

Integrated network discharges programme for water quality

Proposed community engagement framework and draft Terms of Reference

July 2023

About this document

This document sets out a proposed community engagement framework to enable community views to be heard and considered in long term planning for stormwater and wastewater network improvements.

It supports Wellington Water Ltd's (WWL) applications for network discharge consents, required to legally operate the stormwater and wastewater networks.

WWL is applying for a global stormwater discharge consent ('the stormwater consent') and for wet weather overflow discharge consents from the three wastewater networks, Wellington (including Karori), Porirua (including north Wellington) and Hutt ('the wet weather overflow discharge consents').

This version (July 2023) reflects discussion with a small focus group of community representatives and is intended to form a basis for community feedback in July/August 2023. It includes appendices providing additional information to inform feedback.

To find out more and have your say on this document, join a meeting (find details on the [Wellington Water website](#)) or email us on networkconsents@wellingtonwater.co.nz.

WWL anticipates inviting further feedback, including on the detail of the consent applications, later in 2023 or early 2024, prior to formal notification (see appendix 4 for details of the process).

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1. Context

Wellington Water Ltd (WWL) is committed to meeting the challenge of delivering water services in ways that help restore the health of harbours, rivers and streams.

New national requirements (the [National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management \(NPS-FM 2020\)](#) put [Te Mana o te Wai](#) at the centre of freshwater management, so that the health and well-being of the water is protected and human health needs are provided for before enabling other uses of water. There are [six principles that inform implementation of Te Mana o Te Wai](#). These are Mana Whakahaere, Kaitiakitanga, Manaakitanga, Governance, Stewardship and Care and Respect.

Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) is translating the NPS-FM into regional requirements through the [Whaitua programme](#) and its [proposed Natural Resources Plan \(pRNP\)](#). The Whaitua Implementation Programmes for [Te Whanganui-a-Tara](#) and [Te Awarua-o-Porirua](#) make many recommendations to give effect to Te Mana o te Wai in Wellington, Upper Hutt, Lower Hutt and Porirua, and many of these relate to WWL's work.

The [Wellington Mayoral Taskforce on the Three Waters](#) in 2020 also makes recommendations towards achieving compliance with the NPS-FM 2020 that are relevant to WWL's work.

Together these national and regional directions require WWL to manage stormwater and wastewater networks to reduce the amount of bacteria, heavy metals, chemicals and other polluting substances (or contaminants) discharged into streams, rivers, harbours and coastal waters.

Legally, WWL is required to have consent under the Resource Management Act for discharges into waterbodies. Currently there are multiple consents for individual discharges, but not all discharges are consented. WWL is proposing network-wide consents that would provide a more comprehensive and integrated approach, as outlined in this document.

2. Proposed approach

2.1. Overview

WWL is proposing to reduce wet weather wastewater overflows and contamination from stormwater across Wellington, Upper Hutt and Lower Hutt and Porirua.

At the heart is WWL's commitment to work towards Te Mana o te Wai in partnership with mana whenua and with input from the community.

WWL is proposing to establish a Collaborative Committee, with representation from mana whenua and asset owners (councils), noting this is subject to ongoing discussions with mana whenua iwi, and possible changes through water reforms. The Collaborative Committee would have oversight of the implementation of the consent, including the sequencing of sub-catchments for improvements.

There would be community input into the process, at a 'global' (four-city-wide) level and at a local, or sub-catchment level.

The strategic direction would be laid out in a global Stormwater Management Strategy (SMS) and three network-wide strategic wastewater overflow reduction plans (Wellington, Porirua and Hutt). These plans would be reviewed every six years.

To deliver this 'big picture' in each area, a local or sub-catchment infrastructure improvement plan would be developed, for both wastewater and stormwater, with community input. These will be developed over time in a sequence overseen by the Collaborative Committee.

The intent is to plan and deliver improvements to reduce contamination from the networks and improve water quality in the relevant receiving environments across all sub-catchments over 35 years.

Towards Te Mana o te Wai – the health and wellbeing of the water

Resource consents provide legal framework and accountability for delivery over 35 years

We're on a journey to wai ora (healthy water), by progressively reducing contamination in discharges from stormwater networks and wastewater wet weather overflows

