability of networks to return to service post natural disaster; and
  - From July 2024 we want to know more about how climate change risk is being managed.



# Next steps

- Public consultation closes on **28 March 2022**.
- Following public consultation, we'll use targeted engagement to finetune the measures and to test technical details around data collection methods and standards.
- We are looking to develop a technical reference group to work with during the initial refinement process. If you are interested in being part of this group, please indicate so in your submission or email [korero@taumataarowai.govt.nz](mailto:korero@taumataarowai.govt.nz).
- We are currently working on incorporating mātauranga Māori and Te Ao Māori perspectives into the proposed measures and welcome any feedback on this subject in submissions.

# Have your say



TAUMATA AROWAI

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**Nau mai, haere mai.**

Welcome to Te Puna Kōrero - our engagement and consultation hub.

Your views are important to us and we encourage you to have your say.

As the new water services regulator for Aotearoa New Zealand, we are committed to ensuring all communities receive **safe drinking water every day**. The documents we're consulting on will inform our regulatory approach. This is the first of many consultations.

- For more information and to have your say visit Te Puna Kōrero ([te-puna-korero.taumataarowai.govt.nz](https://te-puna-korero.taumataarowai.govt.nz)).
- For enquires, go to Te Puna Kōrero for Frequently Asked Questions or email us on [korero@taumataarowai.govt.nz](mailto:korero@taumataarowai.govt.nz).
- Submissions are open from 17 January until 28 March 2022.



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Closes 28 March 2022



#### [Drinking Water Network Environmental Performance](#)

The Water Services Act 2021 introduces new requirements to monitor and report on the environmental performance of certain drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater suppliers and their operators. These requirements are designed to... [More](#)

Closes 28 March 2022



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# Pātai | Questions?