

What is the Statement of Expectations?

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- The Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025 requires shareholders of a water organisation to develop a statement of expectations (SoE). Our shareholders are the Carterton, Masterton, Tararua and South Wairarapa District Councils.
- The SoE is the primary way that shareholders exercise their influence in the delivery of water services. The purpose of the SoE is to set out shareholders' expectations of the water organisation and to inform and guide the company's decisions and preparation of its Water Services Strategy, including its strategic priorities – these expectations must cover at least 10 consecutive financial years.
- The water organisation must then prepare a Water Services Strategy that gives effect to the SoE and sets out how they will deliver water services to the community over 10 consecutive financial years.
- The SoE for Wairarapa Tararua Water will be developed by the Stakeholders' Forum (a group made up of one representative from each of the four shareholding Councils – South Wairarapa, Carterton, Masterton and Tararua – and one representative from each iwi – Rangitāne and Ngāti Kahungunu). The SoE will then be approved by Councils, in their capacity as shareholders, and issued to the company. This process has been agreed by the shareholding Councils and set out in their Shareholders' Agreement.
- An SoE must be consistent with all the water organisation's legislative and regulatory requirements and consistent with the organisation's governing documents (i.e., its Constitution, Shareholders' Agreement and Transfer Agreements).

What's included in the Statement?

Mandatory content

Section 227 of the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025 requires SoEs to include:

- The outcomes shareholders expect the water organisation to achieve by providing water services
- Requirements relating to resource management and land use planning in the service area
- Requirement that the water organisation must act in accordance with any relevant statutory obligation that applies to a shareholder
- The information that the water organisation must cover in its water services half-yearly report.

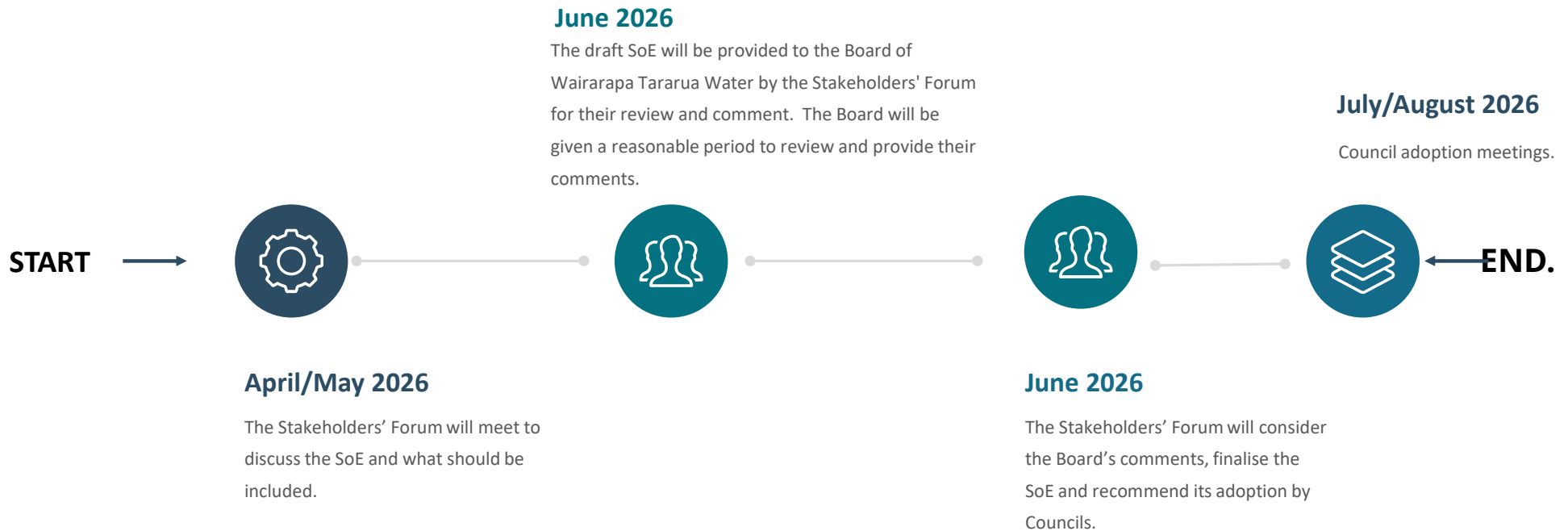
Optional content

An SoE may include certain other content e.g.,

- Expectations that relate to part of the company's business (e.g., to stormwater) and/or to part of the service area (e.g., to a single council district)
- Expectations about relationships (e.g., with shareholders, communities, iwi)
- Performance indicators and measures
- Strategic priorities to be included in Water Services Strategy
- Requirement to act in accordance with an obligation a shareholder has with a third party (incl. iwi, hapu)
- Requirement to undertake community/customer engagement
- Requirement to collaborate with shareholders/parties when providing water services
- Requirement that the Water Services Strategy must be independently audited.

Process for development

The process that we'll use to develop the statement is set out in the Shareholders' Agreement and summarised here...



Interested in more information?

[Local Government \(Water Services\) Act 2025 No 42, Public Act Contents – New Zealand Legislation](#)

[LWDW Bill 3 factsheet - Contracting arrangements](#)

[Key Documents | Wairarapa Tararua Water](#)