

22 September 2025

LGOIMA 25-173

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Water infrastructure: asset renewals & investment, wastewater compliance & harbour impact

I refer to your email of 16 August 2025 to Porirua City Council regarding their management of Wellington Water and associated services.

As you have been advised, question three and four of your request was transferred to Wellington Water Limited under section 12 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA) 1987, as they are the lead agency for Porirua City Council's water infrastructure.

Our responses to your questions are provided in the attached appendix, along with copies of relevant documents and links to publicly available information. The documents can be accessed via dropbox at [LGOIMA 25-173](#).

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request will be published shortly at <https://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz/about-us/official-requests/official-information-act-responses/> with your personal information removed.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this decision by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

If you would like to discuss this response further, please contact us at official.information@wellingtonwater.co.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

Acting Chief Strategy and Planning Officer

APPENDIX

Introduction - Pipe renewals

Porirua's water infrastructure faces significant renewal demands over the next 30 years, particularly in the water supply and wastewater networks. Currently, 11% of the water supply network is already past its expected life, and by 2054, nearly half (49%) will require renewal. This is largely due to the widespread use of asbestos cement pipes, whose remaining life is determined by cement loss and early failure patterns.

The wastewater network presents an even steeper challenge: although only 5% is currently overdue for replacement, a substantial 68% will reach end-of-life by 2054. This is again driven by legacy asbestos cement pipes installed during post-WWII government housing developments, with the frequently failing Paremata Rising Main along SH1 serving as a key example. In contrast, the stormwater network is relatively new, with less than 1% currently overdue and minimal renewal expected over the next decade. However, from 2040 onward, the stormwater system will require consistent investment to avoid future backlog.

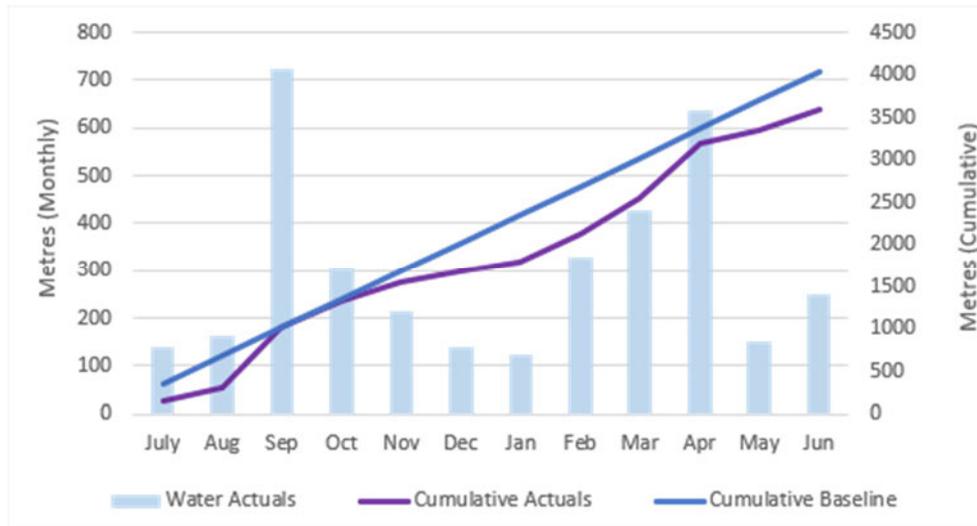
Overall, Porirua will need a staged, proactive renewal strategy across all three networks, with particular focus on asbestos cement pipe replacement and long-term planning to manage the surge in asset aging.

3. Asset Renewals & Investment

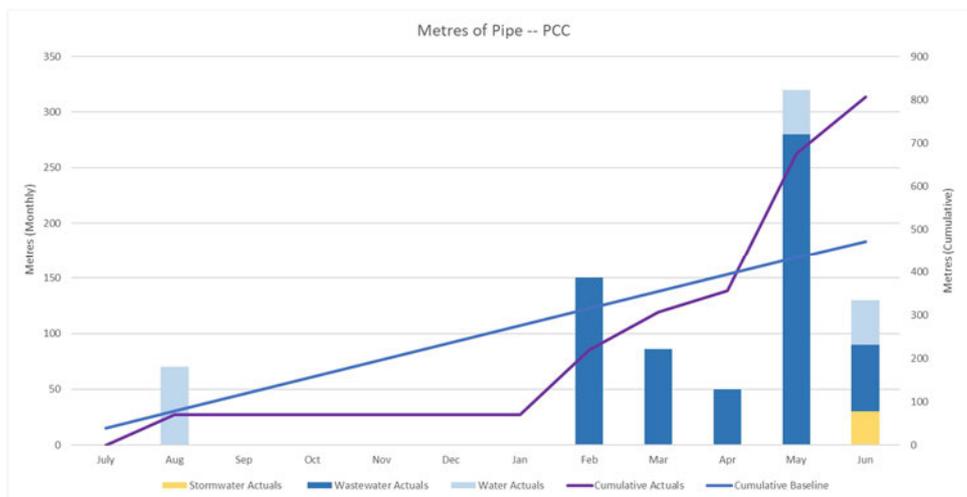
3a. Reports, dashboards, or updates showing the planned versus actual pipe renewals delivered in Porirua for FY22/23, FY23/24, and FY24/25 to date.

