

Unclassified

Rules and standards post consultation – part 1

16 June 2022



Ko wai, ko au, ko tātou

Ko te wai ahau, ko ahau te wai.
He whakaaturanga tātau nō te wai.
Ko te ora te wai ko te ora o te
tangata.
He taonga te wai me tiaki.
Ko wai tātou.
Ko wai tātou.

I am wai, wai is me.
We are reflections of our wai.
The health of te wai is the health of te
tangata.
Wai is a taonga that must be protected.
Ko wai tātou.
We are wai. Wai is us.



What we will cover today

- **Overview and registration update**
 - Ray McMillan, Head of Regulatory
- **Public consultation outcomes**
 - Helen Robertson, Regulatory Policy Manager
- **Key changes**
 - Jim Graham, Principal Advisor Drinking water
- **Pātai / questions**
 - Opportunity to answer any further pātai / questions you might have



Our whakatauki

- **Karangahia ngā ope** | Be the voice of welcome
- **Whāngaia te iwi** | Sustain the people
- **Ka hoki kōmuri ngā whakaaro kia anga whakamua te titiro** | Turn our minds to the past to determine our way forward



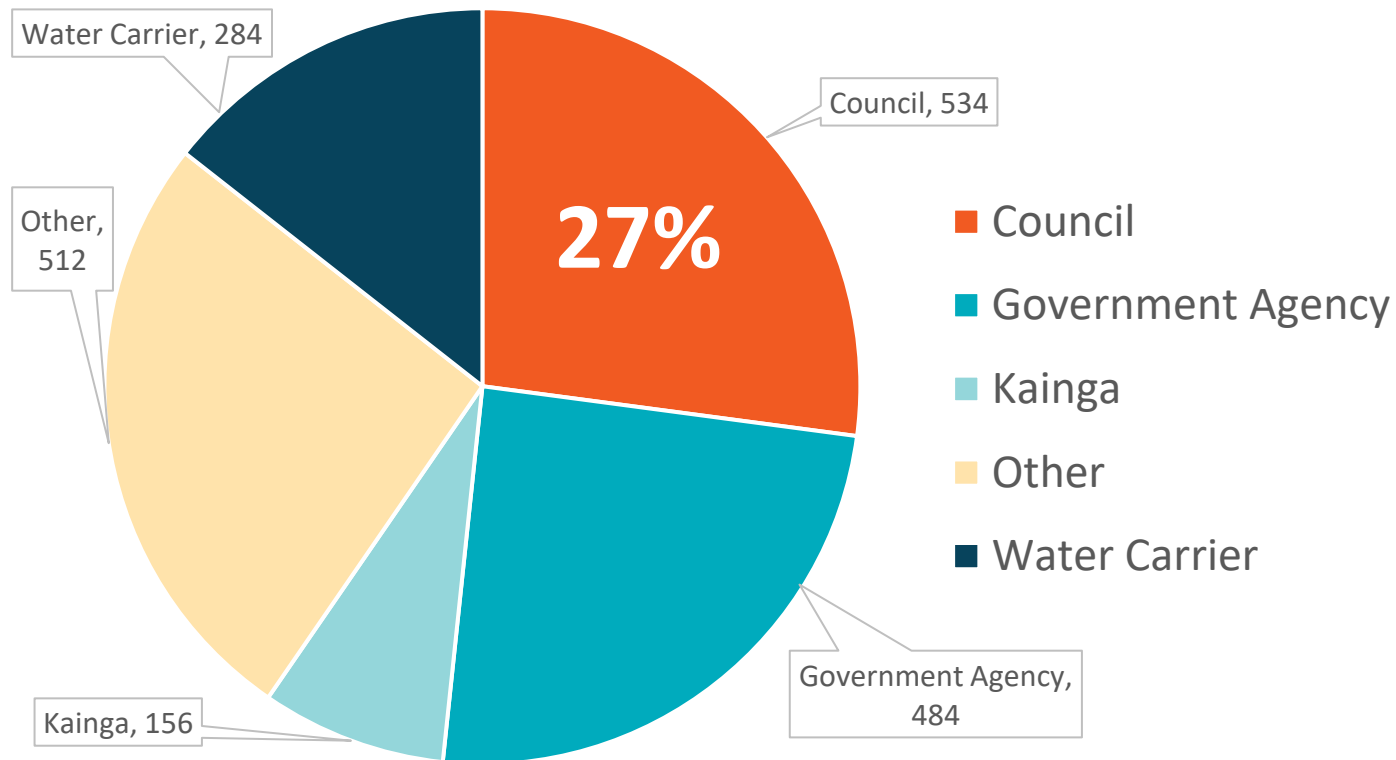
Registration update

Registering and verifying drinking water supplies

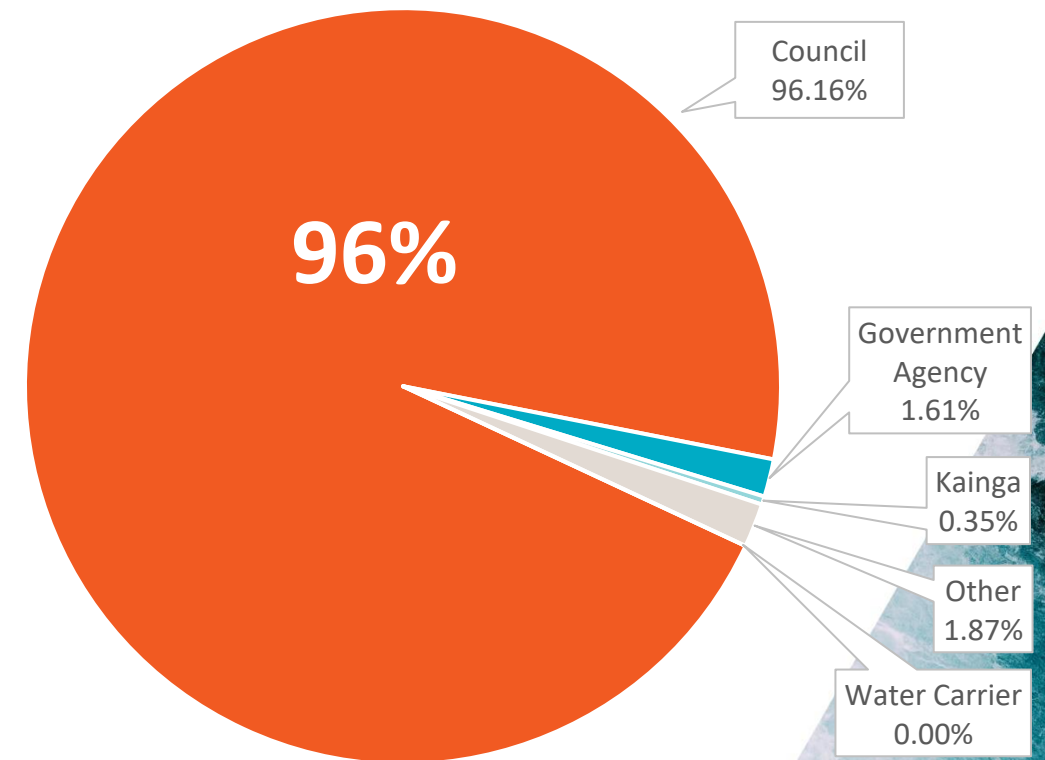
- 1,969 registered supplies were migrated from the Ministry of Health to Hinekōrako, our online self-service portal.
- Each supplier needs to check and validate the details for each supply to complete their registration.
- Some are complex, some easy.
- We've almost completed the process for the 534 council supplies.
- We're working through re-registering 1,435 other, mostly small registered suppliers.

Council supplies serve most of the population

Who manages registered supplies?

