

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT

### DRAFT ASSESSMENT OF WATER AND SANITARY SERVICES SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

The Waitakere City Council has resolved to publicly notify the Draft Assessment of Water and Sanitary Services and has prepared a statement of proposal as required by Section 125 of the Local Government Act 2002. This notice is given to comply with the requirements for the special consultative procedures under Section 89 of the Local Government Act 2002.

The Draft Assessment of Water and Sanitary Services includes: water supply, wastewater, stormwater, solid waste, cemeteries and crematoria and public toilets.

The scope of the Draft Assessment of Water and Sanitary Services includes a description of services provided, an assessment of risks to the community, an assessment of quality and adequacy of services provided, a statement of current and estimated future demands for services, a statement of options available to meet current and future demands, a statement of Council's intended role and a statement of Council's proposals for meeting current and future demands.

A summary of the key proposals is provided below:

Water Supply	Reduce domestic water usage per person by 25% by 2025.
Wastewater	A 50% reduction in wastewater overflows by 2025.
Stormwater	Reduce flooding and improve the quality of streams, lakes and harbours.
Solid Waste	Progress Council's Zero Waste strategy by 2015.
Cemeteries	Provide a new cemetery or extend Waikumete Cemetery by 2021.
Public Toilets	Complete the current 5 year programme and thereafter facilitate the provision of new public toilets

To obtain a copy of the statement of proposal please phone Council's Call Centre on (09) 839 0400, or download at [www.waitakere.govt.nz](http://www.waitakere.govt.nz).

#### How to have your say

To have your comments considered you need to make a written submission. You can obtain a submission form from:

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- Waitakere City Council Libraries
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Written submissions do not need to be made on an official form. All written submissions are accepted as long as they are legible and obtain the full name and address of the submitter. If your submission is not on an official form please indicate if you would like to be heard by the Committee. It is not necessary to speak at the public hearings to have your submission considered.

The period for submissions is from 18 April 2005 to 18 May 2005, with submissions closing at 4.00pm on 18 May 2005. Submissions will be heard by Long Term Council Community Plan and Annual Plan Special Committee and submitters will be advised of a hearing time.

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**Post your completed submission to:**

Draft Assessment of Water and Sanitary Services  
Waitakere City Council  
Private Bag 93109  
Henderson

Or make a submission on line at [www.waitakere.govt.nz](http://www.waitakere.govt.nz).

Harry O'Rourke, MNZM, JP  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

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**Draft for Council approval**

# **Statement of proposals**

## **Waitakere City Council Draft Assessment of Water & Sanitary Services 2005**

**For Public Consultation**

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## SUMMARY AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION

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**DRAFT ASSESS OF WATER AND SANITARY SERVICES****“Securing a Safe and Sustainable Future”****Your feedback**

Overall do you support the Draft Assessment of Water and Sanitary Services?

- Yes                       No

What aspects of this Assessment do you agree with?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

What aspects of this Assessment do you not agree with?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Using a scale of 1 to 5, how important are the following in terms of the 3 waters?  
(1 = not important, 5 = extremely important)

	1	2	3	4	5
Economy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Efficiency	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Overall, what three things are most important to you to ensure a sustainable future for the 3 waters?

Priority 1.....  
 .....  
 .....

Priority 2.....  
 .....  
 .....

Priority 3.....  
 .....  
 .....

What comments do you have on providing solid waste services and achieving zero waste?

.....  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....

Using a scale of 1 to 5, which option do you prefer for the future provision of burial services?  
 (1 = not important, 5 = extremely important)

	1	2	3	4	5
Closing Waikumete in 2021	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Purchasing land for a new cemetery	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extending Waikumete to 2055	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of new burial technologies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Encourage private enterprise to provide a new cemetery	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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What comments do you have on the provision of public toilets?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

- I would like to present my submission to Council
  
- I would like to receive information on the Assessment of Water and Sanitary Services in the future.

Name: .....

Postal Address: .....

.....

.....

Please submit your submission by 4.00pm on 18 May 2005.

Submissions will be heard by the Long Term Council Community Plan and Annual Plan Special Committee. You will be advised of the hearing dates.

