

4 June 2024

[REDACTED]

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Water

Thank you for your request made under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act), received on 6 May 2024. You requested the following information:

1. Would you please provide copies of any correspondence between Wellington Water and the Department of Internal Affairs regarding establishing a new water entity since 1 December 2023.
2. Would you also please outline where any plans/processes that Wellington City Council has to establish a new entity to manage water are at? I understand there is an oversight advisory group for the new entity chaired by Kerry Prendergast.

Wellington City Council has partly granted your request for information.

Question 1 - *Would you please provide copies of any correspondence between Wellington Water and the Department of Internal Affairs regarding establishing a new water entity since 1 December 2023.*

As confirmed in my email to you on 13 May 2024, question one was transferred to Wellington Water as the information requested is believed to be more closely connected with them for response.

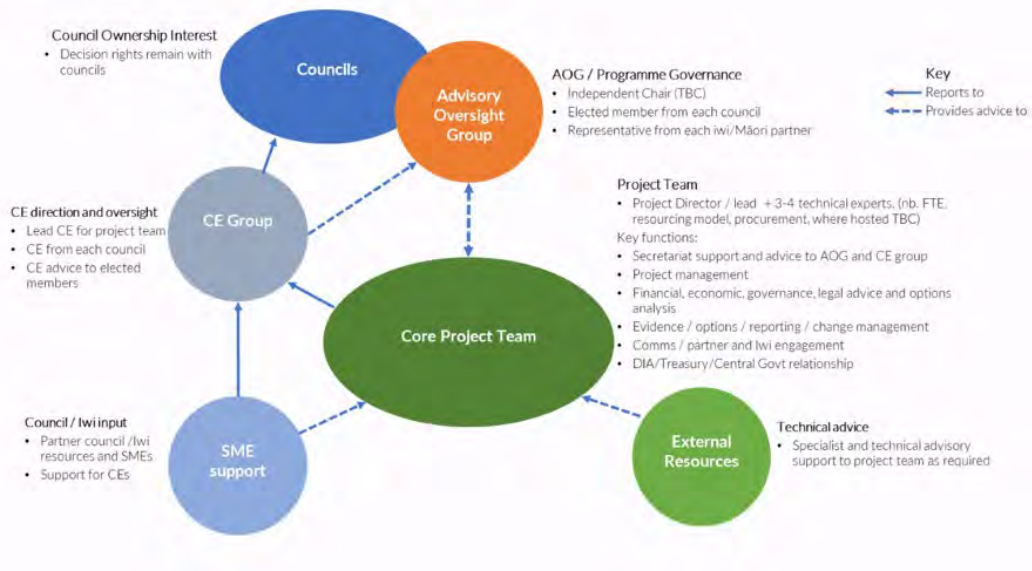
Question 2 - *Would you also please outline where any plans/processes that Wellington City Council has to establish a new entity to manage water are at? I understand there is an oversight advisory group for the new entity chaired by Kerry Prendergast.*

An Advisory Oversight Group (AOG) chaired by Dame Kerry Prendergast has been formed to facilitate a joint water service delivery plan process, alongside iwi/ Māori partner representatives. The AOG is not a formal committee and does not have any decision-making rights. There are ten council participants: Greater Wellington Regional Council, Horowhenua District Council, Masterton District Council, South Wairarapa District Council, Hutt City Council, Wellington City Council, Porirua City Council, Upper Hutt City Council, Carterton City Council, and Kāpiti Coast District Council.

One elected member from each participating council sits on the AOG, supported by Chief Executives and a regional joint project team.

Based on direction from Government and expected legislative changes, councils will be required to develop a water services delivery plan by mid-2025. Council participants have committed to a process of working together to develop a water services delivery plan including consideration of future delivery models. This process is based on a collaborative and non-binding partnership between councils in the Wellington region to work together robustly and efficiently.

Working Together Structure



Right of review

If you are not satisfied with the Council's response, you may request the Office of the Ombudsman to investigate the Council's decision. Further information is available on the Ombudsman website, www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note, we may proactively release our response to your request with your personal information removed.

Thank you again for your request,

Kind regards

Ollie Marchant
Official Information