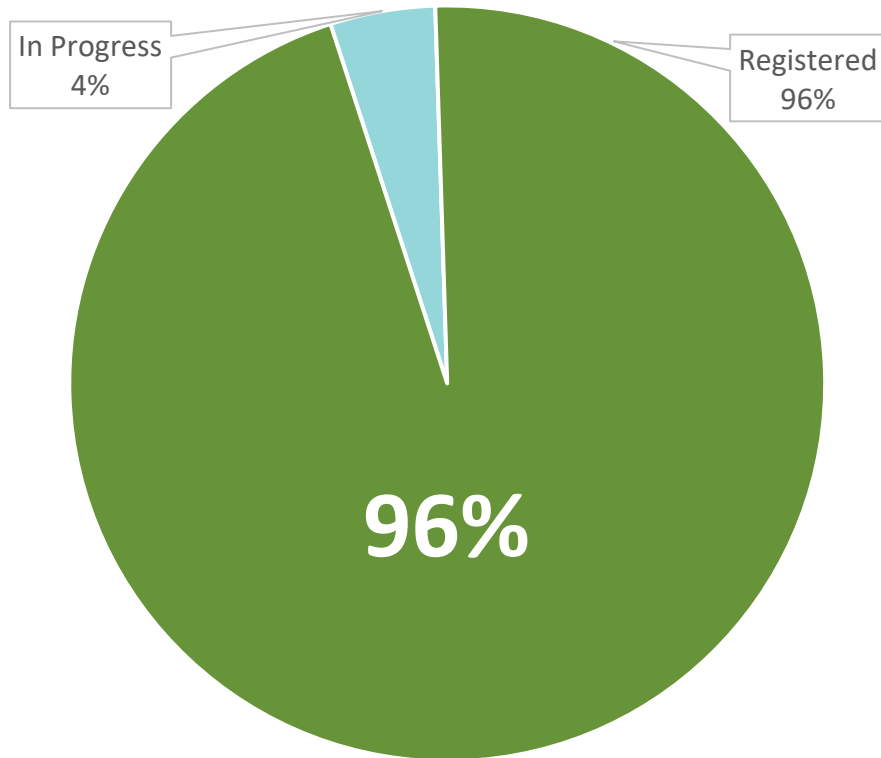


Population served by registered supplies

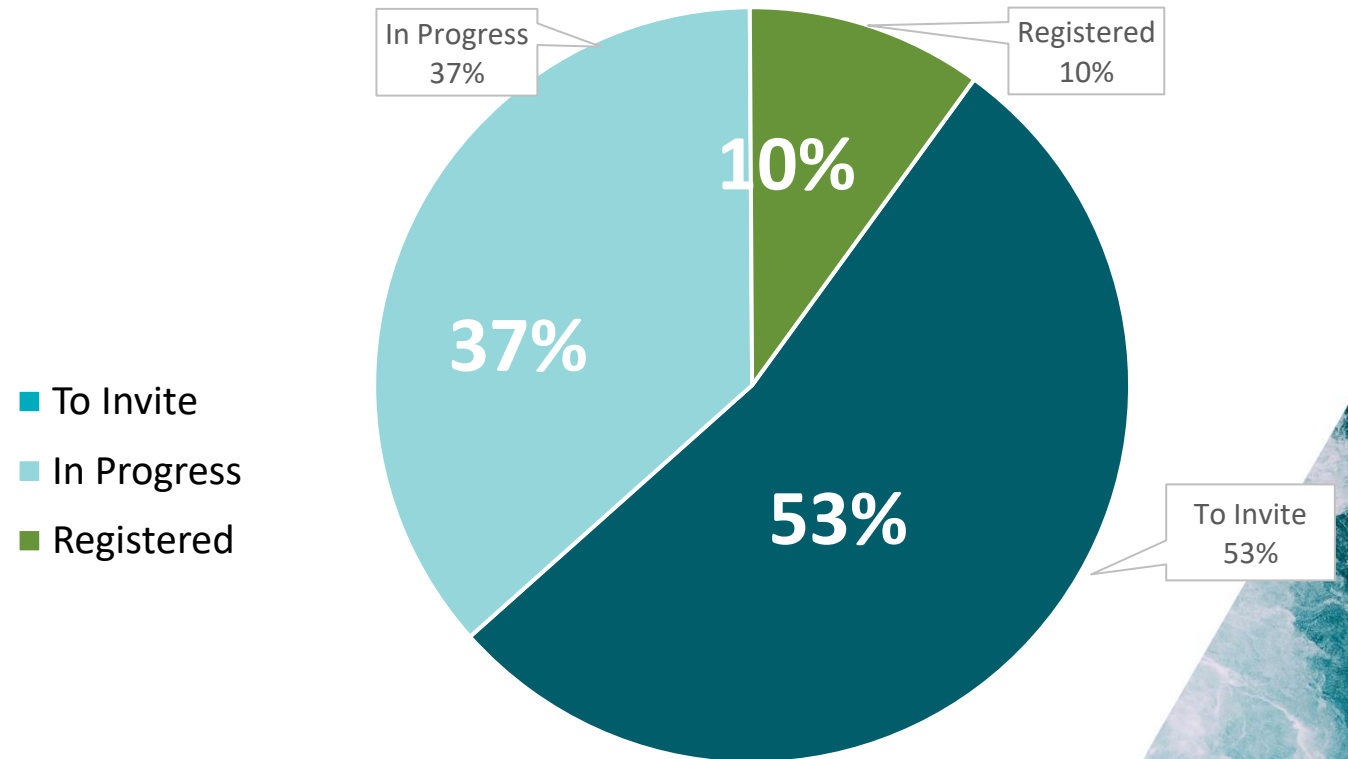


Council verification is almost complete