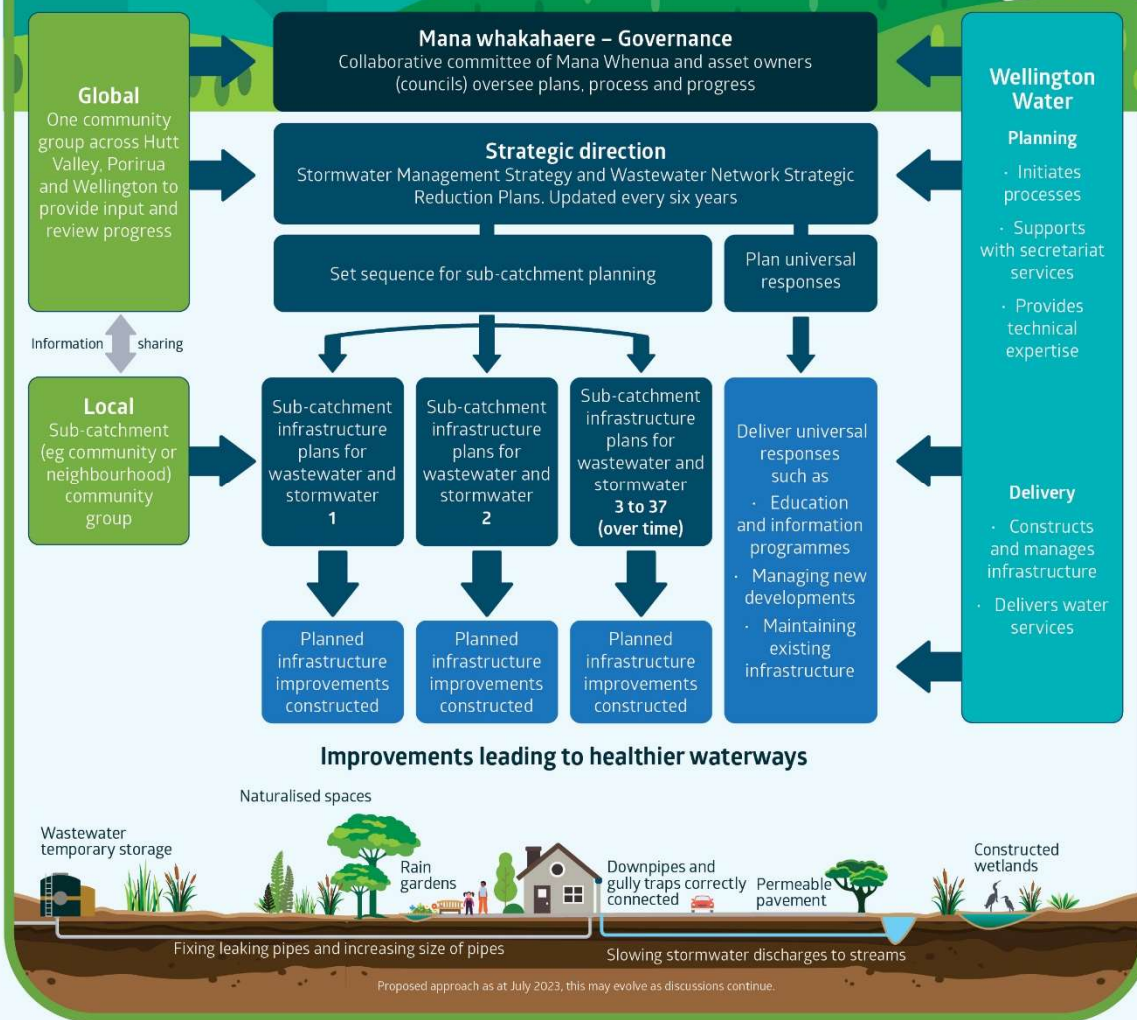


Figure 1: Overview

2.2. Collaboration with mana whenua and asset owners

WWL is proposing that the Collaborative Committee, will have equal representation from the asset owners (councils), and mana whenua. This is subject to further discussions with mana whenua iwi Ngāti Toa Rangatira and Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika (Port Nicholson Block Settlement) Trust, and the approach may evolve in response to water reforms.

The current proposal is that the Collaborative Committee will oversee strategic planning across the area covered by the consents, including sequencing sub-catchments for detailed infrastructure plan development. The Collaborative Committee is proposed to operate for the duration of the consent.

At this stage it is noted that all four discharge consent applications propose a Collaborative Committee. It may be likely that in practice a single Collaborative Committee will be formed and serve across all four of the consents. For simplicity, this framework has been prepared on that basis.

2.3. Community input

To ensure community concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered in the long-term planning and decision-making, the Collaborative Committee would receive advice and input from a group of community representatives through the framework described in this document.

For the purposes of this document 'community' refers to residents of the four cities. This proposed community engagement framework is separate to WWL's formal engagement with mana whenua iwi entities Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika (Port Nicholson Block Settlement) Trust and Te Runanga o Toa Rangatira.

WWL recognises that the community values waterways and there is strong interest in protecting and restoring streams, harbours and beaches. Many people in the four cities served by WWL are recreational water users and/or actively involved in environmental protection and restoration, such as stream care groups and 'friends' of natural areas and waterways.

To date WWL's engagement with communities has been largely location-based or project-based; that is, where there is an issue or new infrastructure in a particular area.

The intent is to bring together community views from across all four cities to contribute to the comprehensive and integrated approach outlined in the discharge consent applications.

Under this proposed approach, the Collaborative Committee will oversee a new two-part approach to community engagement:

- A Global Community Reference Group (working title) covering all catchments with an ongoing role at four-city-wide level for the duration of the discharge consent applications. This group will engage with the secretariat supporting the Collaborative Committee and will be expected to provide input into network-wide strategic plans. Members will be expected to avoid advocating for their local waterways and networks and instead input focused on reducing the adverse effects of discharges/reducing wet weather overflows across the network. This group would consider all four cities and both stormwater and wastewater to achieve an integrated approach.
- Individual sub-catchment specific groups, operating for a fixed term to advise on sub-catchment planning and activities. When a sub-catchment infrastructure plan is to be developed, WWL will engage with the local community groups to understand the preferred types of interventions, what local knowledge is available, best ways to engage with residents and businesses and how to manage any disruption that may occur. See sub-catchment map in appendix 5, or more detailed catchment descriptions in the [online stormwater story map](#).