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## INTRODUCTION

From the 18<sup>th</sup> April 2005 to the 18<sup>th</sup> May 2005, the Council will be asking for feedback on its draft assessment of water & sanitary services prepared to meet the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002.

The Local Government Act 2002 recognises the importance of water, and obliges all territorial authorities to carry out an assessment of water services for their jurisdictional areas.

Part 7, Sections 125-129 of the Act specifies the required form, scope and content of what is termed the *Assessment of Water & Sanitary Services*, the first of which must be completed and adopted by each council by 30 June 2005.

### Local Government Act 2002



The assessment of water & sanitary services for Waitakere City is comprised of the following documents:

#### Three-Waters Services:

- Statement of Proposal – An Assessment of the Three-Waters in Waitakere City (*this report*)
- Appendices as set out in this Statement of Proposal
- Interactive Multi-Media DVD

#### Sanitary Services:

- Assessment of Solid Waste Services
- Assessment of Cemeteries & Crematoria Services
- Assessment of Public Toilet Services

The Background report provides more detailed technical information and further references for Waitakere City's Assessment of Water Services.

The interactive CD for the three-waters will be used for educational purposes in schools and with local community interest groups.

The detailed Assessments of Sanitary Services, which cover cemeteries & crematoria, public toilets and solid waste, are available as separate reports.

#### Why Have an Assessment of Water & Sanitary Services?

The Council provides a wide range of water and sanitary services, including water supply, wastewater, stormwater, solid waste, cemeteries & crematoria, and public toilets.

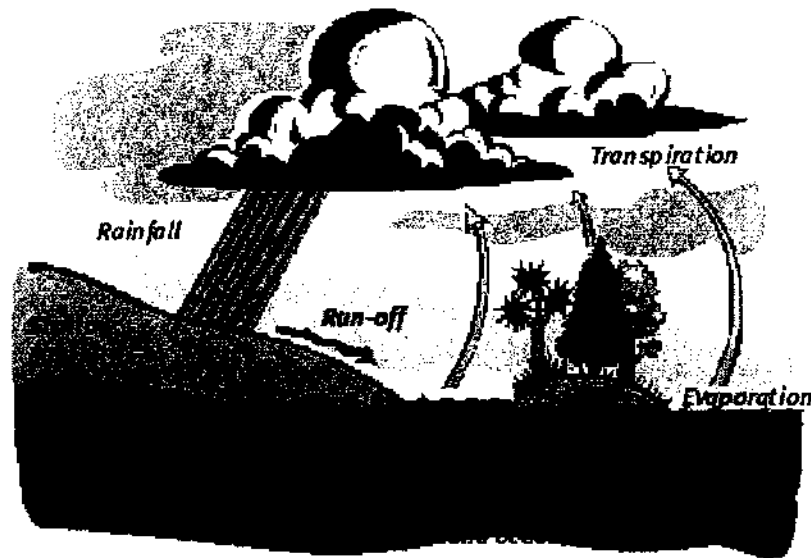
Although it is a legal requirement under part 7 of the Act, it makes sense to prepare the Assessment of Water & Sanitary Services to provide information to the community on the long term issues and enable the community to provide feedback on its preferences.

The assessment identifies how water & sanitary services contribute to the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of the community and how Council will implement a sustainable development approach.

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The Earth could support several times its current population, but the way humans chose to live - in large populous cities - creates problems for the natural water cycle. The more water is used, the more wastewater pollution is produced. The more the ground is covered with hard surfaces the more stormwater runs off, causing unnatural erosion of soil and clogging of streams and harbours. At the same time, less water can infiltrate the subsoil, causing streams and stream life to die. Hard surfaces also mean higher water and air temperatures, which also harm the environment. These wastes and pollutants we produce harm the natural water and water cycle that is in fact our future.

