



Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

Auckland Water Strategy Annual Report 2022/2023

September 2023





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About this report

This inaugural Annual Progress Report provides an update on the implementation of the Auckland Water Strategy (Strategy) in its first year of implementation over the period 1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023. It is intended for the governing body, Auckland Council staff, and the public to understand how the Strategy has driven council functions and activities related to water over the last year.

1. **The Background section** provides:

- an overview of the Auckland Water Strategy
- operating context for Year 1 of implementation (Year 1, 2022/2023)
- engagement with mana whenua, and
- alignment to significant policy and planning programmes.

2. **The Evaluating Progress section** provides a snapshot of implementation of the Auckland Water Strategy over its first year. This includes:

- a summary of key progress in Year 1
- a table summarising the status of Actions, including those scoped for implementation in Year 1, and
- others that have been progressed in this year.

Additional details can be found in the Report's two Appendices:

- **Appendix 1: Detailed Strategic Shift and Action progress 2022/23** sets out the detailed implementation status of Strategic Shifts and individual Actions of the Strategy to be undertaken in Year 1.
- **Appendix 2: Alignment Opportunities 2022/23** provides a more detailed guide to alignment of the Strategy with regional and national instruments.

Background

The Auckland Water Strategy is Auckland Council's thirty-year approach to water, guided by the vision 'te mauri o te wai, the life-sustaining capacity of Auckland's water, is protected and enhanced'. It sets a vision for Auckland's waters and provides strategic direction for investment and action across council group. The Strategy was adopted by the Environment and Climate Change Committee (ECC) on 10 March 2022, along with the *Auckland Water Strategy Implementation Plan* (Implementation Plan).

The Strategy sits underneath the Auckland Plan 2050 alongside Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, and guides decision-making across council group.

The Strategy sets out eight overarching shifts for council. Each 'Strategic Shift' (Shift) represents a transformation in our approach to water and outlines specific Actions to progress towards the Shift's aim:

1. **Te Tiriti Partnership:** the council and mana whenua working together in agreed ways on agreed things
2. **Empowered Aucklanders:** the council working with Aucklanders for better water outcomes
3. **Sustainable Allocation and Equitable Access:** prioritising mauri when using water, to sustain the environment and people in the long term
4. **Regenerative Infrastructure:** ensuring Auckland's water infrastructure is regenerative, resilient, low carbon, and increases the mauri of water. It should be seen and understood by Aucklanders
5. **Water Security:** creating water abundance and security for a growing population through efficient use and diverse sources
6. **Integrated Land Use and Water Planning:** integrating land use and water planning at a regional, catchment and site scale
7. **Restoring and Enhancing Water Ecosystems:** taking catchment-based approaches to the health of water ecosystems
8. **Pooling Knowledge:** fostering a shared understanding enabling better decisions for our water future

The Strategic Shifts set out aspirational goals over a thirty-year timeframe, supported by a total of 58 Actions to be undertaken by council group. The Implementation Plan sets out general implementation timelines and detail for each Action, identifying:

- thirty Actions to begin in Year 1 (1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023), and
- thirty-four Actions to be started and completed by Year 3 (1 July 2024- 30 June 2025).

All thirty Year 1 Actions are included in this report, along with seven additional Actions that have progressed over Year 1 that were originally scoped for later commencement.

The Strategy is monitored and evaluated in two ways:

1. annual progress reports on the implementation of the eight Strategic Shifts and the associated Actions, of which this is the first, and
2. five-yearly dual-benchmarking of Auckland's progress towards achieving the vision of the Strategy using both a Water Sensitive Cities index as well as a Mātauranga Māori Benchmarking Framework (in development).

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

2022/2023 Context

Year 1 presented both challenges and opportunities to progress the direction of the Strategy. Auckland experienced above average rainfall throughout 2022 followed by two extreme weather events in January and February 2023. Auckland's typical annual rainfall for 2023 was reached in the first six months of the calendar year, and the resulting flooding and land instability had devastating impacts on people, assets and livelihoods and prompted immediate and long-term responses from council group. Council embedded key direction from the Strategy in both our short and long-term responses to these flooding events.

Central government reforms to drinking water, stormwater, and wastewater services (now known as the Water Services Reform), as well as the Resource Management system have introduced uncertainty in how assets, services, and our environment will be managed going forward. While this uncertainty has challenged the delivery of some Actions from the Strategy, it also highlights the importance of the Strategy as Auckland Council's direction for water outcomes in the region.

Following the October 2022 local government elections, the immediate focus on passing the Annual Budget 2023/2024 required council staff to adjust and reconcile existing work programmes with future direction, as decided through the Annual Budget process.

Engagement with Mana Whenua

Following adoption in March 2022, engagement with mana whenua on the Strategy continued over Year 1 with all 20 recognised mana whenua entities. Council continued its coordinated approach to engagement by working with other programmes to address mana whenua capacity issues. These were the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM) and the Water Services Reform teams.

The Strategy's progress over its first year of implementation was presented to Te Pou Taiao (environment committee) of the Tāmaki Makaurau Mana Whenua Forum with an accompanying information memo in June 2023.

The Strategy explicitly directs working with mana whenua for the delivery of specific Actions. Council Parent has developed a mana whenua engagement plan to progress engagement for those Actions in a coordinated, efficient, and effective way – for both mana whenua and council. Year 2 (2023/2024) will see the initiation of the next stage of engagement on specific Actions directed by the Strategy. Auckland Plan Strategy and Research department (APSR) has created and appointed a new Senior Māori Engagement Advisor – Strategy position to assist in this work. Partnership with mana whenua is central to achieving the vision of the Strategy and is explicitly directed in the Strategic Shift focused on Te Tiriti Partnership.

Addressing the challenges to achieving meaningful partnership for water outcomes with all 20 Tāmaki Makaurau mana whenua entities recognised by council will take time. However, initial steps have been progressed over Year 1 and include:

- progress on a Mātauranga Māori Benchmarking Framework, and
- partnership on aligning council initiatives including the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 plan change and other local environmental monitoring initiatives.

See **Appendix 1** for additional details on Year 1 implementation of Strategic Shift 1: Te Tiriti Partnership.

Alignment to significant policy and planning programmes

The Strategy is linked to and closely aligned with policy and planning documents at both a national and regional level.

The implementation of national instruments over the last year provided opportunities to progress the Strategy. In some cases, the Strategy sets goals for the region that direct action beyond minimum legislated requirements. The key national instruments for alignment in Year 1 were:

- the National Policy Statement for Urban Development (NPS-UD), and
- the Essential Freshwater Package, which includes the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM) and four other regulatory instruments.

The impact of ongoing central government reforms on delivery of the Strategy were considered throughout Year 1. Final legislation on the following reforms remained pending at the end of the reporting period (with legislation for both reforms subsequently passed by Parliament in late August 2023):

- the Water Services Reform (formerly the Three Waters Reform/Affordable Waters Reform) and
- the Resource Management Reforms.

There are many regional policy and strategy documents that share outcomes with the Strategy. The two examples below demonstrate linkages with the Strategy's cross-cutting themes of climate change and equity.

- Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, and
- Ngā Hapori Momoho: Thriving Communities Strategy 2022-2032.

Finally, the Strategy provides strategic direction to a variety of new and ongoing initiatives within council group. In Year 1, the best example of initiatives that embedded direction from the Strategy was through:

- Resilient Auckland (which embedded Strategy direction in workstreams to strengthen the AUP, speed up community adaptation action, and the 'Making Space for Water' programme).

For specific details on how the Auckland Water Strategy links to these and other national and regional initiatives, refer to Appendix 2.

Evaluating progress

The Auckland Water Strategy is a thirty-year aspirational vision for water in the region. Significant progress towards these transformational changes will take much longer than one year to realise. Nonetheless, progress towards the Strategic Shifts and Actions provide an indication of council's first steps in this journey.

Implementation of the Strategy over Year 1 has primarily been by:

1. embedding direction from the Strategy in council's ongoing work
2. initiating new work programmes to deliver specific Actions, and
3. scoping the delivery of Actions due in the first three years of implementation.

The Strategy supports council as it fulfils its functions as a regional authority under the Resource Management Act (RMA) 1991 and its obligations as a local authority under the Local Government Act (LGA) 2002.

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Council group staff have embedded direction from the Strategy in the implementation of national mandates (see Actions 1.2, 1.3, 6.3, and 8.2), planning for the provision of services and infrastructure (see Actions 4.7 and 5.3), and short and long-term responses to the flooding events of 2023 (see Actions 6.5 and 6.8).

In its first year of implementation, significant council activity focused on scoping the delivery of Actions against Strategic Shifts as a first step in developing new work programmes. This scoping included an internal three-year operational workplan, as well as taking stock of the current situation and collaborating across council group to develop workplans for new pieces of work (see Actions 7.1, and 8.1).

The Implementation Plan identifies:

- thirty Actions to be started in Year 1
- three Actions to be completed in Year 1, and
- thirty-four Actions to be completed by Year 3 (2024/2025)

Table 1 Summarises the Status of Actions at the conclusion of Year 1. It includes all thirty Actions scoped for commencement in Year 1, additional Actions progressed over the course of the year, and Actions referred to as ‘Implementation Actions’ in the Implementation Plan. **Appendix 1** provides additional detail on each individual Action.

