

Local Water Done Well submission form



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Your contact details

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Hearing

Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	No
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Demographic information

Age	50-59
Do you live within the Palmerston North City Council boundary?	Yes
Does Palmerston North City Council provide your drinking water and/or wastewater?	Yes
Are you a Palmerston North City Council trade waste and/or commercial water customer?	Yes

Let's find out more about what matters to you

Please tick which six things matter most to you when considering what happens to water service delivery:	Future water costs and investment (how much will you pay for water? Can the Council continue to make major investment in water infrastructure?)
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Innovation (Using new ideas and technologies to make water services more efficient and sustainable.)

Cultural input (Ensuring mana whenua involvement in water decisions.)

Growth planning (Preparing water services for population growth.)

Climate resilience (Water services continue - and improve on - mitigating climate change, eg, against flooding.)

Environmental benefits (Improving outcomes for the environment.)

Let's find out what you think about the options

Rank the options

Option 1: 'The four' – A water organisation jointly owned by Palmerston North City Council, Horowhenua, Manawatū, and Kāpiti Coast District Councils.: 1

Option 2: 'The up to 6': A water organisation jointly owned by Palmerston North City Council and one or more other councils within the Horizons Regional Council boundary. : 2

Option 3: Status quo with changes (not financially sustainable and therefore it's not legally compliant):. 3

Option 1

Please tell us what you like about this option

See Submission Attached

Option 2

Please tell us what you like about this option

See Submission Attached

Option 3

Please tell us what you like about this option

See Submission Attached

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?

City councillor

Supporting information

**SUBMISSION BY TĀNENUIĀRANGI MANAWATŪ CHARITABLE TRUST
A REPRESENTATIVE BODY OF RANGITĀNE O MANAWATŪ**

1. Introduction

- 1.1 We have read the consultation document with interest and congratulate Council Officers on the simplicity in which it is presented.

2. The Options

2.1 Option 3:

- 2.1.1 In terms of the three options put forward, we note that Option 3 was legally required to be put forward but is not really a real option as such.

2.2 Option 2:

- 2.2.1 In terms of Option 2, we are also of the understanding that some of the Councils in this option may not consider this option for them. However, we remain open to the possibility of this option remaining on the table for consideration should other Councils views change.
- 2.2.2 At an Iwi and Hapu level, we do have however concerns, as there are a lot more Iwi and Hapu groupings, which will bring a higher level of complexities to be worked through for all Te Tiriti partners.

2.3 Option 1:

- 2.3.1 Out of the three options presented, we tend to favour this option as it's quite clear cut and demarcated. We are aware however that Kapiti Coast District Council has to go through a referendum process with their constituents so would like to know how this could impact on any timelines.
- 2.3.2 From an Iwi and Hapu perspective, we do have genuine concerns how this could work for us and perceptions that could develop by Iwi feeling they then have some tangata whenua rights in our City. However, we are open to having hui and exploring the complexities.

3. General Comments

- 3.1 These comments below come in the order in which the consultation booklet was prepared.
- 3.2 We are glad that Nature Calls remains outside of this process as for our part this is a Palmerston North City project and through our Te Tiriti partnership a project we are heavily involved in as Council is aware.
- 3.3 **Water Services Delivery Plan** - As a Te Tiriti partner, we expect to be actively involved in the development of this plan from an early stage.
- 3.4 In terms of the comment on page 10 around "everyone paying the same", we implore Council to apply an equity approach as is the reality in our Community. Some parts of our Community are more affluent than others so can pay more. Furthermore, some households use more water for health reasons and due to the size of their living situation and they should not be penalised and made to pay more.

- 3.5 **The Councils Would Work Together to set up the Organisation, Page 15** - This was very disappointing to read as it fails to recognise Te Tiriti o Waitangi, the Rangitāne o Manawatū Claims Settlement Act 2016 and Rangitāne o Manawatū Iwi Management Plan. For this all to work, Iwi must be at the table to contribute to the setting up of the organisation, as without us at the table, we are having things done to us again, which is totally unacceptable.
- 3.6 **Statement of Expectations** – Iwi must be involved in the development of such a statement.
- 3.7 **Water Services Strategy** – Iwi must be involved in the development of this Strategy as this will map out the pathway for how water will be managed and if our input is not included at this early phase, then in our view, the whole Strategy is damned from the beginning. Furthermore, any review process must include mechanisms to enable Iwi to feed in.
- 3.8 **Transition Plan** – Iwi must be involved in the development and **implementation** of the Plan. I am aware Iwi are mentioned, but we wish to make it clear, we must be involved at the outset.
- 3.9 **Ownership, Control and Community Involvement** – It was disheartening to read “.. The Community would need to Advocate for Services”, as our view is that mechanisms need to be built into any transition plan or water strategy how the Community can have a pathway to have input. At the end of the day, the Community is paying for all this through water rates and we cannot allow a Water Organisation to have no accountability back to its various Communities.
- 3.10 **Iwi Involvement** – If Option 1 is the preferred option, then hui need to be called with Iwi **NOW** to explore our expectations. For us, it’s quite clear we do not want other Iwi having a say on what happens with water in Palmerston North, especially as the Consultation Booklet acknowledges Palmerston North is the biggest player so to speak. Likewise, we have no interest in telling Iwi in the other Council areas proposed how their water should be managed. Thus, some very clear thinking needs to go into how this can be achieved.
- 3.11 **The Law is Clear on Keeping Water Assets Publicly Owned** – This is a non-negotiable for us. Water is one of our greatest taonga and a commodity in an economic sense, more valuable than oil and gold. Especially in the world of climate change we are experiencing, and it must never be owned offshore like many other assets that are being sold off.
- 3.12 **Stormwater Management** – We urge Council to remain owners of our Stormwater Assets which are key infrastructure assets that we cannot allow to be badly managed outside of Council. As Council knows, we are together embarking on some major work in the Stormwater space, and we would not like to get this mahi down the track to then be undone.
- 3.13 **We’ve Been Keeping Iwi Updated** – We wish to acknowledge and commend Council Officers for keeping us updated. We furthermore agree wholeheartedly that “... This process will need to carefully consider Iwi interests and involvement, especially if there are differing objectives across the wider area”. We would, however, add this involvement needs to be explored simultaneously alongside the consultation process, not left any longer. We remain committed to help facilitate this process.

3.14 **This is How a Jointly Owned Water Organisation Could be Structured** – This was a very disappointing diagram to see as there is NO Te Tiriti partnership reflected here. We are merely out in the wind as usual. The diagram should have had Council A and Iwi alongside, Council B and Iwi alongside etc. For us it's a no brainer, Iwi must sit at the top of any proposed structure from day one, alongside Councils, nothing less is acceptable.

4. Conclusion

4.1 The nation of Rangitāne o Manawatū remain committed to working with Council and its Officers on this pathway that has been imposed upon us by the Crown, and we do so side by side not at any lower level.