Verified Council Supplies



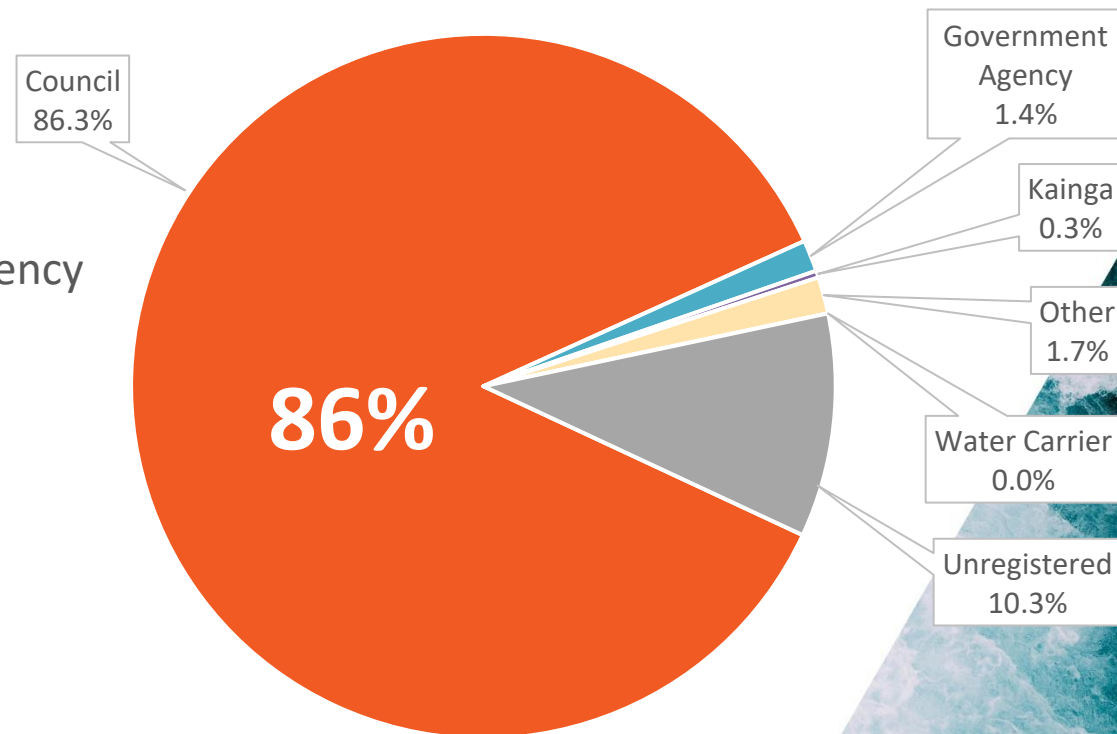
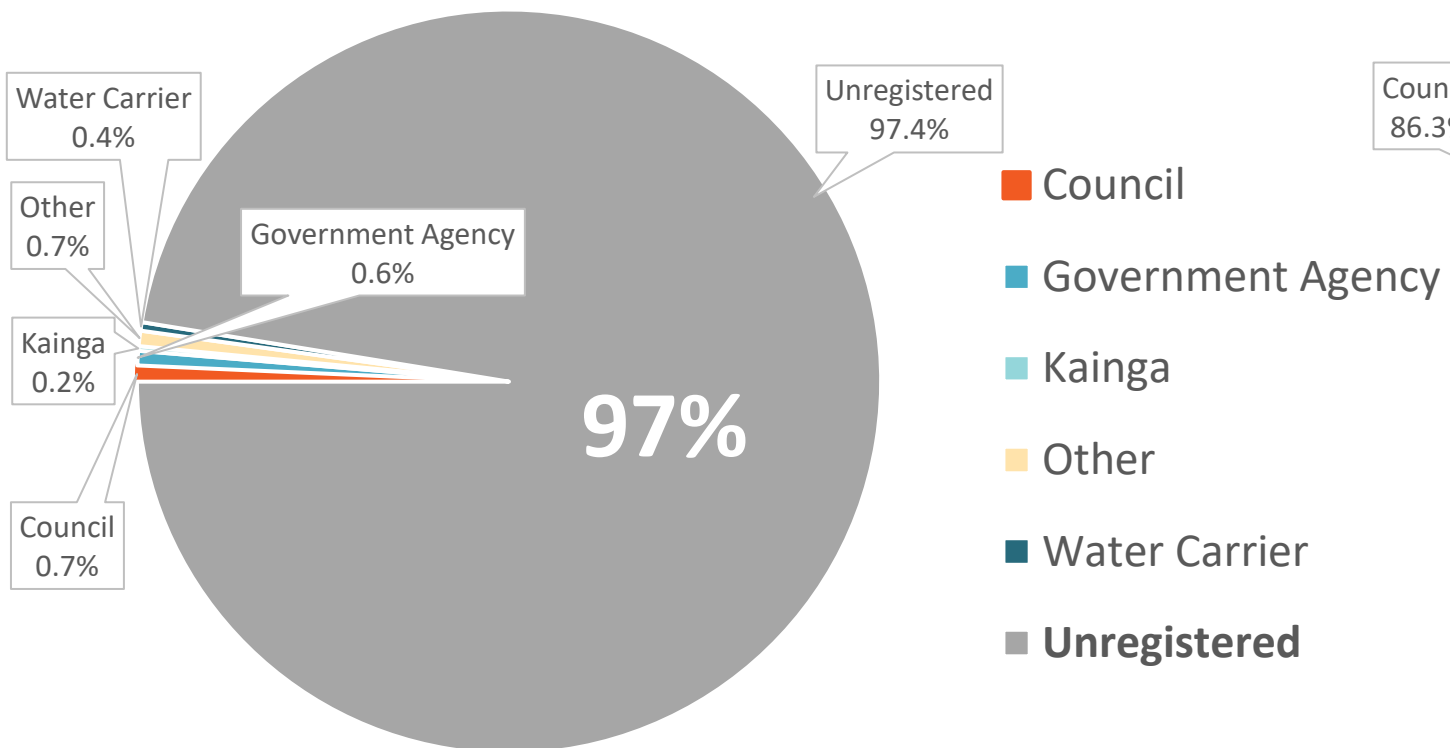
Verified Non-Council Supplies



