

AGENDA FOR THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE LOCAL WATER DONE WELL SUBCOMMITTEE

TO BE HELD ONLINE
WEDNESDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2025
COMMENCING AT 1pm

Local Water Done Well Subcommittee - 12 February 2025 PUBLIC

Attendees: Mayor Sam Broughton (Chair); Councillors, L L Gliddon, M B Lyall, R H Mugford & S G McInnes & Ms M McKay

12 February 2025 01:00 PM - 03:00 PM

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Public portions of this meeting are audio-recorded and livestreamed via the Council's YouTube channel.

OPENING KARAKIA

Whakataka te hau ki

te uru

Cease the winds from

the west

Whakataka te hau ki

te tonga

Cease the winds from

the south

Kia mākinakina ki uta Let the breeze blow over

the land

Kia mātaratara ki tai Let the breeze blow over

the sea

E hī ake ana te

atakura

Let the red-tipped dawn come with a sharpened

air

He tio, he huka, he

hau hū

A touch of frost, a

promise of a glorious

day

Tīhei mauri ora!

MINUTES OF AN INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE LOCAL WATER DONE WELL SUBCOMMITTEE HELD IN THE TAUWHAREKAKAHO ROOM - SELWYN DISTRICT COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2024 COMMENCING AT 9AM

PRESENT

Mayor S T Broughton (Chair), Councillors L L Gliddon, M B Lyall, S G McInnes and Te Taumutu Councillor M McKay

ATTENDEES

Messrs. T Mason (Executive Director Infrastructure & Property), S Epiha (Councillor), C Lammers (Senior Communications Advisor), C Han (Digital Operations Support Specialist), Mesdames N Reid (Councillor), K Hill (Consultant, online via Zoom), T Davel (Senior Governance Advisor) and D Prendergast (Personal Assistant to the Executive Director Infrastructure & Property).

The meeting was opened with a karakia.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor R H Mugford

Moved - Mayor Broughton / Seconded - Councillor McInnes

'That the Local Water Done Well Subcommittee receive the apologies from Councillor Muqford.'

CARRIED

EXTRAORDINARY OR GENERAL BUSINESS

None.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

For information only.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved – Councillor Gliddon / **Seconded** – Councillor McInnes

CARRIED

ORDER OF BUSINESS REPORTS

Executive Director Report

Executive Director Infrastructure and Property

Tim Mason spoke to the report and welcomed Katherine Hill on board to programme manage the CCO establishment activities and the development of the water service delivery plans: including to identify activities required to stand the CCO up by 1 July 2025.

Katherine has identified functional areas, most importantly finance, people, capability, systems and processes and will connect with ELT and the wider group to make sure those activities are correct and to identify some key milestones. Tim said his Report also recommends that the Subcommittee appoint Raven Jaduram as the Independent expert.

In the New Year the intent is to report on the programme rather than papers. He suggested the meeting frequency could be fortnightly, and he would like to run it like a project with a programme and identified risks to report on. Meeting frequency to be agreed in the New Year and aligned with requirements for decision making.

Ongoing conversations around funding with DIA and LGFA identify Selwyn as a growth council, with current borrowing arrangements being 500% against operating revenues. Council would look to identify an agreement allowing it to borrow more.

Recruitment of the interim Board Chair is underway, the intent is to have this position appointed by Christmas.

Councillor Gliddon asked about the selection panel for appointing the chair and the Subcommittee agreed that three people would suffice, these being the Mayor, a representative from Taumutu and the Chief Executive or her delegate. Interviews are planned for next week.

CHAIRPERSON

MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE LOCAL WATER DONE WELL SUBCOMMITTEE HELD VIA TEAMS ON MONDAY 6 JANUARY 2025 COMMENCING AT 9AM

PRESENT

Mayor S T Broughton (Chair), Councillors, L L Gliddon, M B Lyall, S G McInnes, R H Mugford, and Te Taumutu representative Ms M McKay

ATTENDEES

Mrs S Mason (Chief Executive), Messrs. S Gibling (Executive Director People, Culture and Capability), C Lammers (Senior Communications Advisor), and T Heine (Mayor's Advisor); and Ms T Davel (Senior Governance Advisor)

The meeting was opened with a karakia.

APOLOGIES		
None.		
CONFLICTS OF INTEREST		
None.		
Resolution to exclude the public		
Moved – Councillor Lyall / Second	ded – Councillor Mugford	
'That the local Water Done Well S 9.05am – 9.35am.'	ubcommittee move into publ	ic excluded between
		CARRIED
The meeting closed at 9.35am.		
DATED this	day of	2025
CHAIRPERSON	_	

MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE LOCAL WATER DONE WELL SUBCOMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL TRAINING ROOMS MONDAY 29 JANUARY 2025 COMMENCING AT 1.30PM

PRESENT

Mayor S T Broughton (Chair), Councillors, L L Gliddon, M B Lyall, S G McInnes, R H Mugford, and Te Taumutu representative Ms M McKay

ATTENDEES

Mesdames S Mason (Chief Executive) and J Hands (Head of Legal and Risk), Mr T Mason (Executive Director Infrastructure and Property); Mrs D Prendergast (Personal Assistant to the ED Infrastructure and Property) and Ms T Davel (Senior Governance Advisor)

The meeting was opened with a karakia.

APOLOGIES

None.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

The Mayor welcome everyone to the meeting. Mr Mason welcomed Mr Murray Strong to the meeting and introduced him. Mr Mason said some of the future meetings will be held on Teams in order to have them more regularly.

REPORTS

Mr Strong presented an update noting this was a brief report as a full operational workshop will be scheduled for the near future. He said that workshop would be looking to the work programme, heading into consultation and the decision to establish or not, a CCO.

It was noted that Katherine Hill has done an excellent job and will be back in the

country in February, leading the workshop. He said this was a complex programme of work and touches on potential establishment including asset disintegration, transfer across from council to the organization and contracting staff.

Mr Strong explained the process in terms of three large chunks of time – the first being immediately following the council decision to establish a CCO to 1 July – a sprint phase; secondly a transition with moving staff and assets and thirdly a steady state.