Key		
Red = overdue	Amber = progressing with some challenges	Green = on track or complete

Table 1: Summary Status of Actions 2022/2023

Action	Year	Owner	Status	
Implementation Actions				
IMP2	Appoint Water Strategy programme implementation coordinator	1	NA	Complete
IMP3	Coordinated workforce planning to fill gaps and changing needs (ongoing)	1-3	NA	Ongoing
IMP4	Update Long-Term Plan investment prioritisation criteria to reflect the Water Strategy	1-3	NA	Underway
IMP5	Council reporting on te mauri o te wai	1-3	NA	Complete
Te Tiriti Partnership Actions				
1.1	Apply dual framework to benchmark water outcomes	1	Council	Underway
1.2	Resource mana whenua to enable meaningful partnership relationships with the council (ongoing)	2-3	Council	Underway
1.3	Report on Te Mauri o te Wai	2-3	Council	Ongoing
Empowered Aucklanders Actions				
2.1	Develop and deliver a framework for, and measure, water literacy at regular intervals (ongoing)	1-3	Council and Watercare	Underway
2.2	Grow council group's water literacy education programmes (ongoing)	1-3	Council and Watercare	Scoping
2.3	Resource mana whenua to lead community engagement for water projects in catchments in their rohe (ongoing)	1-3	Council	Scoping
2.4	Align, coordinate, resource and evaluate the council group's community engagement on water	1-3	Council	Underway

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Action		Year	Owner	Status
2.5	Develop a measure of Aucklanders' access to blue-green spaces; a programme to increase access over time; and track progress (ongoing)	1-3	Council	Underway
2.6	Investigate community-based ownership models for water infrastructure and services	1-3	Council	Underway
Sustainable Allocation and Equitable Access Actions				
3.1	Develop indicators based on mauri to define allocation limits, in partnership with mana whenua	1-3	Council	Scoping
3.2	Assess Auckland's water resources and availability across the region using a Tāmaki expression of the Te Mana o Te Wai hierarchy (ongoing)	1-3	Council	Underway
3.3	Develop a dynamic water availability model and use it to plan for the future (ongoing model development)	1-5	Council	Scoping
3.4	Set take limits and review allocation rules for National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management using the Tāmaki expression of the Te Mana o Te Wai hierarchy	1-5	Council	Underway
Regenerative Water Infrastructure Actions				
4.2	Review emissions reductions for water infrastructure against those required by Te-Tāruke-a-Tāwhiri and develop an emissions plan	1-3	Council and Watercare	Underway
4.7	Include mauri in the council's investment prioritisation process for the Annual Budget and Long-Term Plan in partnership with mana whenua (ongoing)	2-3	Council	Ongoing
Water Security Actions				
5.1	Adopt a council position to address affordable water access	1	Council	Underway
5.2	Develop a plan to address affordable water access in Auckland	1	Council and Watercare	Scoping
5.3	Add a level of service for and develop a plan to proactively manage both peak demand and drought response	1-3	Council and Watercare	Underway
5.4	Model climate change scenarios to understand impacts on water sources (ongoing)	1-3	Watercare	Underway
5.7	Develop an investment plan of diverse sources to meet 2030 and 2050 targets, guided by te mauri o te wai for 2024 Long-Term Plan	2-3	Council and Watercare	Underway
5.8	Develop policy to achieve target of 30% of urban roof area to collect rainwater for use (ongoing)	2-5	Council and Watercare	Underway
5.10	Monitor investments to meet water consumption reduction targets. Review targets in 2024	4-10	Council and Watercare	Underway
Integrated Land Use and Water Planning Actions				
6.1	Embed te mana o te wai as a central consideration in all plan change processes, including the development of council-initiated plan changes and when providing evidence on private plan changes	1-3	Council	Underway
6.2	Resource and enhance the council's capability to effectively implement the Essential Freshwater Package	1-3	Council	Underway
6.3	Review and improve spatial planning processes to consider water consistently and advocate for statutory weight for structure plans	1-3	Council	Ongoing
6.4	Develop a regional blue-green network spatial plan	1-3	Council	Scoping
6.5	Develop a position to limit development in, and remove vulnerable structures from, high risk water related natural hazard areas	1-3	Council	Underway

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Action		Year	Owner	Status
6.6	Review, develop and grow the council's Strategic Approach to Sediment Programme (ongoing)	1-3	Council	Underway
6.7	Investigate and continuously improve the council's understanding and management of cumulative effects to protect and enhance mauri (ongoing)	1-5	Council	Scoping
6.8	Avoid enabling further development in water-related natural hazard areas in all plan change processes and ensure regulations take a precautionary and risk-based approach (ongoing)	1-5	Council	Underway
6.9	Deliver a package of non-regulatory and regulatory interventions to support the uptake of water-sensitive design processes and ongoing management of devices (ongoing)	1-10	Council	Scoping
Restoring and Enhancing Water Ecosystems Actions				
7.1	Develop methods to assess mauri for Auckland's freshwater ecosystems, in partnership with mana whenua	1-3	Council	Underway
7.3	Improve our understanding of freshwater ecosystems and pressures	2-5	Council	Underway
Pooling Knowledge Actions				
8.1	Implement a council group knowledge governance framework for water (ongoing)	1-3	Council	Underway
8.2	Build a robust evidence base to support the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management plan change in 2024.	1-3	Council	Underway
8.3	Develop a consistent council approach to working with treaty partners and their mātauranga	1-3	Council	Underway

Noting the significant rainfall experienced in Auckland over the first half of 2023, the Auckland Water Strategy is meeting its Water Security targets, as demonstrated in **Table 2**:

Year	Water Security Targets	Year 1 Status (July 2022-June 2023)
Consumption (demand)		
2025	< 253 litres consumption per person per day (gross PCC, network)	241.33 litres/day/person *(within the territorial authority district (*litres plus/minus 2.5%) (12-month rolling average)
2030	< 247 litres consumption per person per day (gross PCC, network)	
2050	< 225 litres consumption per person per day (gross PCC, network)	
Collection (supply)		
2030	20 million litres per day (non-dam) rainwater and recycled water capacity for beneficial use	21.70 million litres/day *Recycled water capacity for beneficial use in Auckland (not including rainwater tanks)
2050	100 million litres per day (non-dam) rainwater and recycled water capacity for beneficial use	
2050	30% of urban roof area to collect rainwater for use	Metrics yet to be developed

Risks and mitigation

Ongoing insufficient resourcing poses the greatest risk to implementing the Strategy, as evidenced by the Actions that remain overdue at the conclusion of the first year of implementation:

1. Action 1.1 Apply dual framework to benchmark water outcomes
2. Action 5.1 Adopt a council position to address affordable water access, and
3. Action 5.2 Develop a plan to address affordable water access in Auckland.

Additional detail on these three Actions can be referenced in **Appendix 1** “Detailed Strategic Shift and Action progress 2022/2023”.

Accountability for delivery of the workplan across the organisation presents a risk, as no enforcement mechanism exists for the Strategy. A three-year internal operational workplan was developed and completed with input by implementers across council group in October 2022. It provides guidance for implementation of key Actions directed by the Strategy. Accountability for delivery of the workplan across the organisation presents a risk, as there is no governance mechanism and limited buy-in at managerial levels to mitigate this risk. Council staff have proposed further mitigation to this risk by establishing an executive level governance structure, and this will need to be formally considered in Year 2.

Transitioning into 2023/2024

Ongoing resource constraints have been identified as a risk to delivering the Strategy, with informed prioritisation presenting a key mitigation tool. Project management staff in Auckland Council have therefore evaluated Actions under a set of prioritisation criteria, with an aim to inform decisions around how to allocate limited resources in Year 2 (2023-2024). Criteria for prioritisation included:

1. **Urgency** (when the Action is targeted for delivery in the Implementation Plan)
2. **Impact** (how the Action directly protects and enhances te mauri o te wai)
3. **Low risk** (the likelihood that factors outside council group control could derail progress), and
4. **Alignment** (with other ongoing and high priority activities for Auckland Council).

Following an assessment of all Actions to be completed in Years 1-3 along the preceding four criteria, the highest priority Actions resultantly reflect:

- statutory obligations
- council’s commitment to partner with mana whenua
- the uncertainty regarding our future operating environment, and
- a need to focus on resilience in the wake of severe weather events in early 2023.

Table 3 sets out the ten Actions of highest priority for progress over Year 2 based on the prioritisation criteria. Prioritising these Actions does not imply a pause on other Actions scoped for delivery by 2025. Rather, it supports decision-making around how council staff should allocate limited time and resources over the next financial year.

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Table 3: Ten high priority Actions identified for 2023/2024 (order does not imply importance)

Strategic Actions		Year
1.1	Apply dual framework to benchmark water outcomes	1
1.2	Resource mana whenua to enable meaningful partnership relationships with the council	2-3
4.2	Review emissions reductions for water infrastructure against those required by Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri and develop an emissions plan	1-3
4.7	Include mauri in the council's investment prioritisation process for the Annual Budget and Long-Term Plan in partnership with mana whenua	2-3
6.1	Embed te mana o te wai as a central consideration in all plan change processes, including development of council-initiated plan changes and when providing evidence on private plan changes	1-3
6.2	Resource and enhance the council's capability to effectively implement the Essential Freshwater Package	1-3
6.4	Develop a regional blue-green network spatial plan	1-3
6.5	Develop a position to limit development in, and remove vulnerable structures from, high risk water related natural hazard areas	1-3
6.6	Review, develop and grow the council's strategic approach to sediment programme	1-3
8.2	Build a robust evidence base to support the NPS-FM plan change in 2024	1-3



Appendix 1 – Detailed Strategic Shift and Action progress 2022/2023

Purpose of this appendix

Thirty Actions were scoped to begin in Year 1 (2022/2023) of implementation of the Auckland Water Strategy (Strategy). This appendix provides a high-level summary of progress of all 30 Actions at the completion of Year 1, along with seven additional Actions that were not scoped to begin until Year 2 (2023/2024) or later but have notably progressed in Year 1.

Interpreting the content of this Appendix

Each Action sits within one of the eight overarching Strategic Shifts of the Strategy, and the tables have been separated by Strategic Shift to represent this. An additional table has been included at the forefront to highlight the overarching Implementation Actions (as set out on page 6 of the Auckland Water Strategy Implementation Plan).

Please refer to **Table 1** for the complete list of Strategic Shifts addressed in this document. Actions that were scoped as a priority for implementation going forward have been highlighted with an asterisk (*) in the ‘Action’ column. Actions that were not scoped to begin until Year 2 or later but have made significant progress have also been included and are indicated by a plus (+) sign, also in the ‘Action’ column. A full list of Actions and associated timeframes for delivery can be referenced in **Appendix 2**, and on page 57 of the [Auckland Water Strategy Implementation Plan](#).

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Table 1: The eight Strategic Shifts and overarching Implementation Actions of the Auckland Water Strategy

Implementation	Implementation Actions Successfully deliver on the vision and integrated aims of the Auckland Water Strategy using a coordinated and sustained approach to delivery across the council group.
Strategic Shift 1	Te Tiriti Partnership The council and mana whenua are partners in the protection, management, and enhancement of water.
Strategic Shift 2	Empowered Aucklanders Aucklanders are empowered to shape decisions about, and are prepared for, our changing water future.
Strategic Shift 3	Sustainable Allocation and Equitable Access When the council allocates water from the natural environment, water use is sustainable, and considers the health and wellbeing of ecosystems and people.
Strategic Shift 4	Regenerative Water Infrastructure Regenerative infrastructure systems enhance the life-sustaining capacity of water (mauri).
Strategic Shift 5	Water Security Auckland captures, uses, and recycles water efficiently so that everyone has access to enough water of the appropriate quality to meet their needs.
Strategic Shift 6	Integrated Land use and Water Planning Water and its life-sustaining capacity is a central principle in land management and planning decisions.
Strategic Shift 7	Restoring and Enhancing Water Ecosystems Auckland has thriving and sustainable natural water ecosystems that support life, food gathering and recreation.
Strategic Shift 8	Pooling Knowledge Auckland has the knowledge about water to make good quality, timely, and strategic decisions about water.

