

Unclassified

Taumata Arowai – an update

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Water Services Bill – an update

- Currently before Parliament's Health Select Committee
- Almost 1000 submissions received, 200 oral presentations made March/April
- **Cabinet extended Bill report back date from 8 June to 11 August**
- **Ministry of Health hand-over** of drinking water regulator role to Taumata Arowai **now likely late 2021**

Water Services Bill submissions

Submissions	Issues	Percentage
Māori	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Want marae excluded - Access to marae - Breach Te Tiriti o Waitangi 	38%
Oppose adding chemicals to drinking water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mostly tank supply 	23%
Want reforms wider than drinking water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Want included in 3 Waters, land use 	7%
Significant impact on small suppliers		5%
Water supply remain with local authorities		5%
Other		22%

Water safety planning versus Water Safety Plans

- **Duty of care** to supply safe drinking water
- **Culture shift:** from water safety plans to continuous water safety planning
- **Water Safety Plans will be reviewed**, but not approved
- **Taumata Arowai will provide guidance**, but the focus will be on drinking water suppliers taking accountability and conducting good risk management practices





Standards, rules & acceptable solutions

- **Standards & rules:** public consultation likely in August this year
- Three **acceptable solutions** prepared:
 - **Roof water:** cartridge filter & UV disinfection (any population size)
 - **Rural agricultural supplies (household treatment):** cartridge filter & UV disinfection (<500)
 - **Springs & bores (centralised treatment):** cartridge filter & UV disinfection (<500)
- **If acceptable solutions are used, water safety plans are not required**



Transition will be phased

- Three Waters reforms will impact on transition
- Government yet to make some decisions that will determine transition
- Every drinking water supplier **has a duty** to supply safe drinking water from Day 1
- **No surprises.** Taumata Arowai will provide water suppliers with ample time to understand new requirements.



Taumata Arowai workstreams

- Water safety planning
- Source water risk management plans
- New standards and rules
- Compliance monitoring
- Notifications, incidents and emergencies
- Regulatory approach
- IT build – website and self-service portal
- Communications and engagement approach
- Recruiting permanent staff



Taumata Arowai website

Now live with Phase One of our website www.taumataarowai.govt.nz

Phase One

- Overview of Taumata Arowai, why established.
- Ministry of Health current drinking water regulator.
- Timeline and legislation

Phase Two website build well underway - user testing and reference groups with the sector

Phase Two - once Bill is passed

- Guidance and support material.
- Seamless journey from website to self-service back-end portal.



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QUESTIONS