He told the subcommittee he planned to bring in a programme director with the potential to transition into leadership role. There was a brief discussion on the membership of the governance group as reflected in the papers and staff would be amending where appropriate. There was also a discussion about the role of mana whenua as a strategic partner. Staff also confirmed that the recruitment of directors will be a decision for the subcommittee. It will follow the same process that council has for appointing any director, e.g. to CORDE limited.

Consultation will be going out by 20 February and the Communications Manager will share it with this group before then.

Mr Strong reiterated that the constitution is being drafted and will touch on cultural advisory expertise. The Chief Executive noted she would circulate a comprehensive and important foundational legal document with the subcommittee, it clearly outlines the steps needed to take as council reviews all the different options. The tight timelines were raised as a concern, especially in terms of expertise and Ms McKay noted it would be good to appoint a cultural advisor. It was agreed this will be added to the set up from the start.

Mr Strong also noted he didn't think the budget was sufficient. The allocation or the preparatory stage was likely sufficient and the workshop on the 12th of February would provide an opportunity for the subcommittee and the finance team to work on a budget.

The subcommittee would also be provided financial modelling in relation to cost to community per rating unit and / or over a ten-year period.

Moved – Councillor Mugford / **Seconded** – Councillor Lyall

'That the local Water Done	Well Subcommittee	receives the Local	l Water done	Well
Update report.'				

CARRIED

		OAMIL
The meeting closed at 2.07pm.		
DATED this	day of	2025
CHAIRPERSON	_	

REPORT

TO: Chief Executive

FOR: LWDW Subcommittee Meeting – 12 February 2025

FROM: Murray Strong – Establishment Chair, Water Services CCO

DATE: 4 February 2025

SUBJECT: Local Water Done Well Committee – Update on progress

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Subcommittee:

a) "receives the Local Water Done Well Update report."

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide the Subcommittee with an update on progress towards meeting requirements in respect to the Government's Local Water Done Well water services reforms and the associated legislation.

2. PROGRESS UPDATE

The following table provides a high-level overview of key activities undertaken to date for each workstream noting that this is occurring simultaneously with public consultation ahead of a final decision by Council:

Workstream	Key activities to date
People	 Progress towards recruitment for Governance and Senior Leadership roles Draft communications / engagement plan complete Transition options reviewed and specific role impacts being mapped out, draft paperwork in development
Assets & operations	 Development of operational and capital budgets for drinking water and wastewater Commissioning 2025 asset valuation Transition planning Preparation of background material for Water Services Delivery Plan
Governance & legal	 Drafting of constitution Beginning of wider policy development, starting with a Treasury Policy Bill 3 submission preparation

Workstream	Key activities to date
	 Early stage consideration of commercial contract novation Ongoing legal review and advice of all components
Corporate & finance	 Development of financial model Preparation of financial disclosures, including rates impacts for consultation options to be included in the consultation document Planning for financial separation and notation of asset and liabilities
Systems & compliance	 Development of a recommended systems Operating Model Budget development Continued meetings with vendors to scope and estimate timelines and costs for the recommended Operating Model Meetings with Corde to further understand services and asset separation issues, as well as meter read (regular and reactionary) and new connection processes.
Communications and engagement / Decision making	 Communications plan drafted and under review Consultation coordinator resource commencing 11 February Consultation approach developed

The programme over the next month is largely focussed on developing the operating models and organisational design along with the commencement of public consultation and preparation for the subsequent analysis, hearings, deliberations and decisions.

The critical path for February is included in the following table:

Critical Path: February	Date
CCO development workshop – operating design	11 February 2025
Finalisation of consultation document	18 February 2025
Council adoption of consultation approach and consultation document	19 February 2025
Consultation period commences	20 February – 12 March 2025
CCO systems requirement confirmed	21 February 2025
Legal Review	Ongoing

The operational design workshop with PWC will enable the programme plan to be refined, focussing on the priority tasks to be completed ahead of 1 July 2025 establishment, and those which will be deferred to the transition period following. The workshop will also identify additional resource requirements (either back-fill into current roles or new resource) that will inform a more detailed establishment and transition budget.

3. RISKS

In order to ensure the successful implementation and sustainability of the Local Water Done Well Programme, a comprehensive risk management framework has been developed.

This framework outlines the key risks associated with the development of the water Services Delivery Plan, the consultation process, and the proposed transition to a new delivery model, including the establishment of and transition to a CCO. Each identified risk is accompanied by an assessment of its potential impact and likelihood, as well as proposed mitigation strategies.

High risks identified within the Local Water Done Well Programme—ranging from implementation of the 3rd Bill, delays in WSDP certification and approval, lack of coordination across teams, financial forecasting issues, to challenges in land transfer—pose significant threats to the timely and effective establishment of the CCO and the future delivery of water services and Council's legislative responsibilities under the Local Water Done Well legislation.

Overall, a key risk management approach being undertake is to take a cross-Council approach to this programme, which entails ongoing review, regular meetings between workstreams, and risk mitigation measures. Engagement with the Department of Internal Affairs is key to navigating the programme and legislative requirements. Sufficient resourcing and undertaking a coordinated approach across all teams involved, ensuring clear communication and alignment of responsibilities is key to managing risk. The programme includes regular reviews to address any legislative, regulatory or interdependency impacts early.

4. WORKSTREAMS AND TIMING

Attached as Appendix one is the CCO Workstreams Plan.