- There was no baseline set for the planned vs actual metric in FY22/23, as we only began gathering and reporting on more detailed information for pipes in FY23/24.
- For FY 22/23 the year-end actuals renewal delivered for PCC was **3,410 metres**.
- The below graphs for year-end actuals against baseline for PCC from June 2025 & 2024 dashboards.

FY23/24 – actuals(3593m) vs baseline(4033m)



FY24/25 – actuals(806m) vs baseline(472m)



- 3b. *The current asset criticality register (or equivalent top risk list) for Porirua’s water, wastewater, and stormwater networks as held by Porirua City Council or Wellington Water Limited*

The following documents are in scope of this request and provided as titled below:

- **Appendix 3b** PCC Potable Water Pipes condition dashboard
- **Appendix 3b** PCC Stormwater Pipes condition dashboard
- **Appendix 3b** PCC wastewater pipes condition dashboard

These spreadsheets detail the network (pipe) datasets for Porirua City Council’s (PCC’s) water supply, wastewater, and stormwater. Each of these datasets contains a summary table to illustrate:

1. **Criticality** – the total length of pipe considered as: Very High Critical, High Critical, and Low to Medium Critical
2. **Criticality with Condition Grade** – lengths of pipe depicted with their Condition Grade (range): Very Good to Very Poor
3. **Condition Grade with Confidence Grading** – lengths of pipe depicted by their Condition Grade (range): Very Good to Very Poor, and how confident Wellington Water is in the Condition Grade assigned: Highly Reliable to Very Uncertain

From these datasets, Wellington Water has identified “top risks” by filtering for pipes that are:

1. **Criticality:** Very High Critical to High Critical (score 5 – 4),
2. **Condition Grade:** Very Poor to Poor (grade 5 - 4), and
3. **Confidence Grade:** Highly Reliable to Reliable (grade A – B).

Wellington Water has applied these criteria to the datasets to indicate the 10 “top risks” and the location of the applicable pipe assets. Note an engineer has manually selected the 10 pipe assets from the filtered data taking into consideration the:

1. **Pipe diameter** – where larger diameter pipes are generally more Critical, and
2. **Installation date** – where older pipes are generally expected to be more at risk of failure.

The datasets contain the best available information for PCC’s network assets (September 2025). Each asset can be examined via the Geospatial Information System (GIS) at: <https://data-wellingtonwater.opendata.arcgis.com/>

To view any pipe asset, and the information held against its identification (ID) e.g. PCC_PWP000934, enter the ID into the “Asset ID” search function in the GIS.

Introduction - Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Porirua Wastewater Treatment Plant is a vital facility with key assets whose failure could cause supply disruptions, health and safety hazards, offensive odours, flooding, and environmental pollution. Despite recent upgrades, the plant's short-lived mechanical and electrical components operate in a harsh environment and require a robust, ongoing maintenance and renewal programme. Without this, the risk of consent breaches and unplanned environmental discharges remains high.

4. Wastewater Compliance & Harbour Impacts

4a. All compliance reports, abatement notices, or infringement notices issued in relation to the Porirua Wastewater Treatment Plant from 1 July 2022 to present.

- Compliance, Annual and Quarterly reports are publicly available under the **Resource Consent Reports** section at:
- <https://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz/your-water-2/topic/wastewater-2/wastewater-treatment-plants/porirua-wastewater-treatment-plant>
- The GWRC Compliance Monitoring assessment for the period 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022 is not publicly available and is enclosed as **Appendix 4a 2021_2022 compliance report**.

The table below describes the infringement and abatement notices provided to you:

Infringement and Abatement notices				
Date	#	To	Description	Document title
26/08/2022	I861	WWL	Formal warning for Breach of Abatement Notice A961	Appendix 4a I861
26/01/2024	I1065	WWL	Undisinfected discharge – September 2023	Appendix 4a I1065
03/07/2024	I1092 I1093 I1094	PCC, Veolia WWL	Unauthorised sludge carryover/ wastewater discharge on 4/3/2024	Appendix 4a I1092_94
22/07/2024	A1104	WWL	Unauthorised discharge of wastewater containing sludge	Appendix 4a A1104
06/08/2024	I1096 I1097 I1098	PCC Veolia WWL	Unauthorised sludge carryover/ wastewater discharge on 6/04/2024	Appendix 4a I1096_98

4b. *Records of wet-weather and dry-weather overflow events reported by Wellington Water Limited for Porirua between 1 July 2022 and present, including location, cause, and duration.*

Please refer to the provided excel spreadsheet titled **Appendix 4b overflow events**. There are four tabs titled:

- Unconstructed Network Overflows (Please note: In some cases, longer reported durations are due to data entry or recording issues rather than the actual event duration. Wellington Water responds to reported network issues within one hour of receiving a customer complaint)
- Constructed Network Overflows
- Pump Station Overflows
- Treatment Plant Overflows

4c. *The most recent action plan held by Council (or received from Wellington Water/Veolia) to address non-compliance issues at the Porirua Wastewater Treatment Plant. –*

Porirua City Council does not currently hold an active action plan nor has one been received from Wellington Water or Veolia to address non-compliance issues at the Porirua Wastewater Treatment Plant. Consequently, this part of your request is refused under section 17(e) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA), as the information does not exist.

The Plant is generally compliant. You can find more detail under the “Plant performance” tab on Wellington Water’s website:

<https://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz/your-water-2/topic/wastewater-2/wastewater-treatment-plants/porirua-wastewater-treatment-plant> .