The Collaborative Committee is proposed to have oversight of the community engagement framework and will be involved in implementing and updating this framework for the duration of the consents.

WWL's input to the community engagement process would be to provide secretariat support and subject matter expertise.

Figure 2 on the following page illustrates this proposed structure.

2.4. Alignment

This proposed community engagement framework is intended to improve the connection between WWL, mana whenua, councils and residents in relation to wastewater and stormwater network management under the discharge consent applications.

While WWL's primary focus is on the services it delivers, it recognises that its work interconnects with many other areas, and that there is generally a desire to take a holistic, interconnected view of environmental issues. Over time there may be opportunities for greater alignment between groups and organisations, for example as GWRC develops its monitoring of progress on the *Whaitua* recommendations. This proposal is a starting point for better connections and can be built on over time.

2.5. Stormwater Management Strategy

A draft Stormwater Management Strategy was published for feedback in February. This has been updated following feedback and is available on the [Wellington Water website](#). This proposed Stormwater Management Strategy forms part of the global stormwater discharge consent application.

Wellington Water Community Engagement Structure

Community Engagement

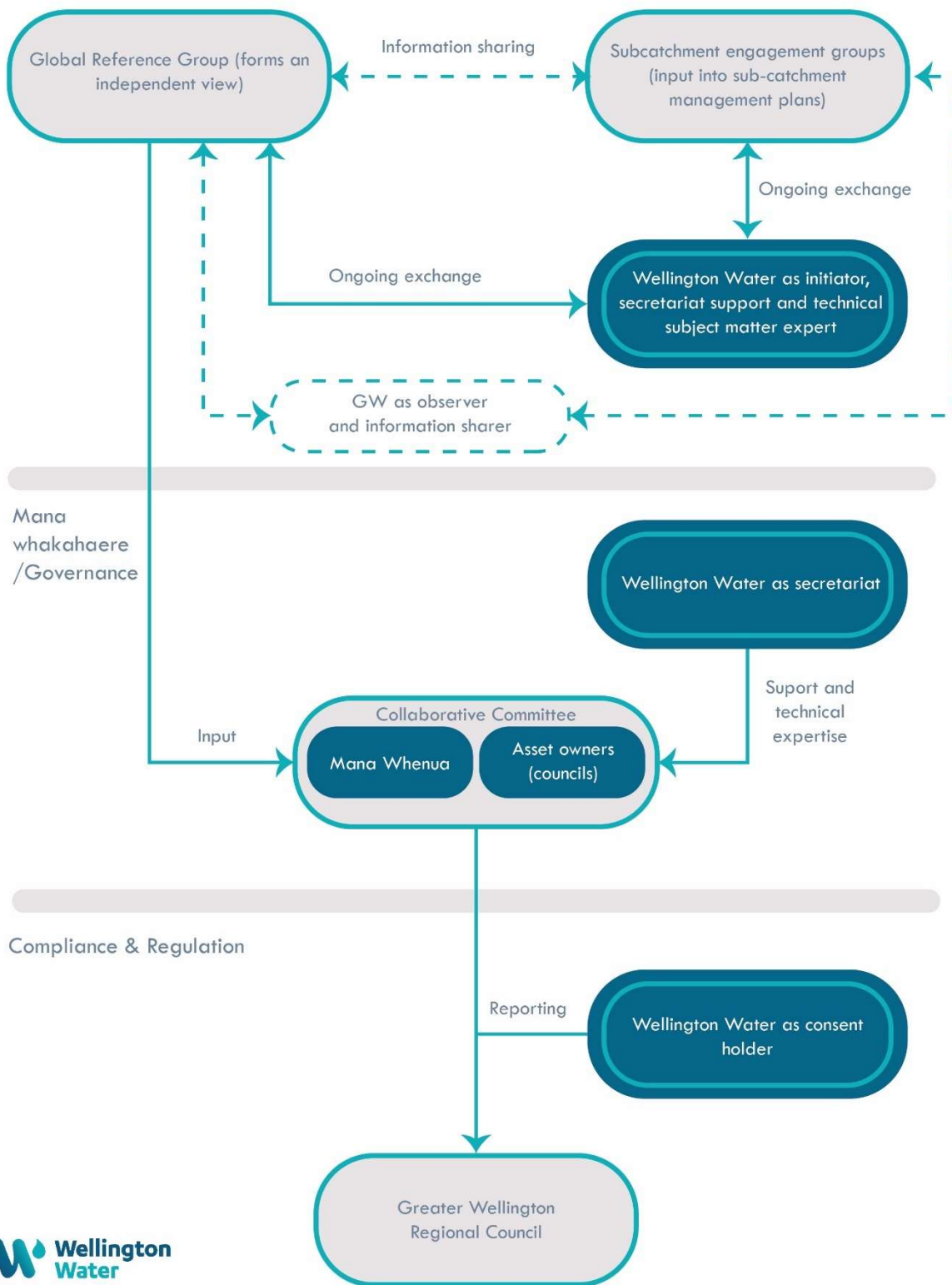


Figure 2: Community engagement structure

3. Global community reference group DRAFT Terms of reference

3.1. Introduction

WWL wants to ensure community concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered as part of its proposed approach to long-term planning to reduce contamination from the stormwater and wastewater networks, as set out in the discharge consent applications.