Murray Strong

CHAIR FOR LOCAL WATER DONE WELL PROGRAMME

Endorsed For Agenda

Tim Mason

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROPERTY

APPENDIX 1

Workstream A: PLANNING

Workstream component	Timing
A1: CCO/WSDP: Work programme development	By 13 December 2024
A2: CCO: Stand up Establishment Team	By 24 December 2024
A3: CCO: Guiding principles	By 24 December 2024
A4: WSDP: Growth and development projections	By 24 December 2024
A5: Water Services Delivery Plan (as per guidance template)	TBC
A6: CCO/WSDP: Implementation Plan	By 30 May 2025
A7: CCO Establishment Plan and Transitional Plan	By 30 May 2025
A8: Water Services Strategy	TBC

Workstream B: PEOPLE

Workstream component	Timing
B1: CCO Establishment Lead recruitment	By 31 January 2025
B2: CCO: Establishment Board Chair appointed	By 20 December 2024
B3: CCO: Recruitment of other key establishment roles	Recruitment as per the Brannigan's process and timeline
B4: CCO: Appointment of Directors	TBC
B5: CCO: People Strategy and initial organisational design decisions	By 19 March 2025
B6: CCO: Tier 2 Recruitment and others as determined by Org Design and People Strategy	By 30 June 2025
B7: CCO: Transitional Services Agreement	TBC
B8: CCO: Interim governance arrangements	TBC
B9: CCO: Permanent governance arrangements	TBC
B10: CCO: Appointment of Director	Recruitment as per the Brannigan's process and timeline

Workstream C: ASSETS & OPERATIONS

Workstream component	Timing
C1: CCO: Mixed use assets and complex land	By 31 February 2025
C2: CCO: MVP design and initial operating model (IOM) decisions	By 19 March 2025
C3: CCO: Preparation for asset transfer	By 30 June 2025
C4: WSDP: Network performance	By 30 May 2025

Workstream D: GOVERNANCE & LEGAL

Workstream component	Timing
D1: CCO/WSDP: legal advice	As per relevant items in the Simpson Grierson list and scoping
D2: CCO: Establishment Plan	By 19 March 2025
D3: CCO: Drafting of constitution	By 31 March 2025

Workstream component	Timing
D4: CCO: Development of Council/CCO Agreement (SLA)	ТВС
D5: CCO: Develop Statement of Expectations	ТВС
D6: Statement of Intent	By CCO Day 1
D7: CCO: Incorporation as Limited Liability Company	ТВС
D8: Transfer Agreement drafted	ТВС
D9: Transferral of contractual and other obligations to external parties	By CCO Day 1

Workstream E: CORPORATE & FINANCE

Workstream component	Timing
E1: WSDP: Revenue and financing arrangements	By 18 April 2025
E2: WSDP: Financially Sustainable Assessment	By 23 May 2025
E3: WSDP: Projected financial statements for water services	By 30 May 2025
E4: WSDP: Ringfencing of Water Services	By 30 June 2025
E5: CCO: Preparation for CCO financial compliance, tax and reporting	By 1 July 2025
E6: CCO: Financial – general agreements and processes	By 1 July 2025
E7: CCO: Preparation for customer invoicing	TBC
E8: CCO: Year 1 of CCO operating budget 2025/26 (LTP + governance/staff cost)	By 20 January 2025

Workstream F: SYSTEMS & COMPLIANCE

Workstream component	Timing
F1: CCO: Confirmation of systems required for day 1	By 21 February 2025
F2: CCO: Review of policies, bylaws and procedures for WSCCO & compliance with Bill #3	By 30 May 2025
F3: CCO: Staff access to CCO systems	By 1 May 2025
F4: Customer transition	By 1 May 2025

Workstream G: COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT/DECISION-MAKING

Workstream component	Timing
G1: Communications and Engagement Plan (Internal - Staff)	By 31 January 2025
G2: Communications and Engagement Plan (Internal - Council)	By 31 January 2025
G3: Communication and Engagement Plan (External)	By 31 January 2025
G4: Preparation of consultation material	By 18 February 2025
G5: Consultation period and collation of feedback	20 February – 12 March 2025
G6: Analysis of feedback and decision-making on feedback	13 March – 21 March 2025
G7: Long-Term Plan amendments and alignment with 2026-36	TBC
G8: Preparation of Customer Interface Plan	By 30 May 2025

PUBLIC REPORT

TO: Chief Executive Officer

FOR: Local Water Done Well Subcommittee

FROM: Tim Harris, Executive Director Strategy and Engagement

DATE: 7 February 2025

SUBJECT: CCO CONSULTATION

RECOMMENDATION

'That the Local Water Done Well Subcommittee recommend that Council:

• Adopt the draft Consultation Document (Appendix 1).

- Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make any necessary minor changes to the Consultation Document prior to its release for consultation.
- Endorse the proposed process for public consultation to take place between 20 February 2025 and 12 March 2025, with hearing of submissions on 20 March 2025.

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to enable the Subcommittee to recommend that the Council adopt a Consultation Document for the consultation process for establishment of a water services Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) in the Selwyn District.

2. HISTORY/BACKGROUND

Refer Council Agenda – 13 November 2024, Item 14. On 13 November 2024 the Council resolved to:1

- progress preliminary steps toward establishment of a Council Controlled Organisation for water services with an expectation to consult on this model in 2025; and
- delegate oversight of the consultation process to this Committee.

The recommendations in this report form part of this Subcommittee's terms of reference:

- to understand and distil legislation for the purposes of this report, the legislative requirements for consultation on the proposed model;
- to ensure communities, iwi/hapū, and businesses affected by the change in the way water services are managed, are fully involved in the process; and
- to keep the governing body fully informed about service delivery and management options being considered.

¹ Resolution ID 20241211_011.

The Council retains the authority for final approval of the Consultation Document and consultation process.

Legislative context

The Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024 (**Act**) provides for streamlined consultation processes for the consultation on whether or not to establish a water services council-controlled organisation (**CCO**).²

The streamlined consultation process includes that:3

- a decision need only be consulted on once;
- if consultation occurs on whether or not to establish a CCO, the Council may (but is not required to) consult further before adopting its water services delivery plan;
- additional consultation is not required for long-term plan amendments that may be necessary to give effect to a decision on whether or not to establish a CCO.

The Consultation Document must contain:4

- the proposal, an explanation of the proposal, and the reasons for the proposal;
- an analysis of the reasonable options for the Council, in this case being the status quo or establishing a CCO;
- the effect of the proposal and the status quo on the Council's rates, debt, and levels of service, and charges for water services;
- the accounting and monitoring arrangements by the Council over the assets transferred to the CCO;
- any other relevant implications of the proposal that the Council considers will be of interest to the public.