About the red, amber, green (RAG) progress status

Each Strategic Action has been defined with a RAG marker, to provide an immediate indication of progress achieved in Year 1 of implementation.

Table 2 elaborates what progress status each marker represents.

Table 2: RAG progress status key

Red	Overdue
Amber	Progressing with some challenges
Green	On track for completion or complete

Implementation Actions

Aim

Successfully deliver on the vision and integrated aims of the Strategy using a coordinated and sustained approach to delivery across council group. Delivery will also depend upon and should strengthen relationships with mana whenua, mataawaka, communities and central government.

Overall implementation update

The Strategy plays an important coordination and alignment role for water outcomes across the region, and therefore a key focus of implementation in Year 1 has been to deliver Actions that will facilitate and enable future action across the Strategy. In Year 1, all the key Actions within this 'Implementation Actions' thematic area (denoted by IMP in **Table 3** have been achieved, including securing and appointing key staff, assessing progress and processes, and reporting and amending processes for a streamlined approach into Year 2 of implementation (2023/2024). This is reflected in **Table 3**.

A notable risk for these Implementation Actions and the Strategy is limited governance structures internally within council to support buy-in and commitment to targeted delivery against the Strategic Shifts and associated Actions. Recommendations in **Table 3** speak to mitigation suggestions for this risk.

Table 3: A summary of the Implementation Actions and their key deliverables, progress, and challenges in Year 1, along with next steps and recommendations to ensure Actions remain on track.

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Implementation Actions (Reference page 6 of the Implementation Plan)						
Action *= priority Action += scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
IMP1 Appoint Executive Lead Team Water Lead		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appoint Executive Lead Team Water Lead. (complete) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An Executive Lead Team Water Lead has been appointed and has oversight of the Strategy. Regular updates were provided to a managerial group across the APSR Lead Team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review role of Lead during annual progress reporting in July 2023. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Services Reform introduces uncertainty in how/whether the new entity will recognise the Water Strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More expansive governance system is needed to drive outcomes across the Group. Introduce an additional Action to this section for completion by Year 3: Establish an ELT Governance System to drive outcomes.
IMP2 Appoint Water Strategy programme implementation coordinator		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appoint Water Strategy programme implementation coordinator. (complete) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Project Manager Water position was created and filled in December 2022, with responsibility for the Water Strategy amongst other water-related programmes. 	None.	None.	None.
IMP3 Coordinated workforce planning to fill gaps and changing needs (ongoing)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated workforce planning to fill gaps and changing needs. (ongoing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A three-year operational workplan was developed to provide additional guidance and scoping for initial Actions to be delivered by the Water Strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resourcing gaps have been identified in delivering the work programme. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Management is considering avenues for resourcing to deliver outcomes in the short and long-term. 	None.
IMP4 Update Long-term Plan investment prioritisation criteria to reflect the Water Strategy		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update Long-term Plan investment prioritisation criteria to reflect the Water Strategy. (ongoing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Long-term Plan investment criteria have been updated to reflect the Water Strategy and Mauri. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long-term Plan (LTP) process continues in 2023. 	None.	None.

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Action *= priority Action += scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
IMP5 Council reporting on te mauri o te wai		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council reporting on te mauri o te wai. (ongoing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Action-oriented reporting system piloted for baseline report. Water Strategy Actions reporting system developed and piloted for baseline report and has been used to compile the Annual Progress Report for Year 1 of implementation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update reporting system to reflect learning through Year 1 of implementation and use this to support the compilation of Annual Progress Reporting material for September 2024. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Year 1 reporting system may be burdensome on implementing departments / entities; additional governance support may be needed to drive buy-in. Mitigation has been considered for this Action, including a more qualitative reporting process, at a 6 monthly frequency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A more expansive governance system is needed to drive outcomes across the Group, including commitment to resourcing. As per recommendation for IMP1.

Shift 1 – Te Tiriti Partnership

Aim

Council and mana whenua are partners in the protection, management, and enhancement of water.

Overall Shift update

Partnership is a long-term and ongoing goal. Addressing the challenges to achieving meaningful partnership for water outcomes with all 20 Tāmaki Makaurau mana whenua entities recognised by council will take time. However, initial steps have been progressed over Year 1.

The Strategy identifies the completion and application of a Mātauranga Māori Benchmarking Framework as the first Action (Action 1.1) for delivery under the Strategic Shift focused on Treaty Partnership (Strategic Shift 1). The Framework proposes a set of indicators that would enable a mana whenua owned and led assessment of council's progress towards protecting and enhancing te mauri o te wai over time. The results of the benchmarking would provide a key input to the development of subsequent Actions to deliver on the aims of Strategic Shift 1 - Treaty Partnership. Progress on this Action (Action 1.1) has been achieved following several disruptions that have delayed the completion of the Action in Year 1. Progress included re-engagement with Te Pou Taiao and the scheduling of a collective mana whenua engagement hui (meeting) in August 2023. The hui (meeting) will provide for direction setting and guidance by mana whenua of next steps for this Action.

Further to this, partnerships with mana whenua to deliver on water outcomes are being implemented across council. Examples include:

- the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPSFM) plan change has developed a long-term engagement programme that fundamentally shifts the way council engages with mana whenua on Freshwater Management under the Auckland Unitary Plan. This has included the establishment of an Independent Wai Māori Mana Whenua Technical Support Panel. The panel provides technical capability to support mana whenua to partner in the implementation of the NPS-FM.
- locally project-based partnerships in which mana whenua are developing approaches to Māori led and owned environmental monitoring at catchment or site scale.

A key challenge, however, is coordinating across the various channels and drivers for engagement with mana whenua, especially considering the sheer number and variety of water topics to engage upon. The infeasibility of tackling them all at once will require deliberation and prioritisation, including the exploration of additional resources and efficiencies. Council staff will need to address this from Year 2 onwards. This is further elaborated in **Table 4**.

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

Table 4: A summary of Shift 1 Actions and their key deliverables, progress, and challenges in Year 1, along with next steps and recommendations to ensure Actions return and/or remain on track.

Strategic Shift 1 – Te Tiriti Partnership						
Action *= priority Action += scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
* 1.1 Apply dual framework to benchmark water outcomes (ongoing)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Water-Sensitive Cities (completed 2021) and Mātauranga Māori Benchmarking Framework to be completed at a regional level and supported by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mātauranga Māori Benchmarking Framework explanation and Guidelines Mātauranga Māori Benchmarking Framework results report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A water-sensitive cities index was completed for Auckland in 2021. A Mātauranga Māori benchmarking framework draft was completed in 2022, in partnership with Te Pou Taiao (Environment Committee) of the Mana Whenua Forum. This was created by two ‘co-navigators’: Johnnie Freeland (Te Pou Taiao co-navigator and Emily Afoa (Auckland Council co-navigator). The framework was developed based on desk top review of mauri assessment tools and a series of 6 workshops with Te Pou Taiao members held in 2021. Council continued to work with mana whenua partner – Te Pou Taiao - to progress Action 1.1. However, there have been challenges to the completion and application of the benchmarking framework in 2022/2023: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Socialise with all mana whenua entities and seek support to proceed (10 August 2023 hui scheduled). Seek support from all mana whenua entities to establish a mana whenua working group to finalise the draft framework and direct the establishment of a secretariat (or comparable) to hold and facilitate the application of the benchmarking framework for the first time (August 10 hui). Test the benchmarking framework – revise and refine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Mātauranga Māori benchmarking framework was scoped to be completed in Year 1; however this Action is led by Te Pou Taiao of the Tamaki Makaurau Mana Whenua Forum and supported council. Te Pou Taiao capacity constraints and staff changes have delayed completion of this Action. A recent change means that council no longer supports Te Pou Taiao (or any of the Mana Whenua Forum pou). This signals a risk that the framework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rescope requirements and resourcing to complete this Action and seek resourcing to proceed to next stage of delivery.

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one of the developers of the framework moved cities and is no longer available to work on the framework, • Te Pou Taiao experienced capacity constraints in 2022; and • Council’s budget constraints halted progress for several months. <p>Progress on this Action has been achieved following these disruptions – including re-engagement with Te Pou Taiao; re-engaging consultant Emily Afoa to facilitate the development of the framework; and the scheduling of a collective mana whenua engagement hui (meeting) for 10 August 2023. The hui will provide for direction setting and guidance by mana whenua of next steps for this Action.</p>	<p>benchmarking framework based on testing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a pilot (baseline) assessment using the benchmarking framework and a report summarising the results, along with explanation and guidelines document. • Develop dual benchmarking reporting approach and report, if required. • Develop Actions (that would sit under the Auckland Water Strategy strategic shifts by topic area) based on the results of the benchmarking assessment and an accompanying implementation approach. 	<p>may no longer sit with Te Pou Taiao. Staff will table this with the Mana Whenua Forum to receive direction on an updated approach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mana whenua capacity has been impacted by the Three Waters Reform programme and it is likely that rescoping and additional resource will be sought in Year 2. 	
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Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

Action *= priority Action += scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
<p>+*1.2 Resource mana whenua to enable meaningful partnership relationships with the council (ongoing)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A – this Action is accountable from Year 2-3 of the Strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ngā Mātārae commissioned an external review of Auckland Council engagement with mana whenua (Beyond Obligation, September 2022). The National Policy Statement Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) implementation programme resources long-term engagement with mana whenua - including the establishment of an Independent Wai Māori Mana Whenua Technical Support Panel - to support mana whenua’s partnership role in the implementation of the NPS-FM. The role of Senior Māori Engagement Advisor - Strategy within the Natural Environment Strategy Unit, APSR was filled at end of the reporting period. The primary focus of this role is to support Māori Engagement across several initiatives including the Strategy. Healthy Waters and Watercare have increased resourcing towards mana whenua engagement, partnership, and staff cultural competency over the last year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scope Years 2-3 delivery of this Action and seek resourcing required. Implement appropriate Actions/ recommendations from the Beyond Obligations review via engagement to implement the Strategy. 	None.	None.

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

Action *= priority Action += scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
+1.3 Report on te mauri o te wai (ongoing)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A – this Action is accountable from Year 2-3 of the Strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates on the Strategy approval were given during joined-up freshwater hui (Water Strategy, National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management NPS-FM, and Three Waters Reform) with individual iwi/hapu groups between March 2022 and February 2023. A presentation on the progress of the Auckland Water Strategy in Year 1 was provided to Te Pou Taiao in June 2023. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates and discussions expected to continue from July 2023. 	None.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reallocate the Shift 1 lead to a NES team member to ensure prioritisation of this Action and preceding Actions. This task has been completed for the time-being, noting its ongoing and will need to be reviewed.

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

Shift 2 – Empowered Aucklanders

Aim

Aucklanders are empowered to shape decisions about, and are prepared for, our changing water future.

