

**I give notice that
a Taupō District Water Services Committee Meeting will be held on:**

Date:	Thursday, 12 March 2026
Time:	1.00pm
Location:	Council Chamber Level 1, 67 Horomātangi Street Taupō

AGENDA

MEMBERSHIP

Chairperson Mr Brian Hanna
Deputy Chairperson To be appointed

Members
Cr Rachel Cameron
Cr Duncan Campbell
Cr Ngāhuia Foreman
Cr Sandra Greenslade
Cr Steve Manunui
Cr Kevin Taylor
Mayor John Funnell

Quorum 4

**Julie Gardyne
Chief Executive**

Order Of Business

- 1 **Karakia**
- 2 **Whakapāha | Apologies**
- 3 **Ngā Whakapānga Tukituki | Conflicts of Interest**
- 4 **Whakamanatanga O Ngā Meneti | Confirmation of Minutes**
Nil
- 5 **Ngā Ripoata | Reports**
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- 6 **Ngā Kōrero Tūmataiti | Confidential Business**
Nil

5.1 PRESENTATION - WATER SERVICES AUTHORITY-TAUMATA AROWAI

Author: Dana Periam, Committee Advisor

Authorised by: Nigel McAdie, Legal and Governance Manager

TE PŪTAKE | PURPOSE

To receive a presentation from the Water Services Authority-Taumata Arowai.

NGĀ KŌRERORERO | DISCUSSION

Mr Tim Cadogan, Engagement Specialist, Water Services Authority-Taumata Arowai will address the Committee; provide information about the role of the Authority; and answer members' questions.

WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

It is recommended that the Committee receives the information.

NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA | RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Taupō District Water Services Committee receives the information presented by Mr Tim Cadogan from the Water Services Authority-Taumata Arowai.

NGĀ TĀPIRIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

Nil

5.2 ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON

Author: Dana Periam, Committee Advisor

Authorised by: Nigel McAdie, Legal and Governance Manager

TE PŪTAKE | PURPOSE

To elect the deputy chairperson of the Taupō District Water Services Committee for the 2025-28 Triennium.

NGĀ KŌRERORERO | DISCUSSION

Following the local elections held on 11 October 2025, His Worship the Mayor, John Funnell exercised Mayoral powers set out in s 41A(3) of the Local Government Act 2002, to establish committees and appoint chairpersons to those committees (refer Council meeting agenda 25 November 2025, item 5.2).

At the meeting held on 25 November, Council appointed councillors to committees and noted that the deputy chairperson of the Taupō District Water Services Committee would be formally elected at the first Committee meeting. The deputy chairperson is proposed to be Cr Kevin Taylor.

Clause 25 of Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2002 sets out the process to be followed for appointment of a deputy chairperson to a committee and is **attached** for members' information.

WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

It is recommended that the Committee elects Cr Kevin Taylor as the Deputy Chairperson for the 2025-28 Triennium.

NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA | RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Taupō District Water Services Committee:

1. confirms that System ___ will be used to determine the election process for the Deputy Chairperson; and
2. elects Cr Kevin Taylor as the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee for the 2025-28 Triennium.

NGĀ TĀPIRIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

1. Clause 25 to Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002

5.3 WELCOME TO THE TAUPŌ DISTRICT WATER SERVICES COMMITTEE

Author: Joanne Walton, Programme Manager

Authorised by: Sarah Lealand, Three Waters Manager

TE PŪTAKE | PURPOSE

To provide information to support members of Taupō District Council's Water Services Committee in their role.

NGĀ KŌRERORERO | DISCUSSION

As this is the inaugural meeting of the Water Services Committee, some information is set out below to support members.

Terms of Reference and Delegations

The objective of the Committee is to provide strategic direction in relation to, and governance oversight of, Taupō District Council's water services. The Committee has no financial delegation. Its main purpose is to oversee and monitor water services activities and the development of the Water Services Strategy. The Committee can only make recommendations to Council on matters or proposals related to water.

The terms of reference and delegations from Council to the Water Services Committee are **attached** (Attachment 1).