Unregistered pose our biggest challenge

Who manages supplies? (including unregistered)

Population served by supplies (including unregistered)



Unregistered have more time

- Drinking water suppliers have up to **November 2025** to register their supplies with Taumata Arowai and up to **November 2028** to fully meet the requirements of the Water Services Act 2021.
- These timeframes provide an opportunity for Taumata Arowai to work with our unregistered community to understand their needs and circumstances, and we are.





Public consultation

Thank you for your submissions

From 17 January to 28 March 2022, we held our first public consultation. Feedback was sought on seven documents to help inform our regulatory approach and we have made some changes as a result.

Documents	Number of submissions
Drinking Water Standards	77
Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules	124
Drinking Water Aesthetic Values	36
Drinking Water Acceptable Solution for Spring and Bore Water Supplies	84
Drinking Water Acceptable Solution for Rural Agricultural Water Supplies	57
Drinking Water Acceptable Solution for Roof Water Supplies	32
Drinking Water Network Environmental Performance Measures	35
Template submissions received from Groundswell NZ supporters	1,744

Key themes overall

- Concerns about the increasing costs and practicalities of meeting requirements, particularly for small supplies.
- Concern about the continuity of volunteer-run supplies.
- Some concern about the frequency of testing required and the practical difficulties of meeting these requirements.
- Some broader opposition to new regulation requirements, particularly in the context of the Three Waters reform.
- Requests for key definitions to be clarified, e.g. “water carrier” and “reticulation”.
- Suppliers needing certainty about timeframes for complying with the new requirements, and what training and infrastructure is necessary.