The intent is to establish a Global Community Reference Group (the Group) to bring together community views from across all four cities as a condition of the discharge consent applications.

Global Community Reference Group is a working title used throughout this document but the name may change.

The proposal for one standing, or permanent, group reflects the benefit for both community members and WWL in having a consistent group engaged on an ongoing basis because this enables relationships and knowledge of technical issues to develop over time. Ongoing discussions, rather than one-off conversations, provide more opportunity for informed and considered input on options and alternatives, and monitoring of progress.

In line with the principle of mutual respect, WWL would ensure a senior manager from WWL takes responsibility for maintaining effective relationships with, and support for, the Group.

The operation of the Group including its Terms of Reference would be reviewed after the first two years to identify any issues or opportunities. This includes considering any changes in the wider context, for example any new structures or processes established by GWRC, councils, any new water entities or any others that are relevant to improving water quality across the four cities.

3.1.1. Objective

The objective of the Global Community Reference Group is to enable community views to be heard and considered in long term planning for stormwater and wastewater network improvements in line with the discharge consent applications; and to support accountability by keeping communities informed of progress towards Te Mana o Te Wai.

3.1.2. Role and scope discussion

The Group would be able to consider issues relevant to the discharge consent applications in terms of global performance of the networks and future planning to reduce wet weather overflows and improve water quality in the waterways, and raise relevant issues with the Collaborative Committee. It would not be limited to considering only the specific discharges covered by the consents (see Appendix 2 for examples) but would be able to raise issues or activities that contribute to contamination within WWL's control or that WWL or the Collaborative Committee can influence.

The Group would not consider individual customer problems or complaints, which should go through the existing process to ensure they are actioned appropriately. Where individual problems or complaints point to a systemic issue, the Group may consider the wider issue as deemed relevant to the implementation of the discharge consents (once granted).

It is recognised that WWL is not the only organisation with a role in integrated catchment planning to improve water quality, and that WWL and the Group have an interest in supporting an integrated approach ki uta ki tai (from the mountains to the sea). The Group would be able to encourage and support WWL and the Collaborative Committee to look broadly, including beyond infrastructure, when making its plans. It would be able to recommend actions to the Collaborative Committee that would help drive an integrated approach (for example recommending that an issue is raised with another organisation, or another organisation is invited to discuss its plans with the group).

Over time the Group may identify and recommend changes to its way of working to facilitate greater integration, for example if new processes or structures are established in related areas. As set out below, where recommendations are not adopted, the reasons will be conveyed.

Members will be expected to focus on catchment/region wide issues in Group discussions and avoid advocating for individual local waterways. They would still be able to work through other groups and networks to advocate to mana whenua, councillors and WWL when appropriate.

3.2. Purpose

- a) To provide input and recommendations to the Collaborative Committee on:
 - planning for stormwater and wastewater network improvements including the preparation of strategic plans and sub-catchment plans
 - global initiatives that apply across catchments (such as public education programmes)
 - input into the collaborative committee's scheduling of sub-catchments
 - sharing data and information
 - supporting an integrated catchment management approach with other relevant organisations
 - other matters as agreed by the Collaborative Committee (the Group may propose matters it wishes to have input on but would need the agreement of the Committee)
- b) To observe and comment to the Collaborative Committee on progress towards reducing contamination and meeting the requirements of the consents.
- c) To report to the community/public on the Group's view of progress and performance for example through an annual statement, aligned with Collaborative Committee timetables.
- d) To connect with and advise sub-catchment groups contributing to specific sub-catchment infrastructure plans.

The Group will not have a decision-making role.

All recommendations from the group will be appropriately documented. Where the Group recommendations are not adopted, the reasons will be conveyed to the Group in a short, written format, preferably by its next meeting.

Timeframes for reviewing information, making recommendations and feedback on recommendations will be agreed between the Chairs and the Secretariat as appropriate.