Consultation Document

The draft Consultation Document is **Appendix 1**.

A summary of the proposal in table form is set out at page 5 of the Consultation Document – this compares the status quo with the proposal. The detail of the options, including all information required by the Act is set out in pages 8 to 14.

Consultation Process

The high-level timeframes for the consultation process are:

- 20 February 2025 Public consultation period starts
- 12 March 2025 Consultation closes
- 20 March 2025 Council hearing of submissions
- 26 March 2025 Deliberations to amend proposal based on feedback
- 2 April 2025 Council meeting to make final decision

² Act, section 64(1)(a)(i).

³ Act, sections 62 and 63.

⁴ Act, section 64(2).

Staff will ensure that consultation requirements are met, and external and internal engagement is achieved in this process.

3. OPTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Option 1	Recommend that the Council approve the proposed Consultation
(Recommended)	Document in Appendix 1 and endorses the proposed consultation
	process in Appendix 2.
Option 2	Recommend amendments to the Consultation Document and/or consultation process for consideration by the Council. Staff are available to advise on any proposed amendments to the draft documents.
Option 3	This Subcommittee could delay adoption of a Consultation Document and endorsement of a consultation process to obtain further information from staff. This is not recommended due to the tight timeframes for the decision whether or not to establish a CCO.

4. SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT/COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

The decisions and matters of this specific report are assessed as of <u>low significance</u> in accordance with the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. However, this report is part of a broader process that is assessed as of high significance.

5. VIEWS OF THOSE AFFECTED / CONSULTATION

(a) Views of those affected and Consultation

Views of those affected to be obtained through the proposed consultation process.

(b) Māori and Treaty implications

The decision whether to establish a CCO is a significant decision in relation to bodies of water, and therefore the Council must take into account the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with water.

The proposed consultation process includes direct engagement with takata whenua through Te Taumutu Rūnanga and Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga.

(c) Resiliency and Sustainability considerations

Substantive consideration of resilience and sustainability consideration will occur as part of the Council's decision whether to establish a CCO.

6. FUNDING IMPLICATIONS

Funding of the consultation process is being coded to the project and managed internally.

Funding implications of the decision whether to establish a CCO are set out in the Consultation Document.

7. LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This Report and the draft Consultation Document have been reviewed for legal and policy compliance.



Tim Harris **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR STRATEGY AND ENGAGEMENT**

Endorsed For Agenda



Setting the Scene

In September 2024, the first substantive piece of legislation supporting the Government's Local Water Done Well policy was enacted. The Local Water Done Well policy is aimed at addressing New Zealand's water infrastructure challenges and places emphasis on achieving financial sustainability, appropriate regulation of water services, and ensuring flexibility for communities and councils in determining how their water services will be delivered.

The Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024 (the Act) sets out several transitional provisions, including a requirement for Selwyn District Council (Council) and all other territorial authorities to prepare and submit a Water Services Delivery Plan (WSDP) to the Government.

A WSDP is required to describe the current state of Council's water assets and services, and also describe the future arrangements for delivery of water services. A further piece of legislation, the Local Government (Water Services) Bill is currently before parliament, and will (once enacted) provide a structured framework for managing and delivering water services in New Zealand.

The Bill is progressing on a se te timel and will apply to Cou rrang ıts in time.

The Act re all coun o cd on th arrangemer the futu elive hree of water service t Cound rrentl nages.

These are:



Drinking Water: Ensuring the provision of safe and reliable drinking water to communities.



2. Wastewater: Managing the collection, treatment, and disposal of wastewater to protect public health and the environment.



Stormwater: Handling stormwater drainage to reduce flood risk and manage runoff in urban areas.





Following the introduction of the Act, and the requirement to consult on future delivery arrangements, Councillors decided, in November 2024, to start investigations into setting up a new Water Services Council Controlled Organisation (WSCCO).

This document addresses the arrangements for stormwater, drinking water, and wastewater services within the Selwyn District Council.

By requiring WSDPs, and consultation on water service delivery arrangements, the Act provides an opportunity to revisit Council's current trangements and provides an opportunity to whether a WSCCO will be preferable to the service delivery, addressing the service delivery, addressing the foundation of tuture improvements.

the Act for rmwater sideration, ver, Cou decided not to ult on es to its ery. Many stormwater assets ultiple comes for the community ater ity and quantity, recreation ogy and cultural values, keeping an ability to take a multi values approach is critical. Further to this there are a lot of benefits of interconnections of stormwater management with other Council activities including roading, meaning we can take a catchment based approach to managing surface water. For these reasons the Council's proposal is that stormwater management and delivery is kept in house.

The Act and this proposal do not discuss arrangements for water races or land drainage. These services will continue to be delivered by Council, but could be reconsidered in the future.

The Act requires us to consult the community on maintaining services in-house, and at least one other model including a CCO, or a joint local government arrangement.

Council is asking you to give your thoughts on whether you support this proposal to establish a WSCCO for the management and delivery of drinking and wastewater, and to keep stormwater in house.

If the decision is made by Council to set up a WSCCO then information will be worked through to establish an operating model to support operations from 1 July 2025.

The Council believes this proposal will build on the great work already done by the Selwyn District Council to create strong, resilient, sustainable and reliable water services and provide certainty for our communities on the provision of water services. The proposal also creates an inter-generational framework in line with Waikirikiri Ki Tua Future Selwyn.

	Drinking Water	Wastewater	Stormwater	Water Race	Land Drainage
Existing arrangements	In-house, by Council	In-house, by Council	In-house, by Council	In-house, by Council	house, by Council
Our Proposal	Transfer to new WSCCO	Transfer to new WSCCO	No chang in-house v Council	No change, not subject to consultation	lo change, subject to sultation
			A		
		3			

Water in Waikirikiri Selwyn

In the year to 30 June 2024, Selwyn District Council:

Provided drinking water to

81%

of residential properties

Supplied 9 31

million cubic metres of water to households

· · · THAT'S



Olympic size

Provided wastewater to

of residential properties

Treated

million cubic metres of wastewater

THAT'S

Olympic size pools

The Council also maintained...