Summary of themes on Standards

- Minor adjustments were made to the existing standards based on guidelines set by the World Health Organisation (WHO). Most were supportive of this approach.
- Some queried use of 70kg person as basis of calculations.
- Additional issues were raised around MAVs for nitrate, lead and atrazine.



Summary of themes on Aesthetic Values

- Responses were received from a diverse range of people with interests in drinking water.
- Most of the submissions made a general comment, only a small number of provided comments on an individual determinand level.
- The issue that generated the most considered responses was the proposal to reduce the guideline range for chlorine from 0.6 – 1.0 (mg/L) to 0.3 – 0.6 (mg/L) as Cl₂.



Summary of themes on Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules

- Concern about the extent of proposed requirements, and whether these are disproportionate to the scale, size, and complexity of some supplies.
- Queries about the risk basis for the new requirements, and the perceived implication that longstanding drinking water supplies are now unsafe.
- Suppliers needing certainty about the timeframes for complying with the new requirements, and what training and infrastructure is necessary.
- These concerns are particularly felt by small supplies, as well as those in rural communities (which include but are not limited to small supplies). Often these are volunteer-run supplies, with many raising concerns about the continuity of water supplied to often remote areas of the country.

Summary of themes on Acceptable Solutions

- Concerns raised in relation to the Acceptable Solutions are in line with feedback we have received on the Rules. These include concerns around the cost of compliance for small and very small suppliers as well as transition timeframes.
- The scope of the changes which will need to be made to each of the Acceptable Solutions varies. We anticipate that the Rural Agricultural and the Spring and Bore will need more significant changes than the Roof water Acceptable Solution.



Summary of themes on Drinking Water Network Performance Measures

- As part of the consultation, we tested our approach to monitoring and reporting the environmental performance of drinking water networks.
- Bulk of submissions were from councils, which will be required to report on these measures.
- Most submissions made general comments with a small number providing comments on individual environmental performance measures.
- In general submitters were supportive of the proposed requirements and the proposed scope of reporting. Concerns were around timeframes, technical changes to the measures, volume of reform underway and managing overlaps with other reporting across government.

Key changes

Timeframes

	Publicly available	Come into effect
Drinking Water Standards	16 June 2022	14 November 2022
Drinking Water Aesthetic Values	16 June 2022	14 November 2022
Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules	July 2022	14 November 2022 (anticipate reporting in line with new rules from 1 January 2023)
Drinking Water Acceptable Solutions	To be confirmed	Likely to be 14 November 2022
Drinking Water Network Environmental Performance Measures	Guidance to support reporting will be published late-June 2022	First reporting period begins on 1 July 2022



Some important things to consider

- The rules are for water suppliers, not Taumata Arowai.
- The rules provide minimum requirements, water suppliers could and should do more.
- Rules only apply to parts of a water supply when it is operating.
- Water suppliers have room to make some decisions about what they do to comply with the rules.
- We will clarify areas where some confusion remains:
 - Source water classes
 - Continuous monitoring for distribution zones.



Likely categories of supply

- 'Neighbourhood' drinking water supplies (≤ 25 people)
- Networked Drinking Water Supplies
 - ❑ 'Small' (26 – 100 people)
 - ❑ 'Medium' (101 – 500 people)
 - ❑ 'Large' (> 500 people)
- Self-Supplied Facility Drinking Water Supplies
- Water Carrier Services
- Water Carrier Supplies
- Community Water Stations
- Planned Temporary Events



