

Waipā District Council  
Private Bag 2402  
Te Awamutu 3840

9 June 2025

Dear Mayor Susan and Waipā District Councillors

**Hamilton City Council / Waikato District Council Joint Submission to Waipā District Council's Consultation on Local Water Done Well**

We are pleased to write on behalf of Hamilton City Council and Waikato District Council, in support of your proposal to join Waikato Water Done Well. We note the serious consideration given to joining with Hamilton City Council and Waikato District Council in a sub-regional option and emphasise our continued desire to over time, work towards a larger regional entity. It's good for the region at this stage to have two strong CCOs.

*Councils need to deliver water differently*

As you know, our country and region needs huge investment in waters infrastructure. Successive governments have recognised this. The Government's Going for Housing Growth Policy, along with Fast-track, requires us to be more enabling and responsive to growth, particularly greenfield growth. All councils have been directed by the government to consider how they can more cost-effectively, provide waters services in the future.

The Government has encouraged councils to work together to deliver at scale. We welcome Waipā's proposal to work with other rural councils across the region to do this.

*The Future Proof growth strategy sets out the infrastructure requirements across our subregion*

The Future Proof growth strategy details the significant infrastructure requirements to respond to high growth and support the productivity of the region. Of course, much of the greenfield areas around Hamilton are either in Waipā or Waikato – meaning working together and in line with what has been agreed, no matter who delivers water services, is a must.

As we have agreed, one of the most significant projects for our region is the Southern Wastewater Treatment Plant (SWWTP) which was identified through the Waikato-Hamilton-Waipā Southern Metropolitan Wastewater Detailed Business Case. As you will recall, this business case was jointly delivered through strong collaboration between iwi, mana whenua and our three Councils and is supported by an associated Memorandum of Understanding.

The opportunity this wastewater treatment plant will unlock for this part of the Future Proof sub-region is immense, due to the expected growth that is taking place and planned for this area, along with opportunities around the Airport precinct to enable the build of the northern precinct.

Proposed Fast-track developments (such as SL 1) in the Southern Links area will also benefit greatly from contributing and connecting to the wastewater treatment plant.

We note that in Hamilton City Council and Waikato District Council's capital plans, we have included provision to advance the construction of the Southern Wastewater Treatment Plant (stage 2) and the diversion of wastewater from Ngaaruawaahia, Taupiri, Te Kowhai and Horotiu to the Pukete Wastewater Treatment Plan in the future.

As you will be aware, conversations regarding initiating the boundary transfer for this area are well advanced with Waipā. However, the area of land subject to the transfer discussions is smaller than the area that would be served by SWWTP.

Irrespective of the outcome of the boundary change, we strongly encourage Waipā to allow for the SWWTP, and any adjacent areas identified as part of Fast Track decision, in your Long-Term Plan, or alternatively, that Waipā requests their proposed new CCO to include the SWWTP funding in its Water Services Delivery Plan and Water Services Strategy.

If the land area is not transferred, additional allowances need to be made to ensure sufficient investment is made to deliver on the Government's requirements and the region's needs.

*We welcome a strong working relationship between our water's entities*

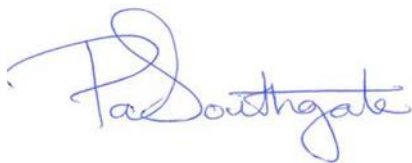
Hamilton City Council and Waikato District Council are optimistic about what we can achieve through a collaborative relationship between the proposed joint Hamilton City Council and Waikato District Council Water CCO and the proposed Waikato Water Done Well CCO.

To do this, we must continue to work together as councils in planning, funding, and delivery of the levels of infrastructure investment needed to support the growth and development in our region in a boundaryless manner.

We welcome a strong and productive relationship between our two waters entities to achieve this.

We wish you all the best for your deliberations.

Ngaa mihi nui

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paula Southgate". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paula Southgate  
Mayor of Hamilton

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jacqui Church". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jacqui Church  
Mayor of Waikato District