1,549 km **693** km

of water network

of wastewater network

of stormwater pipes

128 km **1,572** km

of water race channels

372 km

of land drainage drains

Drinking Water Infrastructure



26

Drinking water schemes

- Treatment plants
- Reservoirs
- **Groundwater Supplies**
- Surface Water Supplies
- 27 Years (average age of asset)

Wastewater Infrastructure



16

Wastewater Schemes

- **Treatment Plants**
- Pump Stations
- rage ag asset)

The Council ently ma through a co ation of external contr onsible for delivering safe, reliable, a e infrastructure and services for our munities.

81% of residential properties in Waikirikiri Selwyn are serviced with water across 26 water supply schemes, and 68% of residential properties are serviced by the Council's wastewater systems. Selwyn residents are high users of water, using an average of 335 litres of water per person a day in the 2023/24 year.

The Council spends approximately \$95 million annually on water services.

All Council supplies are metered and properties pay by use. This is funded through charging a targeted rate for water services, depending on the type of property and its need. Residential, commercial, rural and urban properties are charged differently.

Wastewater carries an annual charge for residential users, and industry users have a separate rate. High users operate under individual trade waste agreements. Drinking water is charged at a base rate, with a volumetric metered charge for urban supply and a per unit rate for rural properties. Stormwater is charged at an annual rate for properties within Waikirikiri Selwyn townships.

The projected costs for maintaining the current water services model for drinking and wastewater are \$857 million over years 2-10 of the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034. The existing local government rating system and financial/lending constraints applying to Council means that there is limited ability to access borrowing to invest in new infrastructure. In particular, the Council is limited to borrowing up to 280% of its revenue.



Delivery Model Options

The Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024 (the Act) allows Territorial Authorities (TAs) to explore and establish new delivery models. The options for this include:

- · Joint Local Government arrangements
- A Water Services Council Controlled Organisation (WSCCO)
- Consumer Trusts
- Continue to deliver water serving n house.

Our **Waiora One War States** agreed to uphold the mana are for all water it and to wolf and to sustain a ly manage water now and the future.

partners proach will remail oth delivery of being idered.

on the following two options:

Set up a WSCCO to deliver wastewater and drinking water. Continue to deliver stormwater in-house.

Deliver water services in-house.

Council has decided to consult on a Selwyn District Council only owned WSCCO, as at this time, there is no viable option to join with other Councils for a Joint WSCCO. If the establishment of a Selwyn WSCCO proceeds and other Councils express an interest in integrating at a later time, this would be considered and worked through.

- Proposal Model

After careful consideration, Council is proposing a new Water Services Council Controlled Organisation (WSCCO) as our delivery model for drinking water and wastewater services, with stormwater services to be delivered by an internal business unit of Council.

A WSCCO is a Council-controlled organisation specifically established to manage and deliver water services. This model will allow Council to leverage more specialised governance, enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of water service delivery.

The WSCCO would be owned locally but would operate independently from Council with its own specialist board structure and management. Council would be the only shareholder, and its board would include members appointed based on competencies consistent with the needs of the new organisation, and specific to water governance.

The WSCCO would be responsible for planning, funding, building and maintaining drinking and wastewater infrastructure, as well as running the day-to-day customer-facing services for those water services. Ownership of drinking water and wastewater assets (and all associated debt and liabilities) would transfer to the WSCCO. As these assets are strategic assets of Council, the transfer will need to be provided for in the Council's Long-Term Plan. The transfer of these strategic water assets would be provided for in a Long-Term Plan amendment. In accordance with The Act, this consultation will cover this requirement.

The WSCCO would start from a strong platform to enhance the comprehensive investment, construction and future planning by Council's water services team over recent years for strong, resilient, sustainable and reliable infrastructure and water service delivery. If this option is chosen then information will be worked through to establish an operating model to support operations from 1 July 2025.

The Council believes that the proposal will provide certainty for our communities as well as create an inter-generational framework in line with Waikirikiri Ki Tua Future Selwyn.

Benefits

A WSCCO offers benefits such as:

- Enhanced Service Delivery:
 A WSCCO will have a sole focus on improving water quality and service reliability, which would deliver better customer service.
- Dedicated Water Governance: A WSCCO streamlines operations and over time will improve costs through specialised drinking and wastewater governance and management, leading to better resource allocation and improved service delivery. It also offers a specific focus on water services.
- Improved Access to Funding:
 A WSCCO has greater borrowing capacity and access to funding specific to water, supporting necessary infrastructure upgrades and expansions, ensuring long-term financial stability. Improved access to funding ensures that the WSCCO can upgrade water and wastewater systems to meet increasing levels of service.
- Resilience and Adaptability:

 A WSCCO is adaptable and scalable, effectively responding to changing demands and future challenges specific to the delivery of water services, such as rapid population growth and evolving regulatory requirements.
 This would help ensure our water infrastructure can manage increased growth.
- Community Benefits: A WSCCO
 maintains local control and
 accountability, ensuring that local
 needs and priorities are addressed
 while maintaining transparency in
 operations, through the establishment
 of a dedicated board and accountability
 back through Council.



Risks

As well as the benefits noted, there are several risks associated with this model, including:

 Initial Setup: Establishing a WSCCO requires significant initial effort and coordination, including legal, financial, and operational setup. This process can be complex and involves increased investment at setup.

Setup considerations

In setting up a WSCCO there are some requirements outlined by the Act, which include ensuring the following requirements are met:

- **Governance Structure:** Under this option the Council and the community would agree the high-level expectations or and performance of the through a Statement of ectatio nese expectati ld incl ne Co ngo wi na when the ewater s and
- bility Me en setting Acco nisms CO, th uncil would develop up the ards and monitoring account for performance of the assets arrangen it transfers to the WSCCO. These will be set out across the Statement of Expectations, the Constitution and Water Strategy. The WSCCO's Annual Report will be a key document for monitoring performance. If adopted, the WSCCO would be established and included in the Council's WSDP, which is due to be adopted in early September 2025.

What is the impact on rates and council debt?

You would no longer pay for drinking water and wastewater through your rates. Those connected to services would pay these charges directly to the WSCCO.