Overall Shift update

Year 1 implementation has focused on coordinating engagement with Aucklanders across the group and understanding and bolstering Aucklanders' water knowledge, as these are both key enabling factors for empowerment. Empowerment pilots were undertaken in Year 1 (see Action 2.6) and council's guidance on community engagement has been updated to include considerations of empowerment along the IAP2 spectrum (see Action 2.4 in **Table 5**). Significant community engagement following the flooding events of 2023 provided opportunities to review our engagement practices across the group with an eye to improving them. Some funding has been allocated through the Storm Response Fund to the priority areas under Resilient Auckland that are oriented towards providing better information to Aucklanders and building community resilience.

Council staff have flagged the adjustment to new roles and responsibilities and resulting engagement with Aucklanders following the Water Services Reforms as a potential challenge to progressing this Shift going forward. This includes entering a relationship with the new Water Services Entity and collaborating to progress the ideals of this Shift.

Table 5: A summary of Shift 2 Actions and their key deliverables, progress, and challenges in Year 1, along with next steps and recommendations to ensure Actions return and/or remain on track.

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

Strategic Shift 2 – Empowered Aucklanders						
Action *= priority Action += scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
2.1 Develop and deliver a framework for, and measure, water literacy at regular intervals (ongoing)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal analysis paper on water literacy survey. (complete) Definition of water literacy. Water literacy framework. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watercare has developed a framework and shared with council its monthly water literacy tracker based on drinking and wastewater service provisions with customers. A baseline for water literacy has been established. A literature scan of methods and definitions for water literacy was completed to inform a definition for water literacy in Auckland. A cross-council and Watercare workshop was held in mid-June 2023 following internal reviews on definitions and literature and an analysis on the Watercare water literacy survey questions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop an engagement approach for mana whenua on this Action. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Action requires more time to adequately engage with mana whenua. And/or Action rescope to enable progress while awaiting mana whenua engagement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rescope timeline for delivery and approach so that water literacy framework can be progressed as quickly as possible.
2.2 Grow council group's water literacy education programmes (ongoing)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None - build on work from 2.1 above when more information is available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None- build on work from 2.1 above when more information is available. Watercare has an ongoing water education program and in FY23 delivered 448 less across 76 schools and reached 11,500 pupils. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review preliminary results from the water literacy framework to inform scoping of next steps in this Action. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The timeframe to complete this Action (within 3 years) while relying on previous Action (also scoped within 3 years) may be insufficient. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider lengthening this timeframe or scoping some initial direction before Action 2.1 has been completed.

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

Action * = priority Action + = scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
2.3 Resource mana whenua to lead community engagement for water projects in catchments in their rohe (ongoing)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with iwi to understand if this is desired, to what extent, and what- if any- support is needed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council engagement with mana whenua has not been centred on this topic specifically. This is an ongoing activity for Watercare. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with iwi to understand if this is desired, to what extent, and what- if any- support is needed. 	None.	None.
2.4 Align, coordinate, resource and evaluate the council group's community engagement on water		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of cross-council working group with a Terms of Reference (ToR). Updated community engagement hub. (complete) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ToR deemed unnecessary and a working group will not be formed. However, key inputters have been identified and members of the knowledge governance group (Strategic Shift 8) are aware of this piece of work. Engagement guidance documents have been updated and will be reviewed at a cross-council workshop in Year 2 (2023/2024). Watercare has an ongoing community engagement programme and have developed a measurement for community satisfaction around delivery of large-scale infrastructure projects. Watercare also widely engaged public and customers on our wastewater network strategy and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host cross-council workshops to support alignment of goals and tools for 'community engagement on water'. The community engagement hub is updated with aligned engagement processes, strategies, policies, and plans for water projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The impact of a new water services entity on aligned community engagement on water has yet to be determined but could pose a risk to the intent of this Action. Key mitigation efforts would be to develop a collaborative working relationship on aligning engagement with Watercare and Healthy Waters, as entities that may transition to the new Entity. 	None.

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

			has made commitments for further engagement to build resilient communities through more robust and transparent reporting.			
2.5 Develop a measure of Aucklanders' access to blue-green spaces; a programme to increase access over time; and track progress (ongoing)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report on methods of measuring access to blue-green spaces. Spatial parameters for blue-green access framework. Establish a definition of blue-green access for Auckland. Set a target for access to blue-green spaces. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial cross-council discussions have taken place to consider options regarding urban access framework parameters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A report on methods of measuring access to blue-green spaces is completed, spatial parameters for a blue-green access framework are established, a definition of blue-green access for Auckland is established, and a target is set for access to blue-green spaces. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Action has interdependencies with other growth and spatial modelling efforts underway across council and risks being delayed in favour of statutory and other high-priority spatial projects (i.e., flooding modelling, future development strategy needs, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roll this into the workplan for developing a Green-Blue Network Spatial Plan (Action 6.4).
2.6 Investigate community-based ownership models for water infrastructure and services		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A feasibility report of community-based water management for Auckland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research materials have been collated and a feasibility report on community-based water management for Auckland is being prepared. Watercare piloted an empowerment approach through their Citizens' Assembly project with Koi Tū on Auckland's next water source between August and September 2022. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of the feasibility report of community-based water management for Auckland. Review of the lessons learned from the Citizens' Assembly (Watercare and Koi Tū) and application to future pilots. 	None.	None.

Shift 3 – Sustainable Allocation and Equitable Access

Aim

When the council allocates water from the natural environment, water use is sustainable, and considers the health and wellbeing of ecosystems and people.

Overall Shift update

The direction of this Shift aligns with requirements under the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM) plan change to review our water availability and allocation systems, therefore, many of the Actions in this Shift are being undertaken by NPS-FM implementation workstreams. A summary of the work undertaken to date can be found in **Table 6**.

Aligning with NPS-FM statutory deadlines is anticipated challenge the delivery of Actions in this Shift within the given timeframes. Statutory timeframes for implementing NPS-FM already require significant resourcing to meet, so incorporating additional direction provided by the Strategy may require longer timeframes. Significant evidence needs to be gathered on equitability of water access in Auckland as a preliminary step to meeting the goals of this Shift.

Table 6: A summary of Shift 3 Actions and their key deliverables, progress, and challenges in Year 1, along with next steps and recommendations to ensure Actions return and/or remain on track.

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

Strategic Shift 3 – Sustainable Allocation and Equitable Access						
Action *= priority Action += scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
3.1 Develop indicators based on mauri to define allocation limits, in partnership with mana whenua		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NPS-FM plan change consultation document embeds 'mauri'. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A stocktake on mauri assessment methods in use across council in partnership with mana whenua has been completed to inform this Action. Engagement with Mana Whenua on Mahinga Kai and any desired Māori Freshwater values was conducted in Year 1 (2022-2023). The Independent Wai Māori Mana Whenua Technical Support Panel for the NPS-FM is advising on the compulsory mahinga kai values and other freshwater values of interest to lwi as a preliminary step. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NPS-FM workstream on water availability will define allocation limits and will consider the guidance and information provided over this past year related to considering mauri in partnership with mana whenua when making allocation limit decisions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High levels of engagement required to achieve this Action by the deadline and capacity within the NPS-FM programme is limited. Additional work will be ongoing to align with the NPP-FM plan change timeline 2024. Mitigation options considered are to consider the intent behind this Action as considering mauri in decision-making as opposed to attempting to develop new indicators specific to mauri. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate regular progress meetings between Natural Environment Strategy Unit and NPS-FM teams. This task has been completed.

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

Action *= priority Action += scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
3.2 Assess Auckland’s water resources and availability across the region using a Tāmaki expression of the Te Mana o Te Wai hierarchy (ongoing)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A – this Action is accountable from Year 2 of the Strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provisions have been drafted for ‘Te mana o te wai’ on a broad basis (not on water quantity or allocation) and presented to Mana Whenua for feedback, as a first step to developing a Tāmaki expression. The NPS-FM programme water availability workstream is assessing Auckland’s water resources and availability. A groundwater accounting spreadsheet has been developed and will be used as an interim tool and a surface water accounting approach has been drafted and will be further developed over FY23/24. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This piece of work is ongoing to align with the NPS-FM plan change. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NPS-FM programme will need to go beyond statutory obligations to fulfil the intent of this Action, which is challenging given its deadlines and limited resourcing. The timeline for this Action may not allow for full consideration of factors such as equity and climate change in time for the NPS-FM notification deadline. Mitigation is under consideration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Realign language within this Action to match that of the NPS-FM. Consult Watercare and Resource Consents on evidence base.
3.3 Develop a dynamic water availability model and use it to plan for the future (ongoing model development)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A – this Action is scoped to be implemented between Year 1 – 5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial cross-council discussions on a dynamic water availability tool have taken place. Further scoping to be done. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elements of this Action are dependent on progress of Action 3.2 within the NPS-FM plan change timeline. 	None.	None.

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

Action *= priority Action += scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
3.4 Set take limits and review allocation rules for the National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management using the Tāmaki expression of the Te Mana o Te Wai hierarchy		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A – this Action is scoped to be implemented between Year 1 – 5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant work within the National Policy Statement- Freshwater Management initiative is taking place, with the intention of considering this Action in more depth from Year 2. 	None.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are discrepancies in the language used in the Strategy and NPS-FM. Mitigation has been considered, including updating the language to align with the NPS-FM. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Realign language to capture the intent of this Action and match that of the NPS-FM.

Shift 4 – Regenerative Water Infrastructure

Aim

Regenerative infrastructure systems enhance the life-sustaining capacity of water (mauri).

Overall Shift update

Only one Action was scoped to begin in Year 1 for this shift, however, significant progress has been made to enhance the uptake of regenerative water infrastructure over the last year. For example, ‘mauri’ has been included as a key investment criterion in the Annual Budget for capital expenditures, representing new ways of evaluating and prioritising infrastructure development. Additionally, reducing the emissions associated with our water infrastructure has been a key consideration over this year, both in the embodied and operational emissions scopes (see 4.2 in **Table 7**).

Table 7: The sole Shift 4 Action and the key deliverables, progress, and challenges in Year 1, along with next steps and recommendations to ensure the Actions returns and/or remains on track.

