

i WHAT THIS OVERVIEW SHOWS

To give a clear overview of the proposed NEDS framework – what it covers, how it will work in practice, and where we want your input.

A What the NEDS framework covers
A single national framework for water infrastructure performance

The NEDS will set mandatory performance-based requirements for water infrastructure that is built or upgraded. This is paired with practical, easy-to-use Codes of Practice (Codes) that provide 'how-to' guides to meet the mandatory requirements. Alternative solutions remain available to provide flexibility – these must still meet the mandatory requirements.

i Performance-based regulation means:

“Achieve this result”, not “build it this way”.

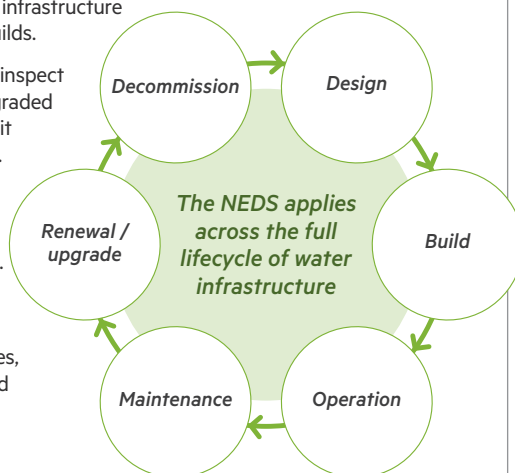
Allows flexibility, innovation, and local solutions where appropriate.

How will the sector use the NEDS?

The NEDS cover the full infrastructure lifecycle, not just new builds.

Water service providers inspect and approve new or upgraded infrastructure to ensure it complies with the NEDS. Developers/contractors use the NEDS and the Codes to build compliant infrastructure.

This broader lifecycle scope is different to many existing local Codes, which are mainly focused on design, construction, approval and vesting.


How the framework is structured

Three core layers:

1	The NEDS	Set mandatory performance-based requirements that infrastructure must achieve.
2 A	Codes of Practice	Provide recognised ways to meet NEDS requirements.
2 B	Alternative solutions	Offer detailed, standardised technical pathways. Other approaches can be used. Must demonstrate they meet the same performance requirements.
3	Water service providers	Administer the system. Inspect and approve new or upgraded infrastructure.

B What the NEDS looks like in practice
The first set of NEDS

We are proposing that the first set of NEDS will prioritise standards that:

- + reduce cost and time, when infrastructure is built or upgraded,
- + focus on critical infrastructure,
- + balance standardisation of infrastructure with flexibility for local circumstances and innovation,
- + are based on mature practice that can support implementation now (for example, the best areas from local codes of practice or the NTU codes), and
- + are easy for practitioners and developers/contractors to use.

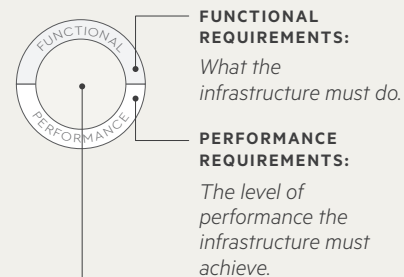
COMMON PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES

These performance outcomes will apply to all water infrastructure.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

All new or upgraded infrastructure must comply with the mandatory requirements.

These will be split into:


WATER CODE THAT CORRESPONDS TO REQUIREMENT:

- Drinking water requirement
- Stormwater requirement
- Wastewater requirement
- Common data standards
- Low priority requirement (yet to be developed)