Overview

Taupō District Council delivers essential three waters services (drinking water, wastewater and stormwater) that protect public health, enable growth, and safeguard the environment for current and future generations. Our focus is on doing the essentials well — providing safe drinking water, managing wastewater responsibly, and protecting waterways and properties through effective stormwater systems. The Water Services Authority – Taumata Arowai - regulates the water services sector, and in doing so provides oversight on these key focus areas.

In addition to the key focus areas above, Council's three water services will soon also be subject to oversight from an economic regulator – the Commerce Commission. The move to a heavily regulated environment is a big change for Council and how we do things. This change will require additional focus from Council's governance to ensure Council retains oversight of deliverables and achieves positive regulatory outcomes.

Regulatory Environment

Delivery of water services operates within a complex legislative and regulatory environment. Relevant legislation includes:

- Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025
- Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024
- Water Services Act 2021
- Water Services Authority – Taumata Arowai Act 2020
- Local Government Act 2002
- Commerce Act 1986
- Resource Management Act 1991

Water services are subject to oversight by the following regulatory bodies:

- Waikato Regional Council
- Water Services Authority - Taumata Arowai
- Commerce Commission
- Department of Internal Affairs
- Auditor General
- Ministry for the Environment

Local Water Done Well Reforms

The central government reforms, “Local Water Done Well”, have changed the landscape for water services delivery in New Zealand. As required by the legislation, in 2024-25 Taupō District Council completed an extensive review of its current state and future options for water services delivery. Following public consultation on the options, Council made the decision to continue delivering water services inhouse, with a review in 2027. A final Water Services Delivery Plan was submitted to the Secretary for Local Government in August 2025.

On 17 September, the Secretary wrote to the Chief Executive, confirming that Council’s Water Services Delivery Plan had met the requirements of the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act, and had been accepted. [Click here](#) to view the Water Services Delivery Plan on Council’s website.

The Department of Internal Affairs will be monitoring implementation of the Water Services Delivery Plan by quarterly reports, and progress will also be reported to this Committee.

Key features of our Water Services Delivery Plan implementation are

- Governance improvements (Water Services Committee)
- Full financial separation of our water services activities from the rest of Council services by 1 July 2026
- Preparing for information disclosure under economic regulation – understanding our system and data gaps and necessary improvements
- Collaboration with Waikato Waters Limited via a shared services arrangement
- Reviewing our future delivery model in 2027 (and 2030).

Under the Local Government (Water Services) Act, Council is also required to produce a Water Services Strategy by June 2027. This process will be run in parallel with the Long-term Plan.

Meeting dates 2026

The Water Services Committee meets monthly. Meeting dates for 2026 have been set and are listed below. All meetings start at 1pm and the venue is the Council Chamber, L1, 67 Horomātangi Street, Taupō. Meetings will be livestreamed and recordings uploaded to Council’s YouTube channel.

- Thursday 12 March
- Thursday 9 April
- Thursday 14 May
- Thursday 11 June
- Thursday 9 July
- Thursday 13 August
- Thursday 10 September
- Thursday 8 October
- Thursday 12 November
- Thursday 3 December

WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

It is recommended that the information is received.

NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA | RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Taupō District Water Services Committee receives the information provided to support members in their role for the 2025-28 Triennium.

NGĀ TĀPIRIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

1. Taupō District Water Services Committee Terms of Reference and Delegations 2025-28

5.4 WATER SERVICES COMMITTEE PERFORMANCE REPORT

Author: Joanne Walton, Programme Manager

Authorised by: Tony Hale, General Manager Community Infrastructure and Services

TE PŪTAKE | PURPOSE

This report provides the Committee with an overview of the performance of Taupō water services, including progress and risks on key strategic priorities.

In order to accommodate Council timeframes, the majority of information was reported to Council in the prior month. Council officers are available to provide verbal updates.

NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA | RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Taupō District Water Services Committee receives the attached Water Services Performance Report.

NGĀ TĀPIRIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

1. Performance Report - March 2026