



KAIKŌURA
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Web Update 27 October 2021

In July 2020, the Government launched the Three Waters Reform programme – a three-year programme to reform local government three waters service delivery arrangements. The Three Waters Reform will significantly change the way water infrastructure and services are delivered in our District.

On 27th October 2021 the Government announced they would legislate to enable the proposal to transfer control of drinking water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure from 67 councils nationwide to four large independent entities. Three Waters Reform will be mandatory for councils as the legislation moves ahead. [You can read the Minister's full media release here.](#)

Kaikōura Mayor Craig Mackle has said "I'm filled with disbelief. How can they push ahead with such a complete lack of respect for local Councils and their communities? A complete lack of factual information, and lack of credible response to the actual facts that we have provided to them?"

"I'm sick and tired of hearing about this compelling case for change – how can spending \$280M over thirty years on our District's infrastructure that's worth \$57M be compelling?! This proposed investment would replace our water infrastructure over 5 times! - the numbers just don't add up. If this is any indication of how the sums have been created for the rest of New Zealand, God help us."

"The majority of Councils oppose these reforms as they currently stand but there has been no acknowledgement of this. I can't believe a government in our country could walk over people in such a way. This is bigger than the Three Waters Reform and I have grave concerns for the future of local democracy and democracy in general in New Zealand."

"We have heard a strong voice from our community and the majority oppose these reforms, but this has just been whitewashed by central government. And we have now lost the opportunity to consult further with our community at a local level on the biggest change in a generation."

"As a representative of this community, I'll be standing up for Kaikōura and opposing these reforms right through to the steps of the Beehive. I don't believe this is the way to enact any type of change that supposedly benefits local communities."

[Click here to view a map of the proposed boundaries and more information about the proposed entities.](#)