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

Strategic Shift 4 – Regenerative Water Infrastructure						
Action *= priority Action += scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
4.1 Collate case studies to increase understanding of resilient, conspicuous, and mauri-enhancing water infrastructure solutions (complete)		N/A – Complete	N/A - Complete before Year 1 began.	N/A - Complete before Year 1 began.	None.	None.
*4.2 Review emissions reductions for water infrastructure against those required by Te-Tāruke-a-Tāwhiri and develop an emissions plan if required		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish an emissions baseline. (complete) Set a target for emissions and finalise an emissions plan. (complete) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2023/2024 has been set as the baseline year for carbon emissions data and will include current construction and operational activities. In alignment with ‘Te-Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland’s Climate Plan’, the targets have been set for a reduction of operational emissions by 50% by 2030 and to achieve net zero by 2050. Note that both Healthy Waters and Watercare intend to include Scope 3 emissions in planning, which are not captured in Te-Tāruke. Emissions reduction plans are under development by water infrastructure teams in council, noting a difference between 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watercare targets December 2023 for updating its operational emissions baseline, and December 2024 for the construction emission reduction plan. Healthy Waters is working towards a Toi Tū certification over a three-year period for which the first step is understanding and measuring inventory, and the next steps are to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The impact of formation of a new water services entity serving Auckland and Northland on how an emission reduction plan is monitored and evaluated remains to be determined. Ongoing resourcing in Watercare and Healthy Waters to complete reduction plans may be challenged by the demands of the Water Services Reform. 	None.

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

			reduction plans and roadmaps. Watercare operational emissions reduction roadmap to 2030 was signed off June 2022 and will need to be updated to include embodied infrastructure.	develop a path to reduce.		
+*4.7 Include mauri in the council's investment prioritisation process for the Annual Budget and Long-Term Plan in partnership with mana whenua (ongoing)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider how to include mauri in the Annual Budget process (2023/24). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 2023/2024 Annual Budget includes mauri as an investment criterion. The Draft Infrastructure Strategy 2024 advocates for additional investment in understanding and implementing regenerative and mauri-enhancing infrastructure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider how to include mauri in the Long-Term Plan process in Year 2. 	None.	None.

Shift 5 – Water Security

Aim

Auckland captures, uses, and recycles water efficiently so that everyone has access to enough water of the appropriate quality to meet their needs.

Overall Shift update

Auckland has already achieved its 2030 consumption and supply targets in Year 1, based on figures by Watercare.

In Year 1 of the Strategy, two Actions in this Shift were scoped for delivery (see Actions 5.1 and 5.2 in **Table 8**). The reprioritisation of some resources and staff time following the flooding events of 2023 disrupted ongoing work on Action 5.1. This had a follow-on impact on the delivery of 5.2, which depends on the completion of Action 5.1. The ideals of this Shift are also being progressed in collaboration between Watercare and Auckland Council, particularly in drought and management planning (see 5.3 in **Table 8**). The upcoming Water Services Reform transition will require adjustments by council parent in working with the new Water Services Entity on much of the direction in this Shift.

Table 8: A summary of Shift 5 Actions and their key deliverables, progress, and challenges in Year 1, along with next steps and recommendations to ensure Actions return and/or remain on track.

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

Strategic Shift 5 – Water Security						
Action *= priority Action += scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
Water Strategy Consumption Target		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2025, water consumption in Auckland falls below 253 litres/day/person. By 2030 consumption falls below 247 litres per person per day. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The average consumption of drinking water per day per resident within the territorial authority district (*litres plus/minus 2.5%) (12-month rolling average) as of June 2023 was 241.33 litres/day/person.¹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2050, Auckland consumes ≤225 litres per person per day. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consumption figures may be more difficult to attain after the proposed Water Services Reform, when Auckland’s water services provider also services Northland 	None.
Water Strategy Supply Target		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2030, Auckland has 20 million litres/day (MLD) of (non-dam) rainwater recycled water capacity for beneficial use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Between 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023 Auckland had 21.70 MLD of recycled water capacity for beneficial use.² This includes several wastewater treatment plant volumes reused onsite, and one for golf course irrigation. It does not include rainwater tank volumes across Auckland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2050, Auckland’s water supply has 100 million litres per day (non-dam) rainwater and recycled water capacity for beneficial use. Additional wastewater reuse sites to be brought online for other beneficial uses and the volume of captured rainwater 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rainwater tank data difficult to access, reducing the efficacy of tracking progress against this target. Mitigation could include investing in obtaining rainwater tank data across the region. A lack of regulatory frameworks/guidance around wastewater reuse for non-potable uses could challenge wastewater reuse initiatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider deploying funds to obtain data on rainwater tank capacity in Auckland. Investigate opportunities to improve legislation and regulations to incentivise beneficial wastewater reuse initiatives.

¹ https://wslpwstoreprd.blob.core.windows.net/kentico-media-libraries-prod/watercarepublicweb/media/watercare-media-library/board-meetings/public_agenda_and_board_papers_8_aug_2023.pdf

² Internal Watercare staff analysis

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				available for reuse across Auckland to be calculated.		
* 5.1 Adopt a council position to address affordable water access		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Position Paper on affordable water access approved by the governing body. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council staff are developing a project brief and scope to guide a stakeholder engagement process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder engagement for qualitative feedback on a council position around affordable water access. Options for a council position on affordable water access to be drafted and presented to the relevant committee of the governing body with council staff advice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Action has passed deadline due to temporary resource reprioritisation following the 2023 flooding events. This Action is intended to be completed within Year 2. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rescope the deadline of this Action.
*5.2 Develop a plan to address affordable water access in Auckland		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin work on a plan with Watercare on a council position paper. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An internal memo on access to affordable water was completed during the development of the Strategy that considers a range of policy levers. These should be considered in jointly scoping the next steps together with Watercare. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jointly scope the delivery of this Action with Watercare when the position paper has been approved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Action is reliant on Action 5.1 to be completed. Mitigation has been considered and included rescoping the deadline of this Action to align with the updated deadline for Action 5.1. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rescope the deadline of this Action.
5.3 Add a level of service for and develop a plan to proactively manage both peak demand and drought response		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review drought level of service based on climate scenario modelling impact on water sources and integrate any necessary changes into the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated Drought Management Plan (DMP) approved by Council Committee in March 2023 and Public Board Meeting in May 2023. Draft Peak Demand Management Plan under internal review. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review to be completed and any necessary plan changes to be integrated into the 2024 'Long Term Plan' (LTP). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The upcoming Water Services Reform (WSR) transition is consuming significant resourcing by Watercare staff, who are key collaborators on this Action. Mitigation is still under 	None.

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		‘Long Term Plan’ (LTP).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-council/CCO Working group established. • Watercare implements an annual summer demand management plan 		consideration for this Action.	
5.4 Model climate change scenarios to understand impacts on water sources (ongoing)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse impacts of climate change on water source optimisation to inform the Integrated Source Management Model (ISMM). (complete) • Develop predictive modelling with spatial mapping on climate change impact on water sources and quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Integrated Source Management Model (ISMM) utilised by Watercare considers the impact of rainfall patterns on dam storage to optimise water source decisions on a real-time basis. • Watercare has a diverse portfolio of water sources, which it continues to review to keep up with projected demand and climate change. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-council/CCO working group to jointly scope the further delivery of this Action (i.e., predicting the impact of climate change on demand and other water sources). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The upcoming Water Services Reform (WSR) transition is consuming significant resourcing by Watercare staff, who are key collaborators on this Action. Mitigation is still under consideration for this Action. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rescope the deadline of this Action.
+5.7 Develop an investment plan of diverse sources to meet 2030 and 2050 targets, guided by te mauri o te wai for 2024 Long-Term Plan		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an investment plan for alternative sources to reach the supply targets set out in the Water Strategy, including a plan for council assets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Water Action Plans and Rainwater Harvesting Development Plans are under development and include possible alternative water sources and redevelopment/renewal of existing rainwater harvesting assets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jointly scope further delivery with Watercare. • Develop an investment plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considering rain tanks as an alternative source is limiting because data is very difficult to access and not centrally held by Watercare or council. Mitigation may need to involve investment in accessing rainwater tank data across the region. • A lack of regulatory frameworks/guidance around wastewater reuse for non- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider deploying funds to obtain data on rainwater tank capacity. • Investigate opportunities to improve legislation and regulations to incentivise beneficial wastewater reuse initiatives.

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					potable uses could challenge wastewater reuse initiatives.	
+5.8 Develop policy to achieve target of 30% of urban roof area to collect rainwater for use 2050		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct baseline assessment on urban roof area rainwater collection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watercare have conducted surveys that include rain tank data, and results have been shared with council. Surveys are being updated to expand data capture. Legislative barriers have been identified to mandating rainwater tanks for indoor potable use (Health Act and Building Act). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct baseline assessment of rainwater tank capacity in Auckland and feed into a Cost-benefit analysis which is required to justify mandate for outdoor non-potable use under Section 32RMA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data storage from consents in council difficult to access for analysis. Major risk that national legislation precludes council from adopting rain-tank mandates. Mitigation has been considered for this Action and includes exploring other methods of urban roof area rainwater collection and obtaining data on rainwater tank capacity across the region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider deploying funds to obtain data on rainwater tank capacity across Auckland.
+5.10 Monitor investments to meet water consumption reduction targets and review targets in 2024		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a report on water consumption reduction investments and provide quarterly. (ongoing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of a quarterly report including leakage, campaigns, smart meters is underway. Watercare Board receives quarterly report on consumption. Watercare reports monthly on leakage, consumption levels and smart meter roll out. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue monitoring investments through current channels and review in Year 2. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment figures may be more difficult to attain after the proposed Water Services Reform, when Auckland's water services provider also services Northland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate through transition for continued communication and relationships in this space.

Shift 6 – Integrated Land use and Water Planning

Aim

Water and its life-sustaining capacity is a central principle in land management and planning decisions.

Overall Shift update

A key focal area over the past year has been in how council considers water-related natural hazard risk in land management and planning decisions. Development of the draft Infrastructure Strategy, draft Future Development Strategy, and responses to the flooding events of 2023 all embedded direction from this Shift to reduce intensification in vulnerable areas and consider the cumulative impacts of development on receiving environments.

Some Actions in this Shift have also been progressed via the Essential Freshwater Package rollout, including the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) implementation. Aligning to the timelines of statutory responsibilities and coordinating initiatives progressing across council (sometimes with different drivers) are some of the challenges faced in delivering this Shift.

Table 9: A summary of Shift 6 Actions and their key deliverables, progress, and challenges in Year 1, along with next steps and recommendations to ensure Actions return and/or remain on track.