Rule modules

G		
NS		
S1	S2	S3
T1	T2	T3
D1	D2	D 3
WC		
VPS		
PTE		



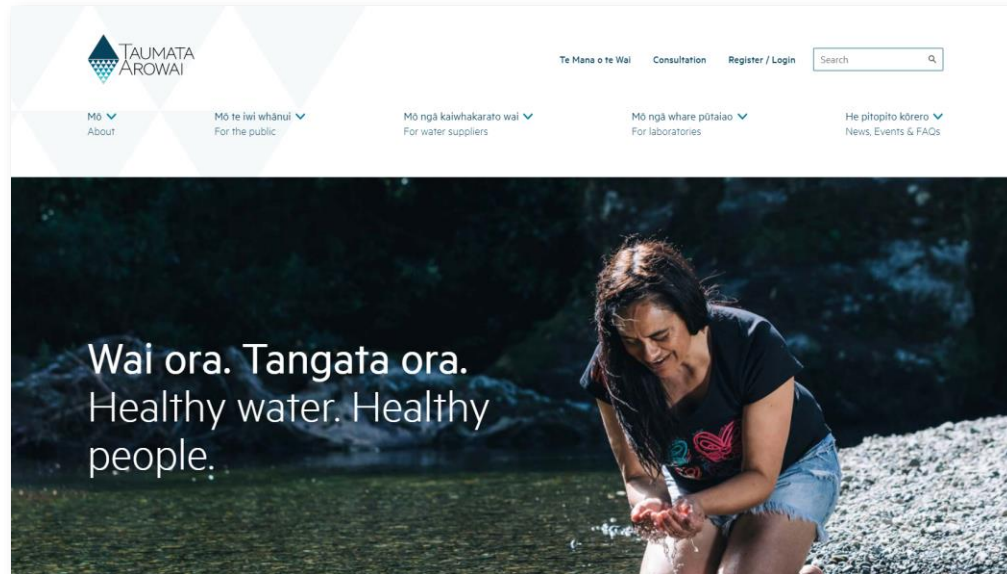
Aesthetic Values

Changes to be made to the acceptable range of determinands that may affect the aesthetic properties of drinking water.

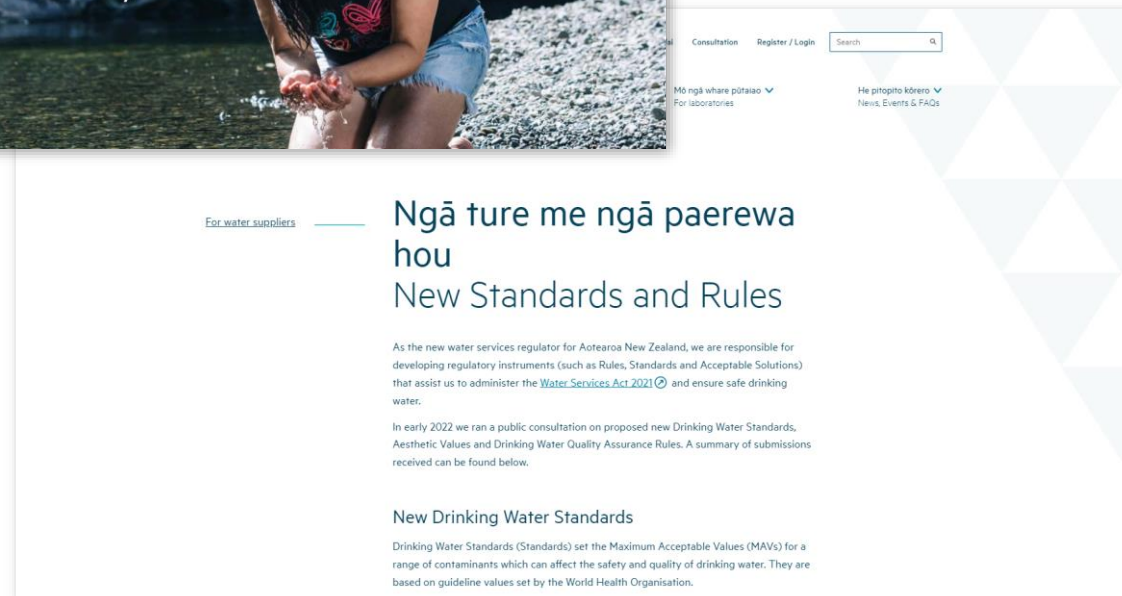
Name	Existing Aesthetic Guideline Values	Proposed Aesthetic Values – Acceptable Range
Chlorine	0.6 – 1.0 (mg/L)	(Free available chlorine) 0.3 – 1.0 (mg/L) as Cl ₂ (contingent on the supply being chlorinated). Note the proposed range for consultation was 0.3 – 0.6 (mg/L)
Iron	0.2 (mg/L)	≤0.3 (mg/L)
Temperature	Should be acceptable to most consumers, preferably cool	≤15°C
Turbidity - the quality of being cloudy, opaque, or thick with suspended matter	2.5 NTU	≤5 NTU
Colour	10 TCU	≤15 TCU



For more information



Find out more at www.taumataarowai.govt.nz/for-water-suppliers/new-compliance-rules-and-standards/



Unclassified

Pātai | Questions?