3.3. Principles

- Strategic principles (to guide input and recommendations)
 - Ki uta ki tai (integrated catchment management, from the mountains to the sea)
 - This Group will bring a broad, four-city-wide and catchment-wide perspective and encourage and support the Collaborative Committee to keep this wider perspective in mind.
 - Members will not use this forum to advocate for an individual sub-catchment.
 - Generational perspective
 - This Group will keep in mind the long term nature of the journey to wai ora and multi-year planning and financing timelines; its advice will contribute to steps along the journey.
 - Mahi tahi

- This Group will keep in mind the range of people and organisations with a role and interest in water quality and will encourage and support constructive working relationships
- Operating principles (to guide conduct)
 - Mutual respect
 - The Collaborative Committee will acknowledge and respect the knowledge and perspectives community representatives bring to the table; community representatives will acknowledge and respect any financial, timing or other external limiting factors identified by WWL and the Collaborative Committee
 - Where there are any differences of opinion or disagreements, all parties will treat each other with respect and give all views a fair hearing.
 - All parties (WWL, the Collaborative Committee, and community representatives) make their best efforts to have 'no surprises'; that is, out of courtesy, parties let each other know about any plans to air their views or comments about issues or topics relevant to the group's role in the media or on social media.
 - Transparency
 - WWL will share all relevant information at the appropriate time, being clear about any restrictions on sharing it more widely and the reason for those restrictions.
 - Group members will make themselves available to discuss the Group's work with the wider community/residents and bring comments and feedback from the wider community to the table.
 - Preparedness
 - To enable effective and efficient discussions and meetings, community representatives will make time to prepare including reading any papers and keeping in touch with their communities in order to represent their views.
 - WWL will provide information in a timely fashion in order to enable this.

3.4. Membership

- Criteria for membership
 - A record of advocacy for water quality in one or more of the four cities, for example involvement in a community/environmental group, recreational water users group or Residents Association; and/or
 - Evidence of community support, for example a letter of nomination from a recognised group; and
 - Confirmation of availability (up to 6 meetings a year plus preparation time, plus some involvement with relevant sub-catchment groups from time to time); and
 - Declaration of any conflict of interest
- Number
 - Nine members in total - three members from each of the three wastewater catchments (Wellington including Karori, Porirua including north Wellington, and Hutt including Wainuiomata).
- Term
 - Members will be appointed for two-year terms and could be reappointed for up to three terms (six years) or longer by agreement with the Collaborative Committee.

- Remuneration
 - Members will be reimbursed for actual and reasonable expenses (eg travel, parking) and will be paid an honorarium in recognition of their time attending meetings, considering relevant materials and supporting local sub-catchment groups. Level of honorarium to be determined and reviewed every six years in line with WWL budget considerations.

3.5. Appointment process

- The group will be formally appointed by the Collaborative Committee. Nominations would be sought by the secretariat (with a nomination form/standard format provided) from:
 - Community groups including Residents Associations, Environmental Groups and Water User groups
 - Client Councils
 - Mana whenua iwi organisations
 - General public (via social media and media advertisements)
 - WWL staff
- Should there be more nominations than places on the group, the secretariat in WWL will make recommendations to the Collaborative Committee with the intent of achieving a diverse mix of background and experience, with final decisions made by the Collaborative Committee.
- All applications will remain confidential.
- The Group will select the Chair at its first meeting.

3.6. Operational process

- WWL will provide administrative/secretarial support to support the group. This may include for example drafting reports for the Collaborative Committee, as agreed to by the Collaborative Committee. This support would be equivalent to 20 hours a quarter (80 hours a year) with scope to increase this by agreement.
- Meetings will be at least quarterly and more frequent by agreement, for example in the formative stages or where there is a critical process underway.
- The group will meet with the Collaborative Committee to discuss any advice or input it provides at least twice a year, and both the group and the Collaborative Committee can request to meet more often.
- Meeting dates will be set in advance for a calendar year at a time.
- Group members will declare any conflicts of interest and will not participate in discussions where there is a conflict of interest.
- Where a member misses more than two meetings in a row without prior agreement with the Chair, that member may be dismissed.
- Meetings will be organised by WWL Collaborative Committee secretariat with the agenda agreed with the Chair.
- WWL will be represented on the group by a relevant senior manager (tier 3 or above) who will be expected to arrange an equally senior replacement if they are unable to attend.
- The agenda for the meetings and any relevant reports shall be circulated to all members a minimum of 5 working days prior to the meeting.
- A summary of discussion at each meeting shall be recorded and circulated to members within 5 working days of each meeting being held.
- The meeting summary will be published on the WWL website, alongside other relevant information about the Collaborative Committee and the Group.

- All documents will be shared on a repository accessible to all members (for example SharePoint)
- The Group may ask the Collaborative Committee to commission specific external expertise that directly contributes to informing Collaborative Committee decision making in relation to the network consents.

3.7. Communication

- At each meeting, the group will agree any key messages about its progress or recommendations, for inclusion in a meeting summary to be published on the WWL website.
- Members of the group are able to discuss issues considered by the group with their communities, for the purposes of informing constructive input and feedback to the group, while keeping in mind the principle that they are to take a global perspective.
- In line with the principles of mutual respect and no surprises, members of the group will make their best efforts to discuss matters internally prior to commenting or releasing information to the news media or on social media.
- The Chair should be notified of any requests for information from non-members, so these can be responded to in a co-ordinated manner.
- Where any information is provided to the Group that should remain confidential, this will be clearly noted and actively brought to members' attention by the Secretariat.

3.8. Review process

After two years, or earlier if agreed by the Group and the Collaborative Committee, the operation of the Group including its Terms of Reference would be reviewed to identify any issues or opportunities impacting on the Group achieving its objective (as set out above).

