



Water Services Reform Media Q&A

What's changing?

The Government is announcing major changes to New Zealand's affordable water reforms by agreeing to establish 10 new regionally led entities, which will still deliver big cost savings to New Zealand households during a cost of living crisis.

By extending the number of publicly owned water entities to 10, every district council, and therefore every community, will have a say and representation over their local water services entities.

This new approach incorporates feedback from Local Government leaders and relevant stakeholders,

while ensuring New Zealand households will save \$2,770-\$5,400 per year by 2054 compared to the status quo.

Why?

The Government has asked local councils how it can address its water services reform plan. We've heard concerns from councils that the four entity model we had developed will result in a loss of local influence and voice.

Discussions with local authorities about the reforms highlighted the need to ensure the entities are more closely connected with the communities they serve. This is so that all New Zealanders can have confidence that the entities will listen and respond to their needs.