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

Strategic Shift 6 – Integrated Land use and Water Planning						
Action *= priority Action += scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
*6.1 Embed te mana o te wai as a central consideration in all plan change processes, including the development of council-initiated plan changes and when providing evidence on private plan changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give effect to ‘Te Mana o Te Wai’ in any relevant council-initiated plan change and when providing advice/evidence on private plan changes. (ongoing) Embed change in plan change processes through measures such as training sessions and practice notes. (ongoing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NPS-FM was included as a consideration in the development of the plan changes for the National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD). The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) implementation team have developed draft objectives for a Regional Policy Statement that detail how freshwater management in the region will give effect to Te Mana o Te Wai 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ‘Te Mana o Te Wai’ to be incorporated into plan changes and advice/evidence on private plan changes. Training sessions to be conducted on ‘Te Mana o Te Wai’ and district plan processes to be held. 	None.	None.
*6.2 Resource and enhance the council’s capability to effectively implement the Essential Freshwater Package		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolve difference of interpretation of regulatory definitions used in the NPS-FM and the National Environmental Standards (NES) for Freshwater (e.g. natural inland wetlands), between central government and councils Explore resourcing requirements for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearer legal definitions provided in NPS-FM and NES for Freshwater, (January 2023), to provide certainty to implementation of plan change and specific rule considerations from NPS-FM. The Resource Management (Freshwater farm plans) Regulations were released in June 2023 and are currently being evaluated given core council regulatory services obligations (e.g. reporting interface, regulatory compliance, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore resourcing requirements for freshwater farm planning regulations and provide technical advice in analysing evidence-base. Understanding of integrated nature of Essential Freshwater regulatory instruments and associated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal action against central government prolongs uncertainty for councils. The timing and resourcing needs for the freshwater farm plan rollouts in the Auckland region remain uncertain. The council’s articulation of 	None.

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		<p>freshwater farm planning regulations and provide technical advice in analysing evidence-base.</p>	<p>catchment context description) needing consideration through the LTP process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council staff have assessed regulatory provisions in the NES for Freshwater, and the Resource Management (Stock Exclusion) Regulations 2022, with current provisions in the Auckland Unitary Plan. 	<p>stringency completed in time for NPS-FM plan change notification.</p>	<p>'catchment context' will require dedicated resourcing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some legal interpretations and stringency interpretations between existing Auckland Unitary Plan provisions and regulatory requirements may require additional analysis. 	
<p>6.3 Review and improve spatial planning processes to consider water consistently and advocate for statutory weight for structure plans</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and identify gaps within existing spatial plan outcomes and their consideration of WSD principles, natural hazard risk management and resilience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The draft Future Development Strategy (FDS) required by NPS-UD considers integrated land use and water planning to reduce our vulnerability to the impact of water-related natural hazards and promotes mauri-enhancing infrastructure in our spatial planning. Staff feedback on the RM Reforms exposure drafts of bills have advocated for greater statutory weight to structure plans. Plan Changes 78 (Intensification) and 80 (Regional Policy Statement) to the Auckland Unitary Plan were notified in response to the NPS-UD. PC 78 includes water related provisions such as riparian yards and wetlands as a qualifying matter (limiting more intensive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a review of spatial plan outcomes and opportunities when developing Auckland's Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) as required under the Resource Management Reforms. 	<p>None.</p>	<p>None.</p>

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			<p>development). PC 80 amends the RPS to ensure Auckland is more resilient to the effects of climate change when new development occurs, including through providing for water reuse and rainwater collection.</p>			
<p>* 6.4 Develop a regional blue-green network spatial plan</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete workshop reports contributing to the development of a regional blue-green network spatial plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 sites have been identified as potential blue-green spaces as part of the Making Space for Water programme within Resilient Auckland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review priorities from open-space network and local board plans and overlay with existing watercourse information. • Conduct a series of workshops for alignment of priorities across council strategies and plans in accordance with the open space policy refresh. • Consider how Resilient Auckland workstream 2 can bring the network parameters together, beyond any workstream 3 site specific projects envisaged. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interdependence with other ongoing initiatives presents a risk for this Action to align strategically with the open space policy refresh, review of the SEA layer in updating the biodiversity strategy, and ongoing operations work by Healthy Waters to rehabilitate and restore waterways. • Limited spatial capacity across council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storm Response Funding in Annual Budget secured to support this Action.

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Action *= priority Action += scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
*6.5 Develop a position to limit development in, and remove vulnerable structures from, high risk water related natural hazard areas		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft a policy which develops a position to limit development in, and remove vulnerable structures from, high risk water related natural hazard areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work is progressing through Resilient Auckland to strengthen the AUP to enhance resilience (including limiting development in natural hazard areas) and Making Space for Water to remove vulnerable structures from high-risk areas. Resilient Auckland has incorporated previous work through the Too Much Water Policy (which became Te Ara Urutau: Waikino, and then Mahi Tahi Tatou) to initiate public engagement including a position to limit development in, and remove vulnerable structures from, high risk water related natural hazard areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve Plan Change 78 Report to the Governing Body on the progress of Resilient Auckland in June 2024 	None.	None.
*6.6 Review, develop and grow the council's Strategic Approach to Sediment Programme (ongoing)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review, develop and grow council's strategic approach to sediment programme. (complete) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal cross-council workshops are held twice yearly. Priority areas and actions for the Strategic Approach to Sediment Programme have been identified and shared with councillors in an informational memo and pilot programmes set up. One pilot project of the Programme is using turbidity sensors downstream of small construction sites to prioritise 	None.	None.	None.

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

			<p>where compliance staff are deployed to monitor sediment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A second pilot project uses cameras to monitor sediment from construction sites and alert compliance teams. 			
6.7 Investigate and continuously improve the council's understanding and management of cumulative effects to protect and enhance mauri		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider Action direction through implementation of NPS-FM workstreams in Year 2. This Action is scoped to be implemented between Year 1 – 5 	None.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collate our understanding of cumulative effects through NPS-FM implementation. Consider regulatory and non-regulatory interventions through the NPS-FM implementation programme to advance Action. 	None.	None.
6.8 Avoid enabling further development in water-related natural hazard areas in all plan change processes and ensure regulations take a precautionary and risk-based approach		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider Action direction through drafting of Future Development Strategy under NPS-UD. This Action is scoped to be implemented between Year 1 –5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future Development Strategy draft out for consultation limits development in water-related natural hazard prone areas. PC78 has been consulted on which would include natural hazards and coastal inundation as qualifying matters for the MDRS provisions. Resilient Auckland includes a workstream to strengthen the AUP in considering water-related natural hazard areas in plan changes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete Future Development Strategy (FDS) and its implementation plan with public input. Governing body approval of PC78. Resilient Auckland workstream focussed on “Strengthening the AUP” to include wider natural hazard related plan changes. 	None.	None.

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

Action *= priority Action += scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
6.9 Deliver a package of non-regulatory and regulatory interventions to support the uptake of water sensitive design processes and ongoing management of devices		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a holistic definition of water sensitive design (WSD). Conduct a SWOT analysis of our current planning framework against the holistic definition. Review CCO asset databases to ensure consistent information is required at vesting stage for infrastructure. 	None.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advance regulatory interventions outlined in various council guidance documents to advance WSD through essential freshwater package instruments and NPS-FM plan change. Advance non-regulatory interventions outlined through Action-planning in the NPS-FM process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Action has no clear owner across council and spans multiple functions, making it difficult to drive cohesive Action. Mitigation for this is to advance through NPS-FM implementation and seek funding for the evidence needed to carry through. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storm Response Funding in Annual Budget secured to support this Action.

Shift 7 – Restoring and Enhancing Water Ecosystems

Aim

Auckland has thriving and sustainable natural water ecosystems that support life, food gathering and recreation.

Overall Shift update

The implementation of national policies under the Essential Freshwater Package will provide opportunities for council to make significant progress in restoring and enhancing our freshwater ecosystems through a catchment-based approach.

Although many of the Actions in this Shift are not scoped to begin until Year 2 onwards, some progress has already been made through implementing this Shift, as can be seen in **Table 10**. The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) implementation team have developed draft objectives for a Regional Policy Statement that detail how freshwater management in the region will give effect to Te Mana o Te Wai, drafted environmental outcomes for public engagement, and conducted some reports on the baseline state of freshwater attributes. The Essential Freshwater Package has set new standards and regulations around water quality that can inform next steps to achieve this Shift. Progress on Action 7.1 has been made via a council stocktake on mauri assessment approaches applied by council or supported by council.

Table 10: The sole Shift 7 Action and the key deliverables, progress, and challenges in Year 1, along with next steps and recommendations to ensure the Actions returns and/or remains on track.

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

Strategic Shift 7 – Restoring and Enhancing Water Ecosystems						
Action *= priority Action += scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
7.1 Develop methods to assess mauri for Auckland's freshwater ecosystems, in partnership with mana whenua		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A cross-council group stocktake on methods and processes to assess and/or consider te mauri o te wai in partnership with mana whenua. (complete) Engage with mana whenua to develop a measure, if desired. Develop guidelines for assessing mauri that require mana whenua engagement and can be tailored to different scales. Conduct a baseline assessment based on mauri assessment framework on relevant scale(s). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A cross-council stocktake on methods and processes that assess and/or consider te mauri o te wai in partnership with mana whenua was completed and accompanying summary report were completed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop next steps and rescope of this Action. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council is partnering with mana whenua to assess and consider mauri in a variety of ways, and the development of a new method not necessarily required. Rather, supporting council staff to consistently and successfully consider te mauri o te wai would better support the intent of this Action and will be explored and scoped. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential re-scope for this Action.

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Action * = priority Action + = scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
+7.3 Improve our understanding of freshwater ecosystems and pressures		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore delivery through the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) implementation. This Action is scoped for Years 2-5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council's NPS-FM programme is building a robust evidence base to support the implementation of the NPS-FM, including a plan change anticipated in late 2024, that also builds our understanding of water ecosystems and pressures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review after NPS-FM implementation for additional evidence needed to deliver this Action. 	None.	None.

Shift 8 – Pooling Knowledge

Aim

Auckland has the knowledge about water to make good quality, timely, and strategic decisions about water.

Overall Shift update

Year 1 has focused on improving water knowledge sharing within council to support ongoing water initiatives, including the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) implementation, responses to the flooding events of 2023, and the proposed Water Services Reform transition.

Action 8.1 to implement a knowledge governance framework for water has been identified as a priority Action to support these initiatives, with broad support and involvement across council. Achieving aims of this Shift are expected to be challenging when the transition to a new Water Services Entity occurs, as discussed further in **Table 11**.

Table 11: A summary of Shift 8 Actions and their key deliverables, progress, and challenges in Year 1, along with next steps and recommendations to ensure Actions return and/or remain on track.

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Strategic Shift 8 – Pooling Knowledge						
Action *= priority Action += scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
8.1 Implement a council group knowledge governance framework for water (ongoing)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop cross-council knowledge governance steering group for water and determine scope of framework. Establish a Steering Group to determine Terms of Reference. Achieve sign-off on Terms of Reference for the Knowledge Governance Framework. Stocktake of evidence-base and analysis of current knowledge sharing on water across council. Discuss recommendations for appropriate treatment of Mātauranga and Te Ao Māori through hui with Mana Whenua 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Working Group with a Terms of Reference was established in January 2023 and meets regularly to deliver this Action. A stocktake and analysis of water knowledge and key knowledge-sharing gaps across council was completed in June 2023. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft the Knowledge Governance Framework key sections (vision, principles, guidance). Develop an engagement plan for the work with mana whenua. Consider how to embed recommendations for appropriate treatment of Mātauranga Māori and Te Ao Māori. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of the framework developed not being implemented or feeding into the transition process for the new Water Services Entity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek support for this Action through Policy Hub.

Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Rautaki Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau

Action *= priority Action += scoped beyond Y1 but progressed significantly	RAG Status	Goals for Year 1	Progress made in Year 1	Next steps	Risks and mitigation	Recommendations
*8.2 Build a robust evidence base to support the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management plan change in 2024.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stocktake of evidence base under NPS-FM. • Technical advice provision in analysing evidence-base for NPS-FM plan change. • Gather evidence to fill NPS-FM gaps. • Identify resourcing to fill gaps in evidence-base for NPS-FM implementation through discussions and resourcing through workstreams. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stocktake of evidence base under NPS-FM has been completed. • A base map with relevant overlays has been created to collate some data. • Technical advice provision in analysing evidence-base for NPS-FM plan change is now underway. • Additional funding has been secured to support resourcing to fill gaps in evidence-base for NPS-FM implementation. • Scoping of the technical work to implement NPS-FM underway. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review continuously. 	None.	None.
8.3 Develop a consistent council approach to working with treaty partners and their mātauranga		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss recommendations for appropriate treatment of Mātauranga Māori and Te Ao Māori through hui with Mana Whenua. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice and guidance note on sensitive Māori information in development; linkages to Knowledge Governance Framework (8.1) have been established. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice and guidance note on sensitive Māori information to be completed and discussed in the context of the knowledge governance framework for water. 	None.	None.



Appendix 2 – Alignment opportunities 2022/2023

Purpose of this appendix

The Auckland Water Strategy (Strategy) implementation requires on-going consideration of opportunities to advance Actions through council's policies, plans, and strategies. This Appendix provides a high-level overview of the relationship between specific Actions of the Strategy and national and regional instruments. Only Actions scoped to be underway between Years 1-3 (June 2022 – July 2025) in the Implementation Plan are included in this Appendix.

Reading this Appendix

- **Table 1** sets out the Actions of the Strategy in the Annual Report 2022/23, including those that are scoped to begin in Year 1, as well as other Actions that have progressed meaningfully over the last year. Actions scoped to begin implementation beyond Year 3 have generally not been included. Additional detail on all Actions of the Strategy can be referenced in the [Auckland Water Strategy Implementation Plan](#).
- **Table 2A** sets out the national instruments and reforms that present alignment opportunities. Each national instrument or reform has a summary of overall strategic alignment, followed by its relationship with specific Actions from **Table 1**.
- **Table 2B** sets out regional policies/plans/strategies that present alignment opportunities with the Strategy. Each column has a summary of overall strategic alignment, followed by its relationship with specific Actions from **Table 1**.

The three types of relationships captured in **Tables 2A** and **2B** include:

1. whether a policy/plan/strategy **shares strategic direction with** specific Actions of the Auckland Water Strategy
2. whether a policy/plan/strategy **advances or delivers** specific Actions of the Auckland Water Strategy
3. whether a policy/plan/strategy **is anticipated to impact the delivery** of an Action of the Strategy by significantly changing the context under which the Action would be delivered without sufficient clarity as to how this will be changed (for example, the creation of a new Water Services Reform are anticipated to change the way some assets are managed by Auckland Council but the exact type and nature of that change is yet to be determined)

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Table 1: Actions of the Auckland Water Strategy (Years 1-3)

		Year	Owner	Status
Te Tiriti Partnership Actions				
1.1	Apply dual framework to benchmark water outcomes	1	Council	Underway
1.2	Resource mana whenua to enable meaningful partnership relationships with the council (ongoing)	2-3	Council	Underway
1.3	Report on te mauri o te wai (ongoing)	2-3	Council	Underway
Empowered Aucklanders Actions				
2.1	Develop and deliver a framework for, and measure, water literacy at regular intervals (ongoing)	1-3	Council and Watercare	Underway
2.2	Grow council group's water literacy education programmes (ongoing)	1-3	Council and Watercare	Scoping
2.3	Resource mana whenua to lead community engagement for water projects in catchments in their rohe (ongoing)	1-3	Council	Scoping
2.4	Align, coordinate, resource and evaluate the council group's community engagement on water	1-3	Council	Underway
2.5	Develop a measure of Aucklanders' access to blue-green spaces; a programme to increase access over time; and track progress (ongoing)	1-3	Council	Underway
2.6	Investigate community-based ownership models for water infrastructure and services	1-3	Council	Scoping
Sustainable Allocation and Equitable Access Actions				
3.1	Develop indicators based on mauri to define allocation limits, in partnership with mana whenua	1-3	Council	Scoping
3.2	Assess Auckland's water resources and availability across the region using a Tāmaki expression of the Te Mana o Te Wai hierarchy (ongoing)	1-3	Council	Underway
3.3	Develop a dynamic water availability model and use it to plan for the future (ongoing model development)	1-5	Council	Scoping
3.4	Set take limits and review allocation rules for National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management using the Tāmaki expression of the Te Mana o Te Wai hierarchy	1-5	Council	Underway
Regenerative Water Infrastructure Actions				
4.1	Collate case studies to increase understanding of resilient, conspicuous, and mauri-enhancing water infrastructure solutions (complete)	✓	Complete	Complete
4.2	Review emissions reductions for water infrastructure against those required by Te-Tāruke-a-Tāwhiri and develop an emissions plan	1-3	Council and Watercare	Underway

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		Year	Owner	Status
4.7	Include mauri in the council's investment prioritisation process for the Annual Budget and LongTerm Plan in partnership with mana whenua (ongoing)	2-3	Council	Ongoing
Water Security Actions				
5.1	Adopt a council position to address affordable water access	1	Council	Underway
5.2	Develop a plan to address affordable water access in Auckland	1	Council and Watercare	Scoping
5.3	Add a level of service for and develop a plan to proactively manage both peak demand and drought response	1-3	Council and Watercare	Underway
5.4	Model climate change scenarios to understand impacts on water sources (ongoing)	1-3	Watercare	Underway
5.7	Develop an investment plan for diverse sources to meet 2030 and 2050 targets, guided by te mauri o te wai for 2024 Long-Term Plan	2-3	Council and Watercare	Scoping
5.8	Develop policy to achieve target of 30% of urban roof area to collect rainwater for use (ongoing)	2-5	Council and Watercare	Scoping
5.10	Monitor Investments to meet water consumption reduction targets. Review targets in 2024 (ongoing)	4-10	Council and Watercare	Underway
Integrated Land Use and Water Planning Actions				
6.1	Embed te mana o te wai as a central consideration in all plan change processes, including the development of council-initiated plan changes and when providing evidence on private plan changes	1-3	Council	Underway
6.2	Resource and enhance the council's capability to effectively implement the Essential Freshwater Package	1-3	Council	Underway
6.3	Review and improve spatial planning processes to consider water consistently and advocate for statutory weight for structure plans	1-3	Council	Underway
6.4	Develop a regional blue-green network spatial plan	1-3	Council	Scoping
6.5	Develop a position to limit development in, and remove vulnerable structures from, high risk water related natural hazard areas	1-3	Council	Underway
6.6	Review, develop and grow the council's Strategic Approach to Sediment Programme (ongoing)	1-3	Council	Underway
6.7	Investigate and continuously improve the council's understanding and management of cumulative effects to protect and enhance mauri (ongoing)	1-5	Council	Scoping
6.8	Avoid enabling further development in water-related natural hazard areas in all plan change processes and ensure regulations take a precautionary and risk-based approach (ongoing)	1-5	Council	Underway

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		Year	Owner	Status
6.9	Deliver a package of non-regulatory and regulatory interventions to support the uptake of water-sensitive design processes and ongoing management of devices (ongoing)	1-10	Council	Scoping
Restoring and Enhancing Water Ecosystems Actions				
7.1	Develop methods to assess mauri for Auckland's freshwater ecosystems, in partnership with mana whenua	1-3	Council	Underway
7.3	Improve our understanding of freshwater ecosystems and pressures	2-5	Council	Underway
Pooling Knowledge Actions				
8.1	Implement a council group knowledge governance framework for water (ongoing)	1-3	Council	Underway
8.2	Build a robust evidence base to support the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management plan change in 2024.	1-3	Council	Underway
8.3	Develop a consistent council approach to working with treaty partners and their mātauranga	1-3	Council	Underway

Table 2A: National instruments and reforms (National level)

Symbol	Meaning	Indication
•	Shared strategic direction, goals, and/or targets	Alignment of activities to progress the Action should be explored
••	Has the potential to advance the Action	Linkages should be established to relevant work programmes and mahi should be initiated, where possible
•••	Has the potential to deliver the Action	Linkages have already been established to relevant work programmes have been or will be initiated
+/-	Has the potential to impact the Action delivery in an unclear way	The national instrument/reform should be closely monitored to understand impact on the Action, with early mitigation taken wherever possible