Water infrastructure can last 50 years or more so it makes sense to use debt to share this cost over the lives of those who are here now and those still to come. Councils are currently constrained and can only borrow up to 280% of their revenue. This limits investment options.

The new Local Water Done Well policy allows Council to borrow up to 500% of their total revenue, excluding development contributions and vested assets, to fund their water infrastructure investment.

Borrowing up to 500% of the WSCCO's revenue including the additional operating cost is modelled to have an approximate increase of 12% on top of the 2024/2034 Long-Term Plan. There will be a partial offset saving, in general rates charges.

You will still have to pay to receive water services through a water charge as you currently do, but this would be determined by the WSCCO.

*These projected costs are based on the information available at the current time. Future costs may change as the rate of population growth, actual contract rates and other costs are known.

Council Delivered Services

Under the Act, Territorial Authorities (TAs) can continue managing and delivering water services directly. This involves preparing and adopting a Water Services Delivery Plan (WSDP) that outlines how they will sustain their existing water services infrastructure and operations.

Under the Council delivered model, Council would continue to partner with mana whenua on the direction and delivery of water services on behalf of the community.

Benefits

Maintaining water services in-house offers benefits such as:

- Political Influence and Control: Enables
 the Council to maintain full control over
 decision-making processes, ensuring
 decisions are made with an understanding
 of local needs and priorities. Residents can
 engage with their elected representatives
 about water service issues.
- Familiarity and Continuity: The Council can continue using existing systems and processes, which staff and management are already familiar with, reducing the need for extensive training and transition periods.

Risks

In addition to the benefits noted above, there are several risks associated with this model, including:

Limited Funding Capacity: The Council may struggle to secure sufficient funding for necessary infrastructure upgrades and maintenance, leading to deferred projects and potential service degradation. Limited borrowing capacity can restrict the Council's ability to finance large-scale improvements, resulting in higher long-term costs. To date, Council has funded the required upgrades for water and wastewater. In the future, funding priorities may change with department capacity allocated to other activities like transportation or facilities, rather than drinking water or wastewater.

- Operational Costs: Any deferred investment in our assets to manage debt levels could increase operational costs. Unexpected repairs or emergencies can strain the Council's financial resources, leading to budget reallocations or increased rates.
 - Regulatory Compliance: Ensuring compliance with evolving regulatory standards can be challenging, but Council currently has a good level of compliance. Maintaining rigorous monitoring and reporting systems to meet regulatory requirements can be resource-intensive and complex and is set to increase.
- Infrastructure and Service Delivery:
 In recent years the Council has made significant investment in water infrastructure, but it is critical to continue maintenance and further investment to manage our growing population.
 Ageing infrastructure increases the risk of service failures, including water outages and quality issues. Taking a long-term view, there is a note the in-house model may struggle to scale effectively to meet the ever-increasing demand on our district's assets, impacting service reliability and quality.
- Political interference leading to leaky pipes: The country has a \$200 billion deficit in water funding in the next 30 years. Much of this is because of political leaders delaying investment over the past 30 years.
- Lack of clear strategy:
 Minor projects have time and resource allocated that would otherwise be spent on strategic investment.
- Competing funding:
 Water is only one factor in the Council decision making and investment. Water priorities can lose out to transport or solid waste investment.



Selwyn Water Done Well | 11

Comparing the Two Options

Impacts on Services

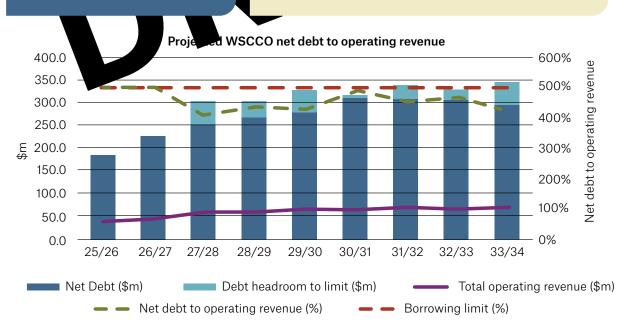
Performance requirements are set by national regulations. The Council does not foresee an immediate difference in service delivery between the two models. Impacts on service delivery when comparing the two models come down to the expertise and focus of having a dedicated WSCCO and associated water specific governance, compared to priorities being set by elected members across a broader scope of activity.

Impacts on Charges

If water services were to remain within the Council, there is no guarantee that the costs or service would not change. Whatever model is considered there will be baseline costs changes related to a more highly regulated environment. This will impact both models, meaning the current delivery costs are unlikely to remain as stated in the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034: The operating model for the WSCCO will be developed within the establishment process, and this will change the level of costs associated as we learn more. While there would be additional cost due to establishment setup, the WSCCO would have access to higher debt limits (500%) under the Act, which would be scalable over time. This isn't an option for the in-house model.

The average increase in Targeted Rates in the current Long-Term Plan 2024-2034 over the 10-year period is 11%, moving to a Council Controlled Organisation would mean you no longer pay anything to Council for drinking or wastewater. Your rates bill will reduce by those water charges. We estimate that the new WSCCO will charge you the same costs as today and rise 23% over the next 10 years. The General Rate will be lower than predicted in the Long-Term Plan, due to the Council receiving overhead revenue from the proposed changes in the WSCCO.

The chart below shows our net debt to operating revenue over the lifespan of the Long-Term Plan.



This graph represents the WSCCO operating with a 500% debt limit which includes the Long-Term Plan programme-related work programme and the expected operating costs of the WSCCO.

Impact on Rates and Council Debt?

A WSCCO would have a dedicated board made up of members who have specific expertise in water, focused on the delivery of drinking and wastewater services for Waikirikiri Selwyn, which should result in better service delivery and resource allocation.

The following information demonstrates potential rating impacts across different scenarios in Waikirkiri Selwyn. This modelling only considers drinking and wastewater, as stormwater delivery will be maintained by Council for both options.

The increase shown is the difference between the current Long-Term Plan modelling, and the preliminary WSCCO calculations. The in-house model would likely see increased rating compared to the Long-Term Plan modelling given the Local Government Water Services Bill is expected to increase regulation and therefore compliance cost.