INFRASTRUCTURE COMPONENTS

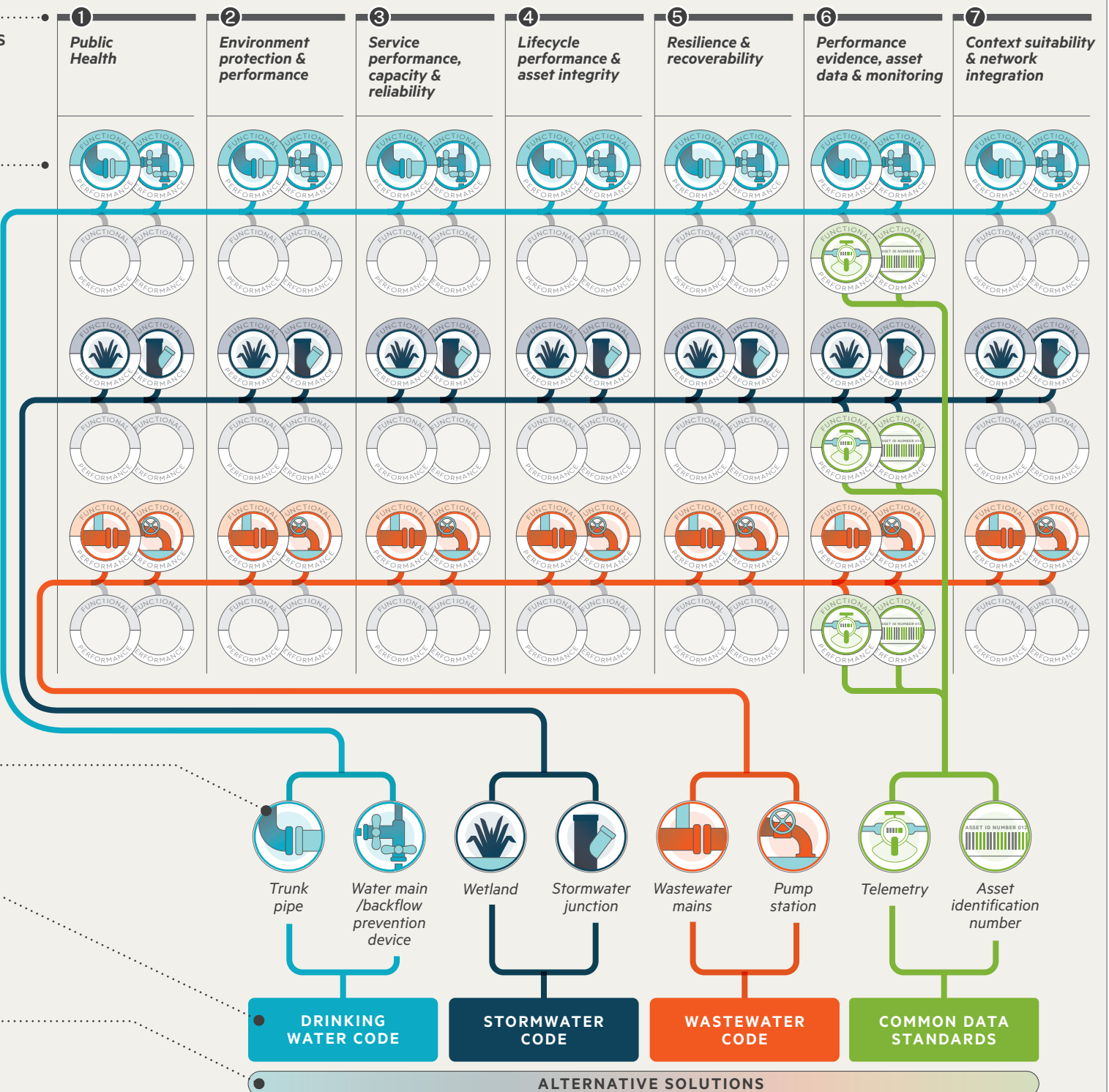
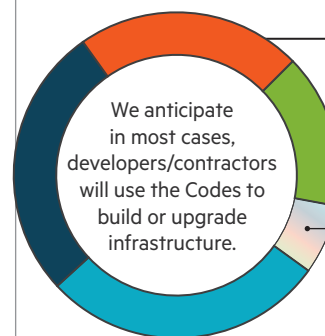
The functional and performance requirements will specify the infrastructure they apply to.

CODES OF PRACTICE (CODES)

Developer/contractor uses Codes as a 'how-to' guide to build or upgrade infrastructure that complies with mandatory requirements. It is a pre-approved compliance pathway.

ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

Developers/contractors may use alternative solutions to build infrastructure that still complies with the relevant requirements.


C Have your say

We are engaging with stakeholders and sector experts on the NEDS, specifically:

- How the framework for the NEDS and the Codes will be organised.
- Priority areas where early development of the NEDS will result in best time and cost savings, and have the greatest positive impact (eg. critical infrastructure serving large populations).