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National Policy and Legislation					
	Essential Freshwater Package (EFP) Including the National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management 2020 (amended January 2023) (NPS-FM), National Environmental Standards for Freshwater (NES-F), Resource Management (Freshwater Farm Planning) Regulations, Resource Management (Stock exclusion) Regulations, and Resource Management Act amendments.	National Policy Statement for Urban Development (NPS-UD) Including the Future Development Strategy.	National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (NPS-IB)	Water Services Reform (WSR) Formerly known as Affordable Waters/ Three Waters	Resource Management Reforms
	<p>In 2020, the Government of Aotearoa New Zealand introduced the Essential Freshwater Package (EFP), a set of regulations put in place to halt and prevent further degradation and to immediately improve and maintain the health of our bodies of water. The regulations that sit within the EFP include the National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management 2020 (amended January 2023) (NPS-FM), National Environmental Standards for Freshwater (NES-F), RM (Freshwater Farm Planning) Regulations, RM (Stock exclusion) Regulations, and Resource Management Act amendments for faster freshwater planning processes.</p> <p>The implementation of the EFP provides significant opportunities to progress the strategic direction of the Auckland Water Strategy, especially through partnership with mana whenua, considering te mauri o te wai in how we monitor and allocate water, and the regulatory opportunities to improve the integration of land use/development and water planning</p>	<p>The National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020 (NPD-UD) came into force in August 2020 to deliver Central government direction on Council initiatives for intensification in urban areas of New Zealand.</p> <p>Under the NPS-UD, councils are mandated to develop their own ‘Future Development Strategy’ (FDS) to outline long-term visions on urban development. A draft FDS for Auckland has been proposed and is currently under public consultation. The draft promotes integrated, long-term strategic planning to help council set the high-level vision for accommodating urban growth over the long term and identify strategic priorities to inform other development-related decisions. In its current form, the draft progresses Auckland Water Strategy aspirations to integrate land use and water planning, especially regarding growth and development in natural hazard-prone areas, as well as investment in regenerative infrastructure.</p>	<p>The NPS-IB was gazetted on 7 July 2023 and will commence on 4 August 2023.^[4] Its objective is to maintain indigenous biodiversity across Aotearoa New Zealand so that there is at least no overall loss in indigenous biodiversity from its commencement.</p> <p>The NPS-IB has linkages with direction in the Auckland Water Strategy by recognising the interconnectedness of the whole environment and the interactions between the terrestrial environment,</p>	<p>The Water Services Reform, originally announced as the Three Waters Reform in 2020, and supported by the Water Services Entities Act 2022, is intended to mitigate challenges identified in the localised delivery of drinking, stormwater, and wastewater services.</p> <p>The key change the Reform will bring is a transfer of responsibility of New Zealand’s drinking, stormwater, and wastewater services from individual councils across the country to 10 publicly owned Water Services Entities. It is intended to come into force on 1 July 2024, although the exact provisions around asset ownership and management remain</p>	<p>The Government announced in February 2021 that the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA, or ‘the Act’) would be repealed and replaced with three new Acts: the Spatial Planning Act (SPA), the Natural and Built Environment Act (NBA) and the Climate Adaptation Act (CAA). The SP Bill and the NBE Bill were introduced to Parliament in 2022, with passage expected before the end of the Parliamentary term. The CAA Bill was expected to be introduced in 2023 but delayed until 2024.</p> <p>The reforms are expected to have a major impact on how councils manage our environment, including the water space. This is anticipated to present both opportunities and challenges to</p>

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	through integrated rural and urban environments.		freshwater, and the coastal marine area.	unclear at the time of reporting.	implementing the Auckland Water Strategy.
1.1	●●		●		
1.2	●●	●●	●●	+/-	+/-
1.3	●●		●●	+/-	+/-
2.1				+/-	
2.2					
2.3					
2.4	●				
2.5		●			+/-
2.6				+/-	
3.1	●●●				+/-
3.2	●●●				+/-
3.3	●●●				+/-
3.4	●●●				+/-
4.1	--	--	--	--	--
4.2				+/-	
4.7		●●		+/-	
5.1				+/-	
5.2				+/-	
5.3				+/-	

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	Essential Freshwater Package (EFP) Including the National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management 2020 (amended January 2023) (NPS-FM), National Environmental Standards for Freshwater (NES-F), Resource Management (Freshwater Farm Planning) Regulations, Resource Management (Stock exclusion) Regulations, and Resource Management Act amendments.	National Policy Statement for Urban Development (NPS-UD) Including the Future Development Strategy.	National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (NPS-IB)	Water Services Reform (WSR) Formerly known as Affordable Waters/ Three Waters	Resource Management Reforms
5.4				+/-	
5.7		●●		+/-	
5.8	●●	●●		+/-	+/-
5.10				+/-	
6.1	●●●				
6.2	●●●				
6.3	●	●●●			+/-
6.4			●●●		+/-
6.5					
6.6	●				+/-
6.7	●●●				+/-
6.8		●●●			+/-
6.9	●●	●●			+/-
7.1	●		●		+/-
7.3	●●●				
8.1				+/-	+/-
8.2	●●●				
8.3			●●●		+/-

Table 2B: Alignment with Regional Policies, Plans and Strategies

Key
• Indicates shared strategic direction
•• Indicates opportunities to advance the Action
••• Indicates opportunities to deliver the Action

Regional Plans, Strategies and Policies Plans										
The Auckland Plan 2050	Te-Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: the Auckland Climate Plan	Ngā Hapori Momoho Thriving Communities Strategy 2022/2032	Kia Ora Tamaki Makaurau	Annual Budget 2023-2024 (including Storm Response Fund)	Infrastructure Strategy 2024 (Draft)	Resilient Tamaki Makaurau Auckland	Waste Management and Minimisation Plan	IMSB Issues of Significance 2021-2025	Local Board Plans ³	
<p>The Auckland Plan is our 30-year spatial plan to contribute to Auckland’s social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being.</p> <p>As required by Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009, the plan provides direction on</p>	<p>Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan is our long-term approach to climate Action. It sets out eight priority Action areas to deliver our goals to reduce emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.</p>	<p>Ngā Hapori Momoho Thriving Communities is council’s core strategy for community wellbeing. The strategy sets out the things we need to focus on over the next 10 years, to ensure all our communities can thrive, now and into the future.</p>	<p>Kia ora Tāmaki Makaurau is our framework to measure Māori wellbeing and performance for Tāmaki Makaurau as an evolution of the Māori Responsiveness Framework.</p> <p>The Framework aligns the mana outcomes that Māori have identified as</p>	<p>This is Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau/ Auckland Council’s plan for delivering services, and building infrastructure during the 2023/2024 financial year, the third year of council’s 10-year Budget 2021-2031 (The</p>	<p>An Infrastructure Strategy is required as part of the Long-term Plan (including the 10-year Budget) under the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA). The 2024 Infrastructure Strategy remains under development.</p>	<p>The ‘Resilient Auckland’ initiative sets out short and long-term policy and operational responses to the flooding events of January and February 2023. Its outcomes align with the Water Strategy Strategic shifts around</p>	<p>The Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2018 sets out nine key Actions for the next six years to reduce our waste. It has significant linkages with Water Strategy direction to reduce our water consumption and advance</p>	<p>The Schedule of Issues of Significance (IoS) is a statutory document prepared by the Independent Māori Statutory Board (the Board) to promote and advocate to Auckland Council for and on behalf of Māori in Tāmaki Makaurau.</p>	<p>Local Board Plans are three-year strategic plans prepared by each of Auckland’s 21 local boards in consultation with the local community. They remain under development but will impact how we</p>	

³ The information here is based on Local Board Plans in general – we acknowledge that individual Local Boards prioritise different outcomes, and therefore we will need to work closely with each Local Board and its teams to ensure effective alignment and adequate weight to regional statutory obligations.

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<p>addressing Auckland's key challenges of high population growth and environmental degradation, and how we can ensure shared prosperity for all Aucklanders.</p> <p>The Auckland Water Strategy sits underneath the Auckland Plan 2050 and aligns with multiple outcomes of the AP2050, especially the Environment and Cultural Heritage Outcome.</p>	<p>Sits alongside the Auckland Water Strategy under the Auckland Plan 2050. As climate is a cross-cutting theme in the Auckland Water Strategy, it shares linkages with the Climate Plan in promoting regenerative and nature-based infrastructure and integrating climate change in water security and community resilience planning.</p>	<p>As equity is a cross-cutting theme in the Auckland Water Strategy, there are many linkages between Ngā Hapori Momoho and the Auckland Water Strategy in driving equity in our water allocation space and water security planning.</p>	<p>most important to them.</p> <p>The Water Strategy seeks to align with the entire Framework, but especially with the kia ora te taiao outcome.</p>	<p>Recovery Budget, Long-term Plan or LTP). It represents an opportunity to embed te mauri o te wai in how we prioritise our investments as a region.</p> <p>It includes a \$20million Storm Response Fund funded from future rates focussed on Actions that increase resilience for future storm events. This aligns with Water Strategy direction to invest in mauri-enhancing infrastructure and integrate land use and water planning.</p>	<p>The issue areas endorsed by Auckland Council include environmental degradation and infrastructure resilience, and the Strategy aims to promote te ao Māori infrastructure (including mauri-enhancing infrastructure) moving forward.</p>	<p>Te Tiriti Partnership, Empowered Aucklanders, Regenerative Infrastructure, and Integrated Land Use and Policy Planning.</p>	<p>water security in Auckland.</p>	<p>The Water Strategy and its implementation will consider the issues of significance across its implementation, but especially in parts of the Strategy that require Māori engagement.</p>	<p>implement parts of the Auckland Water Strategy that rely on Local Board engagement.</p>
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	The Auckland Plan 2050	Te-Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: the Auckland Climate Plan	Ngā Hapori Momoho Thriving Communities Strategy 2022/2032	Kia Ora Tamaki Makaurau	Annual Budget 2023-2024 (including Storm Response Fund)	Infrastructure Strategy 2024 (Draft)	Resilient Tamaki Makaurau Auckland	Waste Management and Minimisation Plan	IMSB Issues of Significance 2021-2025	Local Board Plans ⁴
1.1	•		•	•			•		•	
1.2	•	••	•	••	••	••	••		•	
1.3	•			•	•	•			•	•
2.1	•	•	•	•			••	•		••
2.2	•	•	••				•	•		•••
2.3	•	•	••	••			••			
2.4	•	•	••	•			••			
2.5	••	•	•••	•			••			••
2.6	•	•	••				••	•		•••
3.1	•			•••					•••	
3.2	•	•	•	••						
3.3	•	•								
3.4				••						
4.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.2	•	•••					•	••		
4.7	•	•		•	••	••	•	•	••	
5.1	•		•••							
5.2	•		•••							
5.3	•	•			•					

⁴ The information here is based on Local Board Plans in general – we acknowledge that individual Local Boards prioritise different outcomes, and therefore we will need to work closely with each Local Board and its teams to ensure effective alignment and adequate weight to regional statutory obligations.

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	The Auckland Plan 2050	Te-Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: the Auckland Climate Plan	Ngā Hapori Momoho Thriving Communities Strategy 2022/2032	Kia Ora Tamaki Makaurau	Annual Budget 2023-2024 (including Storm Response Fund)	Infrastructure Strategy 2024 (Draft)	Resilient Tamaki Makaurau Auckland	Waste Management and Minimisation Plan	IMSB Issues of Significance 2021-2025	Local Board Plans ⁵
5.4	•	•			•					
5.7	•	•			••	••	•	••	•	
5.8	•	•				••	•	••	•	•
5.10	•	•			•	••		••	•	•
6.1	•			••				••		
6.2	•									
6.3	•	•			•		•••			
6.4	•	••	•	•	•••		•••			•••
6.6	•	•			•					
6.7	•	•			•					
6.8	•	•			•		•••			
6.9	•	•			•••		•••	•••		
7.1	•	•	•	•••					•••	
7.3	•			•					••	
8.1	•						•			
8.2	•									
8.3	•	•	•	•••			••		•••	

⁵ The information here is based on Local Board Plans in general – we acknowledge that individual Local Boards prioritise different outcomes, and therefore we will need to work closely with each Local Board and its teams to ensure effective alignment and adequate weight to regional statutory obligations.



Te Pūrongo-ā-Tau a te Wai ki Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland Water Strategy Annual Report 2022/2023

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