This modelling shows that there is a rates increase with moving to the proposed WSCCO in the first three years. From year 10 the drinking and wastewater rates are predicted to be lower than what is in the published Long-Term Plan 2024-2034.

This is broken down into the following funding impact statement below.

Stormwater Funding Impact Statement (Excluding Water supply and Sewerage)*

	2025/2026 LTP \$'000	2026/2027 LTP \$'000	2027/2028 LTP \$'000	2033/2034 LTP \$'000
Total operating funding (A)	3,437	3,960	4,438	6,864
Total application of operating funding (B)	3,268	3,5	3,655	5,076
Surplus / (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	169	446	783	1,788
Total sources of capital funding (C)	1,401	3,343	2,483	1,878
Total applications of capital funding (D)	1,570	3,791	3,266	3,666
Surplus / (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	(169)	(446)	(783)	(1,788)
*Retained by Council				

This table reflects rrent positio Based on the changes in legislation ouncil to inge how ater is delivered to the community.

Drinking nt (excluding Stormwater)

	2025/2026 LTP \$'000	2026/2027 LTP \$'000	2027/2028 LTP \$'000	2033/2034 LTP \$'000
Total operating funding (A)	34,010	40,007	45,577	74,929
Total application of rating funding (B)	29,203	31,588	34,007	47,355
Surplus / (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	4,807	8,419	11,570	27,574
Total sources of capital funding (C)	65,510	57,399	51,726	(3,612)
Total applications of capital funding (D)	70,317	65,818	63,296	23,962
Surplus / (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	(4,807)	(8,419)	(11,570)	(27,574)

This table outlines the projected costs for the delivery of water through a WSCCO. Years 1-3 show an increase in charging, over time this cost reduces as we reflect the efficiences in service.

Drinking Water and Sewerage Funding Impact Statement (excluding Stormwater) CCO Modelling

	2025/2026 LTP \$'000	2026/2027 LTP \$'000	2027/2028 LTP \$'000	2033/2034 LTP \$'000
Total operating funding (A)	37,233	45,452	61,286	69,060
Total application of operating funding (B)	33,355	36,581	39,309	49,137
Surplus / (deficit) of operating funding (A-B)	3,878	8,871	21,977	19,923
Total sources of capital funding (C)	66,316	57,001	41,613	4,095
Total applications of capital funding (D)	70,194	65,872	63,591	24,017
Surplus / (deficit) of capital funding (C-D)	(3,878)	(8,871)	(21,977)	(19,923)

Based on the anticipated changes in legislation.

Rating Examples

Summary Rates	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	2033/2034
Example: Urban Residential Propert	ty with Sewerage			
LTP Water Bill ¹	\$1,552	\$1,769	\$1,948	\$2,730
WSCCO Water Bill ²	\$1,700	\$2,018	\$2,635	\$2,668
Comparison	\$148	\$248	\$687	-\$62
% Increase LTP to WSCCO	10%	14%	35%	-2%
Example: Urban Residential Propert	ty without Sewerage			
LTP Water Bill	\$745	\$841	\$955	\$1,392
WSCCO Water Bill	\$808	\$965	\$1,287	\$1,307
Comparison	\$63	\$10	\$332	-\$85
% Increase LTP to WSCCO	9%	15%	35%	-6%
Example: A Property on Restricted	Water Supply	erage		
LTP Water Bill	\$1,579	\$1,805	\$1,993	\$2,808
WSCCO.W	\$1,72	\$	\$2,689	\$2,722
Comparison	\$150	\$251	\$696	-\$86
% Increase to WSC	9%	14%	35%	-3%
Example: A Property on Restricted Water Supply without Sewerage				
LTP Rates Bill	\$772	\$877	\$1,000	\$1,470
WSCCO Rates Bill	\$837	\$1,003	\$1,341	\$1,361
Comparison	\$65	\$126	\$341	-\$109
% Increase LTP to WSCCO	8%	14%	34%	-7%

Overall, the Council anticipates a partial offset reduction in the General Rates charges.

- Stormwater has not been allowed for in these figures, as it will remain in-house at Council.
- These figures related to the WSCCO are higher due to anticipated setup costs, but as demonstrated here over the Long-Term Plan period, the modelling shows improved charges.

¹ Long-Term Plan Water Bill (what you pay for water from 2024-2034 as part of your rates).

² Estimated cost you would pay under the WSCCO over the Long-Term Plan period to 2034.

Have Your Say

Let us know:

- If you support the Council's proposal to transition our drinking water and wastewater assets and services to a new WSCCO, with stormwater remaining with Council.
- Or, if you prefer that the Council continues its current water delivery model, noting the new legislation will require some changes.
- If you have any questions or comments on the WSCCO model or anything else contained in this consultation document.

How do I provide feedback?

You can provide your feedback on this consultation by:

- Visiting **selwyn.govt.nz/localwater** on your computer or mobile device and questions on the submis
- Completing <u>b</u>miss ack of t drop h our Cus Service
 - Rollesto C 2 N n Kirk 🛭 Rolle
 - Te A nyson Street, Rolleston
 - 1 South Terrace, Darfield Darfie
 - Leeston Library, 19 Messines Street, Leeston
 - Lincoln Library, 22 Gerald Street, Lincoln

Or, posting to:

 Freepost 104 653 PO Box 90 Rolleston 7643

All posted submissions must be received by the Council by 5pm, 12 March 2025. Please allow time for your submission to be delivered by this deadline.