This will include considering any changes in the wider context, for example any new structures or processes established by GWRC, councils, any new water entities or any others that are relevant to improving water quality across the four cities.

The detail of the review process will be decided by the Collaborative Committee after discussion with the Group. The review may be conducted by a WWL senior manager or by an independent consultant.

Ongoing, we would anticipate reviews every six years.

3.9. Dispute resolution

In the first instance the Chair and/or the senior WWL manager responsible for the group will seek to resolve any disputes such as any complaints of misbehaviour with the individuals concerned.

The Chair and the senior WWL manager responsible for the group may, if necessary, arrange for an independent third party to be engaged to facilitate a resolution.

4. Sub-catchment groups DRAFT Terms of Reference

This section provides an initial description as a basis for discussion.

4.1. Rationale

A sub-catchment is the area that drains to a specific stream or coastal area and can be interpreted as a suburb or neighbourhood around a stream or beach. The sub-catchments for wastewater and stormwater will be defined in the discharge consent applications and may be further refined throughout the implementation of the consents.

Local communities have a high level of knowledge and interest in their local stream, river or beach, both as water users (swimming, fishing etc) and from an environmental perspective. There are many existing groups specifically focused on protection and restoration of these areas, as well as Residents Associations which take a broader view of a suburb or neighbourhood.

WWL's proposed approach to proactive planning for stormwater and wastewater network infrastructure improvements, as set out in the discharge consent applications, would happen at a sub-catchment level. There is a role for the local community in contributing to planning improvements once a sub-catchment is sequenced for investigation and planning for improvement.

A WWL team would lead the development of a sub-catchment plan including actively engaging with the community through a sub-catchment group, as described here.

4.2. Role of sub-catchment groups

Sub-catchment groups would provide input and advice to WWL during the development of a sub-catchment stormwater or wastewater infrastructure plan for approval by the Collaborative Committee, in line with the proposed approach set out in the discharge consent applications.

The sub-catchment group's role would include, but not be limited to, identifying and drawing on local knowledge, understanding the preferred types of interventions and how to manage any disruption arising from network improvements, and providing a local group for sharing information with the wider community.

This group would engage with WWL for this specific purpose over a specific time period.

4.3. Alignment with the Global Community Reference Group (the Group)

It is proposed that each sub-catchment group would have a member of the Group as a 'friend' or 'sponsor' who would provide guidance and a link to the broader picture.

Given the sub-catchment groups will operate for a limited time, and not all at once, this is expected to be a manageable level of involvement for Group members but will be reviewed as part of the two-year review of the Group's operation.

Sub-catchment groups do not report to the Group but there will be an ongoing connection through the 'friend' or 'sponsor' to provide for consistency and identify any issues.

4.4. Potential membership and appointment process

WWL (secretariat) would prompt discussion with the Collaborative Committee, the Group and local community groups about which option is most appropriate in a particular sub-catchment. There could be different arrangements for different areas. For example:

- Ask an existing community group, such as a stream care group, potentially with additional members, to take a formal role in plan development for a set period.

- Form a specific plan development group, with representation from local water users, environmental groups, residents associations, local businesses and others.

4.5. Indicative terms of reference

While each sub-catchment group will have its own unique Terms of Reference, the following purpose, principles and process will form the basis in order to provide consistency.

4.5.1. Purpose

- a. To provide input to WWL during the development of a sub-catchment management plan or other sub-catchment related planning under the implementation of the discharge consents, including:
 - i. Local issues to be considered
 - ii. Options for interventions
 - iii. Input on scheduling and managing any disruption arising from network improvements
- b. To share information with the wider sub-catchment community

The sub-catchment group will connect to the Group via its 'friend' or 'sponsor'.

The group's input will be reflected in the plan presented to the Collaborative Committee for approval, including identifying any recommendations or preferences of the group that have not been adopted and the reasons why.

The group will not have a decision-making role.

4.5.2. Operating principles (to guide conduct)

- Mutual respect
 - The Collaborative Committee will acknowledge and respect the knowledge and perspectives community representatives bring to the table; community representatives will acknowledge and respect any financial, timing or other external limiting factors identified by WWL and the Collaborative Committee
 - Where there are any differences of opinion or disagreements, all parties will treat each other with respect and give all views a fair hearing.
 - All parties (WWL, the Collaborative Committee, and community representatives) make their best efforts to have 'no surprises'; that is, out of courtesy, parties let each other know about any plans to air their views or comments about issues or topics relevant to the group's role in the media or on social media.
- Transparency
 - WWL will share all relevant information at the appropriate time, being clear about any restrictions on sharing it more widely and the reason for those restrictions.
 - Sub-catchment group members will make themselves available to discuss their group's work with the wider community/residents and bring comments and feedback from the wider community to the table.
- Preparedness
 - To enable effective and efficient discussions and meetings, community representatives will make time to prepare including reading any papers and keeping in touch with their communities in order to represent their views.
 - WWL will provide information in a timely fashion in order to enable this.

