

4 August 2026

Water Services
Marlborough District Council
P O Box 443
BLENHEIM

Attention: James Croker

Review of Marlborough District Councils water supply performance against the Water Services (Drinking Water Standards for New Zealand) Regulations 2022 and the Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules 2022 [DWQAR], for the period 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026

I refer to the independent assessment of performance of water supplies against the Water Services (Drinking Water Standards for New Zealand) Regulations 2022 and the Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules 2022 (revised 2024) [DWQAR], for the period 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026. The assessments were undertaken by Matt Molloy, an independent drinking water compliance specialist.

The assessment parameters have been defined by the Department of Internal Affairs and Audit New Zealand (DIA/AuditNZ). In June 2025 DIA/AuditNZ provided clarification on the expected assessment and reporting methodology that is to be used for the 2024/25 audits, the same methodology has been used for this audit. This is based on the Water Services Authority process using an aggregate compliance rate methodology. Additional guidance was provided on what was expected to be assessed to meet drinking water performance measures.

Marlborough District Council (MDC) has the following drinking water performance measure.

- Performance measure 1 -safety of drinking water and the extent to which the Council drinking water supply complies with the relevant parts of the DWQAR

The assessment covered all the water treatment plants and distribution zones. A brief report describing the process and results for the DWQAR assessment is attached to this letter.

Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules 2022 (revised 2024)

The outcome for each treatment plant and distribution zone is summarised in the table on the next page. This is for the period 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026. Bacterial and protozoa compliance at the treatment plant is assessed each day, while the less than 500 population supplies and the distribution zones are assessed each month.

Summary of DWQAR compliance

Water supply	Treatment plant		Distribution zone
	Bacterial	Protozoa	Microbiological
Blenheim	Central 100% all met	Central 100% all met	100% all met
	MRR 99.9% almost met	MRR 99.9% almost met	
Havelock	85.3% partially met	75% partially met	100% all met
Picton	Speeds Rd 100% all met	Speeds Rd 100% all met	100% all met
	Essons 100% all met	Essons 100% all met	
Renwick	100% all met	100% all met	100% all met
Riverlands	Hardings 0% none met	Hardings 0% none met	100% all met
	Malthouse 0% none met	Malthouse 0% none met	
Seddon	100% all met	99.9% almost met	100% all met
Awatere	Awatere South 87.5% partially met	Awatere South 0% none met	Awatere South 100% all met
	Dashwood 75% partially met	Dashwood 0% none met	Dashwood 100% all met
Wairau Valley	100% all met	100% all met	100% all met

NOTES:

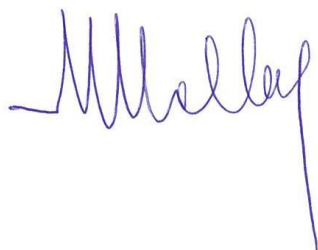
- The % relates to the overall compliance against all appropriate rules for that category (appropriate meaning those rules that DIA/AuditNZ have specifically identified in the guidance material)
- 100% = All met, 95-99.9% = Almost met, 0.01-94.9% = Partially met, 0% = None met.

It should be noted that the aggregate compliance methodology used for this assessment will differ to that undertaken by the Water Services Authority as not all compliance parameters are required for this assessment.

A copy of the letter and report have been sent to AuditNZ at their request.

If you have any questions or queries, please contact the undersigned.

Kind regards



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