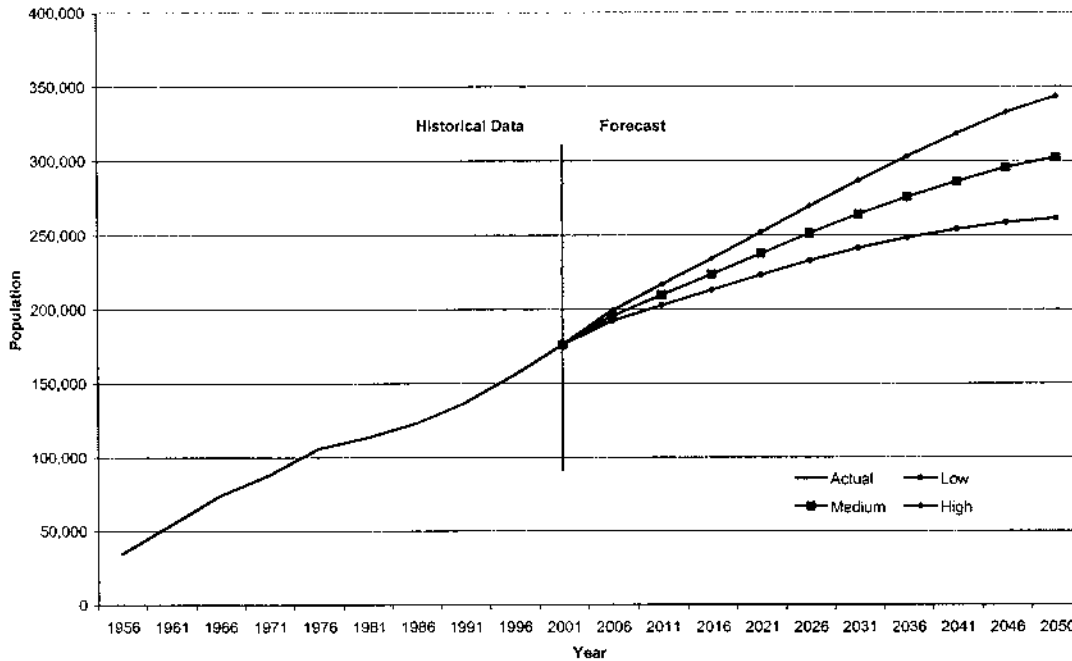
**Figure 1: The Water Cycle**



Therefore the community and Council have to address a number of issues including:

- How to achieve sustainable management
- Population growth, over the next 20 years Waitakere City is predicted by at least 35% as shown in the graph below:

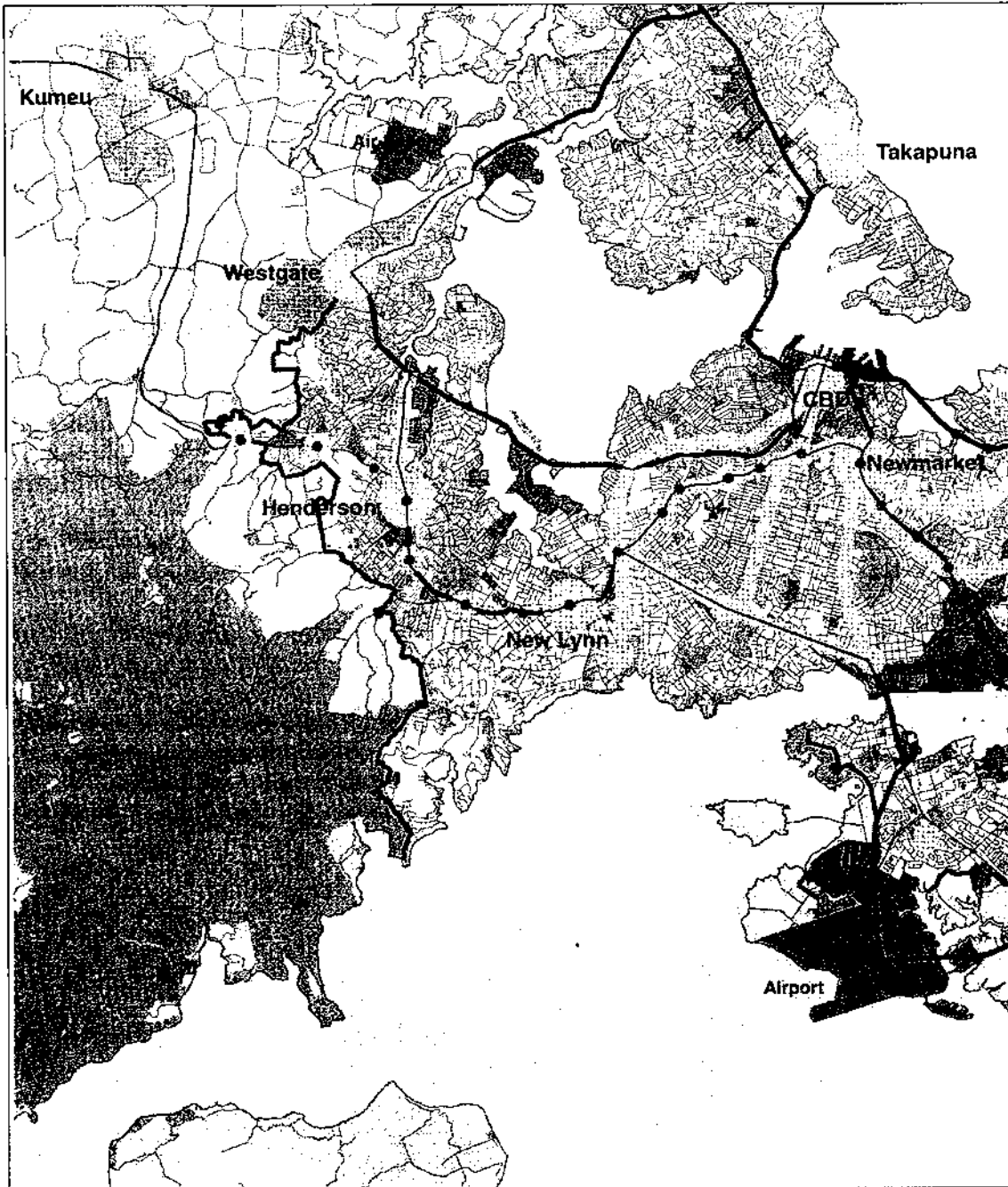
**Figure 2: Waitakere City Population Projections**



The City's planning provides for growth in accordance with the Regional Growth Strategy, which calls for urban intensification around the railway stations and transport corridors and growth at Westgate and Hobsonville. This is illustrated in the map below:

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**Figure 3: Regional Growth Forum Nodal Development Concept**



Other important issues that must be addressed in a sustainable manner include:

- Deterioration of assets due to age, as a significant number of assets were built in the 1960s
- Protection of public health, property and the environment
- Providing for growth in the local economy and ensuring affordability
- Establishing community partnerships
- Establishing a regional approach

By carrying out the assessment the community and Council will be able to determine the future direction of the essential three-waters services.

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**What is the strategic context for the Assessment of Water Services?**

Waitakere City Council adopted the principles of Agenda 21 in 1993 as the basis for sustainable development of the city. Since that time the Council has actively pursued alternatives to conventional infrastructure based on the principles of the Greenprint and the Water Cycle Strategy.

The Local Government Act 2002 identifies that the purpose of Council is to play a broad role in promoting the social, economic, environment and cultural well-being of its community taking a sustainable development approach. In addition the Act recognises and respects the need to maintain and improve opportunities for Maori to contribute to local government decision making processes.

The principles encompassed above are included in the 2003 Long Term Council Community Plan and specifically for water the Council's vision is that by 2020 Waitakere will be the centre of innovative management for 3 waters which are water supply, wastewater and stormwater.

In addition under the Green Network platform the Council aims to have streams and forests that are full of life and a green network linking the Waitakere Ranges and the sea.

Under the Zero Waste platform Council's vision is that it will be a clean and attractive city that turns all its wastes into resources.

**Who does the Assessment of Water & Sanitary Services apply to?**

The assessment of water & sanitary services applies to all occupiers and owners of property in Waitakere City Council and to iwi and persons and organisations providing or intending to provide water & sanitary services in Waitakere City Council.