4.5.3. Process

- Meeting schedule and life-span of group would be discussed and agreed at establishment.
- Templates or examples for sub-catchment plans would be developed and shared.

4.5.4. Indicative resourcing

- Members will be reimbursed for actual and reasonable expenses (eg travel, parking).
- The sub-catchment group Chair will be paid an annual honorarium, recognising the time commitment required.

4.5.5. Communication

- At each meeting, the sub-catchment group will agree any key messages for about its progress, to be included in a meeting summary that will be published on the WWL website.
- Members of the sub-catchment group are able to discuss issues considered by the group with their communities, for the purposes of informing constructive input and feedback to the group.
- In line with the principles of mutual respect and no surprises, members of the sub-catchment group will make their best efforts to discuss matters internally prior to commenting or releasing information to the news media or on social media.
- The Chair should be notified of any requests for information from non-members, so these can be responded to in a co-ordinated manner.

Appendix 1: Wellington Water's outcomes

This will be used to support discussion on the framework/terms of reference but would not form part of conditions/consent application

WWL's planning for improvements to the wastewater and stormwater networks under the discharge consent applications will be part of an integrated approach to delivering WWL's outcomes (listed here as set out on [the website](#))

- **Safe and healthy water** - we provide water services, to ensure safe drinking water and will work to eliminate the harmful effects of wastewater and stormwater over time.
- **Respectful of the environment** - when we provide water services, we seek to avoid harm to the natural and built environment and over time, enhance it for the benefit of future generations.
- **Resilient networks support the economy** - we provide reliable day-to-day water services, that are able to withstand shock and stresses, and future proof the network to enable a strong regional economy and enhanced natural environment.

Appendix 2: Indicative scope of the discharge consent applications

This will be used to support discussion on the framework/terms of reference but would not form part of conditions/consent application

The scope of the proposed discharge consent applications is framed by the requirements of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management and Greater Wellington Regional Council’s proposed Natural Resource Plan and Whaitua Implementation Programmes for Whanganui-a-Tara and Te Awarua-o-Porirua; that is, focussed on reducing discharges of contaminants into the environment in line with Te Mana o te Wai. Details of what that means in terms of what’s in and out of scope for the consents is set out below, noting this may evolve.

Wet Weather Overflow Discharge Consents (Hutt, Porirua and Wellington)		
In scope	Out of scope and explanation	Still under consideration (at July 2023)
<p>Wet weather overflows from the wastewater network including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing consented and unconsented overflows Overflows from constructed overflow points (COPs) Overflows that do not occur in 1 in 1 year rainfall events, but do occur in larger, less frequent rainfall events Overflows on the local and trunk network <p>Existing wastewater discharges caused by wet weather overflows from the wastewater network to the stormwater network.</p>	<p>Note: WWL manages and responds to the issues listed below, but the issues are not covered by the resource consent applications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dry weather overflows (e.g. from broken pipes or blockages) because the current structure of the GWRC proposed Natural Resources Plan does not provide a consent pathway for these discharges. Discussions are on-going with GWRC policy staff to determine if an appropriate consent pathway is achievable. Mechanical failures of pump stations because pump stations have regular maintenance plans and contingency arrangements, so a failure is considered an emergency Overflows to land where the discharge does not enter water because this is a permitted activity under the Regional Plan and RMA Future wet weather overflows (eg where an extension to the wastewater network is built in a new development) because these would be covered by resource consents for the development. The regional plan means WWL’s consent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wet weather overflows from projects currently planned but not yet built, e.g. new pump station associated with wastewater temporary storage tank in central Porirua. Landfill leachate.

	<p>application would have to be refused. WWL is working with GWRC to change the regional plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discharges from illegal cross connections because these are covered by the Global stormwater consent • Overflows from private lateral pipes or gully traps because these are not part of the public network • Main discharges from treatment plants because these are covered by treatment plant resource consents • Leaks from main discharge outfall pipes from treatment plants (eg Main Outflow Pipe from Seaview or Karori outfall pipe) because these are covered by specific resource consents or emergency works provisions • Some overflows directly from a treatment plant (eg Seaview to Waiwhetū stream) because these are covered by treatment plant resource consents. Note that the two Western WWTP overflow points are part of the Wellington WWNO application. 	
Stage 2 Global Stormwater Consent		
In scope	Out of scope and explanation	Still under consideration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stormwater discharges from the existing local authority stormwater networks of Porirua City, Wellington City, Hutt City and Upper Hutt City. • Stormwater discharges from all new parts of the local authority stormwater network that may be constructed during the term of the consent, including but not limited to new discharges that are required to facilitate growth and urban development in Porirua City, Wellington City, Hutt City and Upper Hutt City. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stormwater discharges from the State Highway network, Wellington International Airport and CentrePort which are all subject to specific resource consents. • Stormwater discharges from recent development that have already been authorised by a resource consent. • Sediment discharges that occur via the local authority stormwater network but which arise as a result of activities that are managed under section 5.3 of the pNRP, such as earthworks and vegetation clearance. • Substances or contaminants, e.g. paint, that are deliberately poured or otherwise released into the local authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural stormwater (eg rural roadside drains) • Note: Discharges from road stormwater systems may be removed from this application should the Affordable Water Reforms remove these discharges from

