Three waters services delivery reform programme

Proposed reform strategy and timeline

TIMEFRAME	2020	2021				2022	2023
	DECEMBER	FEBRUARY–MARCH	APRIL–MAY	MAY–AUGUST	SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER	JANUARY- DECEMBER	JANUARY- DECEMBER
ACTION	Cabinet makes decisions about reform strategy and timeline	Sector and iwi/Māori engagement on options	Cabinet makes decisions on suite of reform proposals (legislative drafting begins)	Public communications about proposals	Councils make decisions about participation in the reforms	Preparation for the formation of water services entities	Preparation for operation of new water services entities
WHAT COULD THIS INCLUDE?	Confirmation of: • Voluntary approach. • Centrally led process for deciding entity numbers and boundaries. • Early legislation to enable councils to make decisions about participation. • Approach to national communications.	• 'Straw person' options for entity design (e.g. ownership and governance models). • Scenarios for entity numbers and boundaries. • Other aspects of the reforms.	• Entity design, e.g., governance, ownership, funding and financing. • Entity numbers and boundaries. • Core system design features.	• Proposal document summarising reforms and case for change. • Nationwide public information and education campaign.	• Details/consequences of reforms. • Which entity they would be part of and core design features. • Individualised 'dashboards' with financial arrangements, local case for change.	• Board appointments. • Establishment process. • Due diligence. • Workforce development. • Prepare blueprint for new entity. *Local Government election in October 2022.*	• Agree multi-regional asset plan. • Establish management systems. • Enter appropriate commercial arrangements. • Prepare for operations. • Asset transfers occur.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

- Engage with rating agencies (Jan/Feb 2021)
- 9(2)(f)(iv)
- Design transition approach and transitional arrangements
- Communications and engagement

LEGISLATION

- Local Government (Three Waters Reform) Amendment Bill
- Water Services Entity Bill
- Water Services Bill

IN CONFIDENCE – NOT GOVERNMENT POLICY