A summary of the key stakeholders is set out in the table 1 below:

**Table 1: Stakeholders**

Activity	Stakeholder	Role
Water Supply	Residents & Ratepayers	Benefit and pay for the services
	Watercare Services Ltd	Provides bulk water supply collection, treatment & distribution
	Council	Promotes sustainable use of water and delivers the service to the community
Wastewater	Residents & Ratepayers	Benefit and pay for the services
	Watercare Services Ltd	Provides bulk wastewater collection, treatment & disposal
	Council	Promotes sustainable management of wastewater use of water and delivers the service to the community
Stormwater	Residents & Ratepayers	Benefit and pay for the services
	Council	Promotes sustainable management of stormwater and delivers the service to the community
State Highways	Transit NZ	Manage stormwater from state highways
Solid Waste	Residents & Ratepayers	Benefit and pay for the services
	Council	Promotes zero waste and provides collection, transportation, disposal and waste treatment services and facilities
	Solid Waste Industry	Provides solid waste services
Cemeteries & Crematoria	Residents & Ratepayers	Benefit and pay for the services
	Council	Provides cemeteries at Waikumete and Swanson and a crematorium at Waikumete
	Funeral Directors	Provide burial services for the community
Public Toilets	Residents & Ratepayers	Benefit and pay for the services
	Council	Provides public toilets in parks, public spaces and town centres
	Sports clubs	Benefit from the services
Environmental Regulation	Auckland regional Council	Sets and monitors environment standards for the water environment
Public health regulation	Medical Officer of Health, Auckland Healthcare	Sets and monitors public health standards for the 3 waters

Under the Local Government Act 2002, Council is required to provide opportunities for Māori to contribute to its decision-making processes.

### What's contained in the Assessment of Water & Sanitary Services?

The scope of the Assessment of Water & Sanitary Services includes:

- The 3 waters – water supply, wastewater and stormwater
- Solid Waste
- Cemeteries and Crematoria
- Public Toilets

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The information provided includes the following:

- A description of the services provided
- An assessment of any risks to the community
- An assessment of the quality, quantity and adequacy of the services provided
- A statement of current and estimated future demands for the services
- A statement of the options available to meet current and future demands
- A statement of Council's intended role
- A statement of Council's proposals for meeting current and future demand

It is intended that the Assessment of Water & Sanitary Services will be adopted by Council by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2005 and will provide the basis for the Activity Plans for water & sanitary services in the 2006-2016 Long Term Council Community Plan.

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## GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE THREE-WATERS

As stated above, Council has adopted a sustainable development approach to the 3 waters and a summary of the guiding principles is provided below:

Waitakere City is strongly committed to finding a sustainable path for all of the services it provides. This commitment is captured most clearly in the 'Eco City' vision:

*"Waitakere City will be known internationally as a sustainable city that:*

- *Celebrates and sustains its people;*
- *Has a strong sustainable economic base;*
- *Honours its environment; and*
- *Builds on its cultures and heritage".*

Waitakere City's 2020 Vision for its 'Three Waters' strategic platform is:

*"Waitakere is a centre of innovative management for the Three Waters".*

The 1987 World Commission on Environment and Development defined sustainable development as "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". Principle 1 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development states that "Human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development. They are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature."

Waitakere City is working to improve and encourage sustainable water use in our City, and more importantly across the region. The Local Government Act now recognises this.

### **Local Government Act Well-Beings**

The Local Government Act 2002 (the Act) sets out a series of provisions governing decision-making by local authorities. In making a decision, local authorities are required to:

- Seek to identify all reasonably practicable options for the achievement of the objective of a decision (s77);
- Assess those options by considering:
  - The benefits and costs of each option in terms of present and future social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being;
  - The extent to which community outcomes would be promoted or achieved in an integrated and efficient manner by each option;
  - The impact of each option on the local authority's capacity to meet present and future needs in relation to its statutory responsibilities; and
  - Any other relevant matters (s77).
- Give consideration to the views and preferences of persons likely to be affected by, or to have an interest in, the matter (s78).