Or, scanning and emailing it to:

· localwater@selwyn.govt.nz

For more information, visit selwyn.govt.nz/localwater



Timeline

20

20 February 2025

Public consultation period starts

12 March 2025

Consultation closes

20 March 2025

Council hearing of submissions

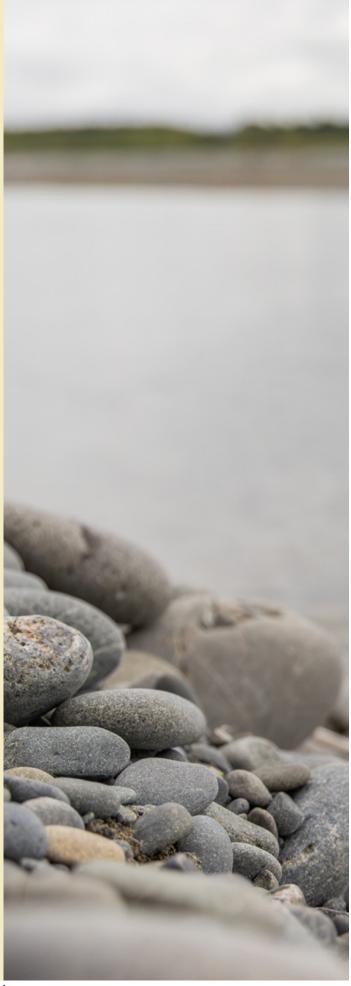
26 March 2025

Deliberations to amend proposal amendments based on feedback

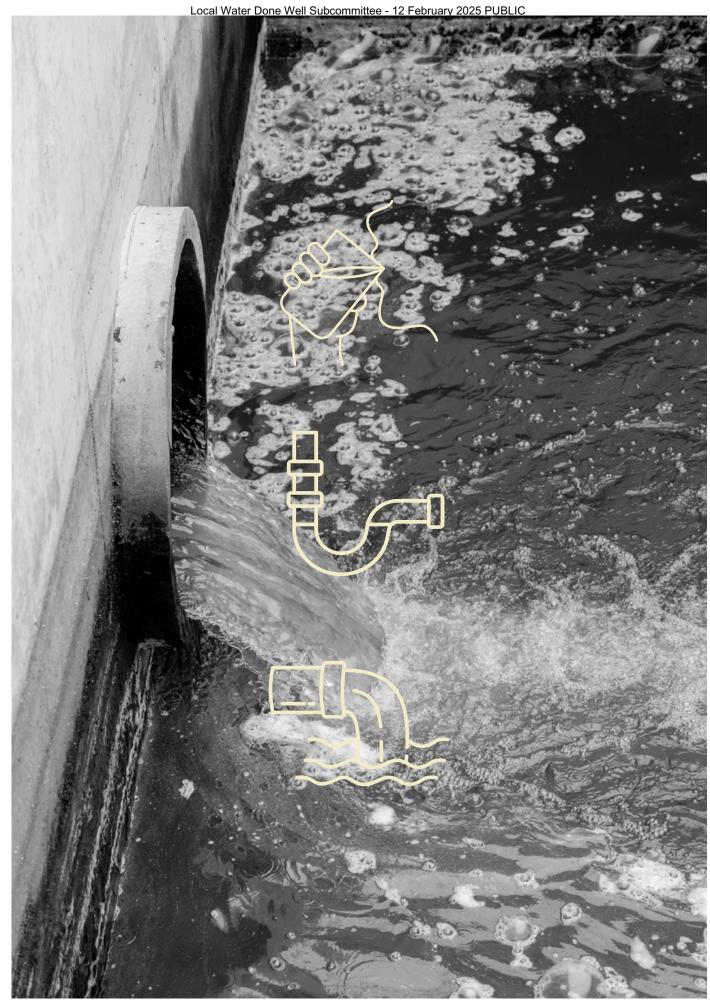
(2)

2 April 2025

Council meeting to make a final decision







Submission Form

Selwyn District Council is conducting a public consultation in response to The Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024 in relation to the arrangements for its delivery of water services into the future.

The Council's proposal is:

To transition Selwyn District Council drinking and wastewater assets and services into a new publicly owned Water Services Council Controlled Organisation (WSCCO) with stormwater services to remain within the Council.

Please read the consultation document and information available online at selwyn.govt.nz/localwater

You can make a submission using this form, or by completing the online submission form at selwyn.govt.nz/localwater

If you need extra space for your submission, use additional paper and attach it to this form. Please include your first and last name on the additional paper.

Anyone can make a submission. Submissions will only be used for the purpose of this consultation process. All submissions will be considered by Council before making a decision.

Privacy statement

Submissions are part of the public consultation process and are a public record. Submissions will be made publicly available on the website and in official documents nove any contact details.

Submitter details	stions
Please note: all fields marked with a second	1. L suppo e proposed transition of the Selw. strict to cil drinking and wastewater to a new Water Services
First nam	tormwater services to remain within Council?
Last name	Yes No
Address*	Please add your comments
Town*	
Postcode*	
Contact number*	
Email address*	
Are you submitting on behalf of an organisation?* Yes No	2. Do you prefer that the Selwyn District Council continues its current water delivery model?
If yes, please state the name of the organisation*	Yes No
Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person?*	Please add your comments
Yes No	
If yes, someone will be in contact with you to arrange the date and time.	



WSCCO model?	Return this submission form by:
Yes No	 Dropping it off with our Customer Service Teams at:
Please add your comments	 Council Rolleston Offices, 2 Norman Kirk Drive, Rolleston
	• Te Ara Ātea, 56 Tennyson Street, Rolles
	Darfield Library, 1 South Terrace, Darfie
	 Leeston Library, 19 Messines Street, Leeston
	• Lincoln Library, 22 Gerald Street, Linco
	Posting it to:
	• Freepost 104 653 PO Box 90 Rolleston 7643
	All posted submissions in the eived by Couby 5pm, 12 March 5. Please a stime for you submission and delivered by this adding.



RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

Recommended:

'That the public be excluded from the following proceedings of this meeting. The general subject matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason of passing this resolution in relation to the matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

	eral subject of each er to be considered	Reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution	Date information can be released
1.	Minutes	Good reason to withhold exists under Section 7	Section 48(1)(a)	

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act or Section 6 or Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

1	Enable the local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities; or	Section 7(2)(h)
1	Enable the local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations); or	Section 7(2)(i)

² that appropriate officers remain to provide advice to the Committee.'

CLOSING KARAKIA

Unuhia, unuhia Remove, uplift Te pou, te pou The posts Kia wātea, kia In order to be wātea Āe, kua wātea

free Yes, it has been cleared