

WHAT THIS OVERVIEW SHOWS

The National Engineering Design Standards (NEDS) are a new national regulatory framework under the Water Services Act 2021 that is being developed by the water services authority. We will seek input from councils, providers, developers, and technical experts.

This document identifies how the NEDS framework integrates with other national standards in the Water Services Act 2021 and how the sector will be involved.

The central diagram shows - in the green shaded box - what is in scope of the NEDS and the national codes of practice. Anything outside of the box is not in scope but interacts with the NEDS to ensure the system is delivering fit-for-purpose water services.

A The NEDS framework in a nutshell

The NEDS framework consists three core layers:

LAYER 1:

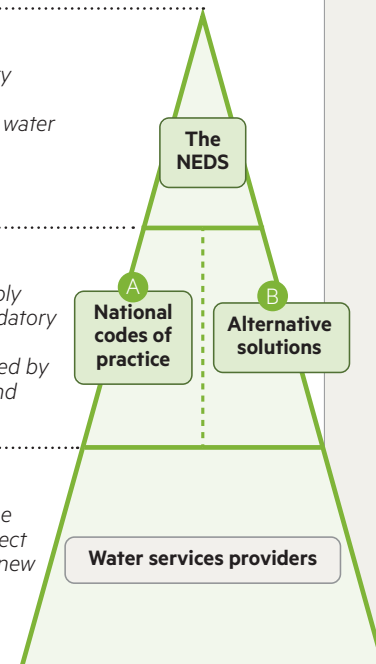
Set mandatory performance standards for water infrastructure

LAYER 2:

Ways to comply with the mandatory performance standards, used by developers and contractors

LAYER 3:

Administer the system - inspect and approve new or upgraded infrastructure



LEGEND

- The NEDS
- Drinking water
- Stormwater
- Wastewater
- Other system standards and tools
- Scenarios in system

B What the NEDS looks like in practice

The water system

The **Water Services Authority** sets national standards across all water services infrastructure

The NEDS

THE SCOPE OF THE NEDS & NATIONAL CODES OF PRACTICE

Current proposals relating to the NEDS relate to water services infrastructure inside this green shaded area, for example, pipes, manholes, and pump stations. At this stage, the NEDS will not apply to treatment plants.

1 RENEWAL OR UPGRADE OF EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE

Upgrade or renewal of existing water infrastructure owned by water services providers must comply with mandatory performance requirements set by the NEDS (for example, replacing pipes underneath a road).

Developers and contractors use the national codes of practice or an alternative solution to build infrastructure that is compliant. Water services providers must approve infrastructure as compliant before it connects or vests in their ownership.