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stormwater discharges from sections of stormwater network that may be transferred to Porirua City, Wellington City, Hutt City and Upper Hutt City by Waka Kotahi during the term of the consent as part of a State Highway Revocation process. • Stormwater discharges from the existing local authority stormwater network that are contaminated by wastewater, but only wastewater contamination arising from private cross connections. • Stormwater discharges from the existing and future local authority stormwater network (as already described above) to surface freshwater, groundwater, coastal water, wetlands, land where it may enter water, and onto and into land. 	<p>stormwater network (i.e. not as run off as a result of rain) because these are not contamination via stormwater.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The release of landfill leachate into the local authority stormwater system, because leachate is outside the definition of stormwater under the pNRP. • Stormwater discharges direct to the receiving environment from private systems, i.e. the stormwater discharges that are not from the local authority stormwater network. 	<p>within the responsibility of the future Water Entity.</p>
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Appendix 3: Indicative examples related to role and scope of Global Community Reference Group

This will be used to support discussion on the framework/terms of reference but would not form part of conditions/consent application

Note this table is provided as a starting point for discussion and is also subject to consideration by WWL management.

Activity	Proposed role of Global Community Reference Group
Scheduling sub-catchment planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide community input to WWL/Collaborative Committee on criteria and weighting of each criterion • Review initial schedule and provide feedback and input about how criteria and weighting have been applied. • Ask questions • When schedule is updated every six years, review it for assurance that WWL have applied weighting and criteria correctly, ask questions. Provide feedback for collaborative committee. • But not to: develop own alternate schedule or promote specific sub-catchments
Monitoring water quality data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide community input on what data would be useful to the community and how it is shared • Have access to relevant data • Use data to inform assessment of progress (see formal reporting below) • But not to: focus on a sub-catchment a member has a particular interest in instead of the catchment-wide or 'global' perspective (specific sub-catchment concerns could be discussed outside of the Group)
Monitoring WWL activity to improve water quality (progress towards achieving standards and compliance with discharge consents)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive and consider updates from WWL (information being provided to WWL governance and regulator, subject to any necessary restrictions) • Formally report on the Group's perspective of progress (eg a report card) to WWL, collaborative committee and public, in line with principles of constructiveness, mutual respect and no surprises • Recognise and acknowledge any external constraints outside WWL's control • Contribute possible solutions, being clear about where these are outside WWL's control • But not to: make criticisms that have not been aired and discussed with WWL

Community education programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide input on proposed approach, topics etc • Provide any feedback you receive from community on programme to WWL • Receive and consider reports on effectiveness
Identify new/different risks to water quality within WWL's control or influence (eg plastic beads from tip, new building materials)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise issue, ask Collaborative Committee agreement to request further work on options (eg WWL action or WWL to seek to influence responsible authorities) • Provide input to Collaborative Committee about which emerging issues should take priority • But not to: Expect immediate solutions to every issue, recognising there may be funding constraints or other issues.
Identify significant incidents (eg unknown substances on beach or in stream, wastewater overflowing in street)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediately contact council (first step for all individuals where there is an issue of concern) • But not to: use this forum as an alternative avenue for raising issues or faults
Planning and delivering stormwater improvements to reduce flooding in a particular catchment, in response to incident (eg Karehana)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-catchment/local engagement group expected to be first point of contact for discussions • Global community reference group may provide advice on who should be involved • Global community reference group aware of projects being planned or underway • Relevant global community group member may provide support to and liaison with local group to help them work effectively and set realistic expectations.

Appendix 4: Resource Consent process

A resource consent gives WWL legal authority to discharge from its networks into the environment. Resource consents have conditions about how to carry out an activity, to help avoid, mitigate or remedy any adverse effects on the environment.

Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) is responsible for deciding whether to grant resource consents for discharges, and what conditions would apply. GWRC can ask for public views, known as notifying a consent and seeking submissions.

WWL has lodged applications for four consents covering discharges, which all describe the same high-level approach to integrated planning and management:

- One Global stormwater consent (covering all four cities)
- Three Wastewater network overflow consents for the Wellington, Porirua and Hutt networks.

The consent applications are expected to evolve over coming months, as engagement with mana whenua and communities continues, and GWRC plan changes and national reforms progress become clearer.

Stage	Indicative timing (to be decided by GWRC)	Note
Apply	2023-early 2024	Network discharge resource consent applications have been lodged by WWL but are expected to evolve as discussions continue
Consider	2023-24	GWRC considers application and asks questions, WWL responds
Notify	Possibly mid-2024	GWRC publishes the applications and asks for submissions, timing yet to be decided
Submit	Following notification	People make submissions
Hearing	Possibly 2025	Independent panel considers submissions and responses, timing yet to be decided
Decision	Possibly 2025	GWRC decides on consent and conditions, decision can be appealed

Appendix 5: sub catchment map

More information on sub-catchments is available online as part of the proposed [Stormwater Management Strategy storymap](#)