The underlying premise of these provisions is that they apply to every decision made by a local authority, which must identify and assess the impact of all options on the four well-beings: Social, Economic, Environmental and Cultural. In other words, decisions and their options must be considered from a 'quadruple bottom line' (QBL) perspective.

Waitakere City is currently developing a comprehensive QBL framework for its decision-making processes to ensure we comply with the requirements of the Act and strengthen our leadership position in the local government sector, particularly in the area of sustainability. The QBL framework will provide a robust and practical QBL assessment framework for application to all levels of Council decision-making.

Sustainable management of the three-waters services will contribute to the 4 well-beings in the following ways:

#### Social Well-Being

- Public health and safety:
  - Meeting public health and safety standards relating to the three waters; and
  - Protecting properties from flooding.
- Community understanding and participation:
  - Meeting the needs of Waitakere City's people and communities;
  - Improving community understanding of, and support for, environmental protection (for example, through education programmes);
  - Encouraging community participation (for example, through partnerships with schools and community groups);
  - Reducing water use via water conservation measures (such as encouraging the use of domestic water saving devices); and
  - Ensuring actions taken to implement water demand savings take into account the principles of social equity.
- Amenity:
  - Incorporating amenity considerations into 'three waters' design and planning processes.
- Recreation:
  - Protecting and enhancing recreational resources.

#### Cultural Well-Being

- Recognition and respect:
  - Ensuring that actions taken acknowledge the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi and respect the cultural and spiritual values that Maori hold about water (for example, with regard to the mixing of waters from different sources).
- Partnership:
  - Working with tangata whenua in their kaitiaki or guardianship role.

#### Economic Well-being

- Investment/employment:
  - Encouraging efficient development of new infrastructure /networks and effective management of existing networks.
- Funding/costs:
  - Ensuring principals of social equity are considered when developing funding mechanisms; and
  - Reducing potential costs to households by encouraging water conservation measures.

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## Environmental Well-Being

- Water quality:
  - Reducing the frequency of wastewater overflows;
  - Ensuring regular checks/maintenance of septic tanks in rural areas and beach settlements to minimise discharges to streams, estuaries and the ocean; and
  - Minimising contaminated discharge to streams and coastal waters by, for example, the use of stormwater treatment devices.
- Habitat quality and quantity/biodiversity:
  - Protecting and enhancing riparian margins/vegetation through increased District Plan provisions, undertaking plantings on Council land and supporting community groups and individuals to plant stream banks.
- Flooding and erosion:
  - Reducing stream erosion by, for example, stream restoration to control slippage and erosion; and
  - Encouraging stormwater management practices, especially in new developments that mimic natural runoff patterns, thereby reducing the downstream flooding impacts of 'normal' subdivision practices

### **The "Six Es"**

At a tactical level, the Council's work programme to achieve the vision and targets for the three waters will continue to be based on the water cycle strategy, with a specific focus on the 'six Es' described below. Further programmes and techniques that we think will help achieve the targets, are outlined later in this report under each of the Three Waters.

### Economy

At present the average household pays \$268 per year for water supply, \$436 per year for wastewater and \$110 per year for stormwater, which altogether is equivalent to \$2.23 per household per day, less than the price of a cappuccino!

To address the challenges and issues identified above, and if we continue with current practices, it is likely that within the next ten years the cost of the Three Waters services will increase to \$1,394 per annum, or \$3.82 per household per day.

Although cost increases are inevitable, Council will investigate the use of economic tools to reduce costs as much as possible. These include:

- Development contributions – ensuring that developers pay the full cost of servicing their development
- Financial contributions – ensuring that developers pay for the full cost of any environmental damage caused by their development
- Pricing of the Three Waters to provide incentives for water conservation and minimization of wastewater and stormwater runoff.
  - Pricing of water supply – giving consideration to tariffs that promote conservation
  - Pricing of wastewater – consideration of alternatives to the current land value based rates system, such as a surcharge on water use
  - Pricing of stormwater – consideration of alternatives to the current land value based rates system, such as linking the cost of stormwater collection and treatment to the area of hard (impermeable) surfaces.



**Figure 4: Water Recycling**

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