Water services bylaws

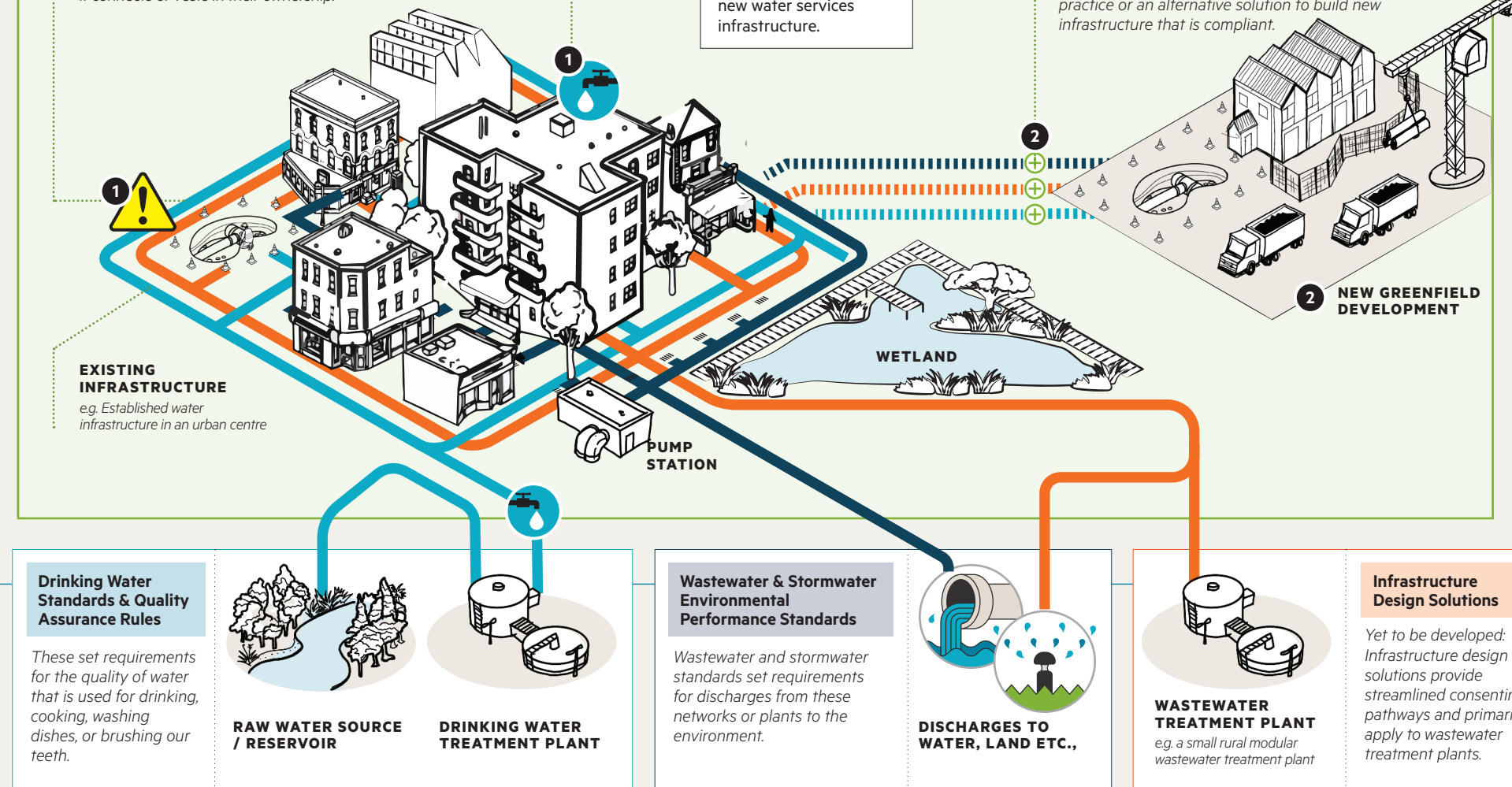
Territorial authorities make water services bylaws that set the process water services providers must follow to inspect and approve new water services infrastructure.

2 CONNECT OR VEST NEW WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

All new water services infrastructure built by developers or contractors (for example, greenfield or brownfield developments) must comply with mandatory performance requirements set by the NEDS.

Water services providers must approve infrastructure as compliant before it connects or vests in their ownership.

Developers and contractors use the national codes of practice or an alternative solution to build new infrastructure that is compliant.



Ministry of Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport (MCERT) provides stewardship of legislation and monitors the authority.



Commerce Commission ensures infrastructure and services are cost-effective and efficient for consumers.

C Key organisations

WATER SERVICES AUTHORITY sets the standards

The Authority set the NEDS and national codes of practice - these are one of a range of new national standards the authority is responsible for. The Authority also provides national-level oversight of compliance across the water services system.

WATER SERVICES PROVIDERS apply the standards to infrastructure

Water services providers will inspect and approve infrastructure to ensure it complies with the NEDS. Infrastructure cannot connect to their networks or will not vest in their ownership until it is approved.

TERRITORIAL AUTHORITIES provide local governance (ownership & bylaws)

Territorial authorities own the water services providers, and set the bylaws for inspection and approval of water services infrastructure. These bylaws must give effect to the NEDS.

DEVELOPERS / CONTRACTORS build the infrastructure

Developers and contractors design and build new infrastructure, including greenfield and brownfield development, and maintenance / renewals. All new infrastructure must comply with the NEDS, where applicable. They will use the codes of practice.

REGIONAL COUNCILS administer resource management systems

Regional councils administer the resource management functions and water infrastructure will still require resource consent as well as be compliant with the NEDS.