

# Water Supply Pressure Information

To Marlborough Plumbers,

Marlborough District Council is sending this information to Professionals in the Plumbing Trade regarding Council's responsibilities as a drinking water supplier. This specifically relates to "levels of service" at the "point of supply".

As per the *Local Government Act 2002*, Council is obligated to ensure communities have access to safe drinking water. This obligation extends to the point of supply of each home and commercial premise, after which the responsibility past the point of supply is the property owners'.

After the point of supply, the provisions under the *Building Act 2004* cover the construction requirements of the plumbing system. These need to be performed by a suitably qualified individual as per the *Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 2006*.

As per the Building Code Page 17:

- 2.2.2** All pipes and pipe fittings used for the piping of water shall be:
- Suitable for the temperatures and pressures within that system,
  - Compatible with the water supply and environmental conditions in the particular location, and
  - Where installed in an exposed situation, resistant to UV light.

It is the responsibility of the property owner, under the guidance of a suitably qualified plumber to identify and adjust the property's plumbing system to be compatible with the water supply at the property owner's expense.

See the table below for compatibility requirements, noting that supply pressure may be anywhere in the range of 300 kPa to the listed value in table below. Each property must be assessed individually for the operating pressure at the point of supply, as this depends mainly on the elevation of that point of supply. Factors such as water usage in the network may also reduce the pressure experienced at the point of supply at different times of day. So, when assessing the pressure to a property it is best to be conservative and design for higher pressure rating than that measured at the point of supply.

Table 1 - Compatibility features

Feature	Value
<b>Maximum Operating Pressures:</b>	
Awatere including Seddon	120 metres head (1200 kPa)
Blenheim including Fairhall Ridge	90 metres head (900 kPa)
Havelock	120 metres (1200 kPa)
Picton	120 metres head (1200 kPa)
Renwick	90 metres head (900 kPa)
Riverlands	90 metres head (900 kPa)
Wairau Valley	90 metres head (900 kPa)

To summarise:

- It is the responsibility of the property owner to make sure that their plumbing system is compatible with the water supply and maintaining it at good working order.
- Any adjustments to make internal plumbing systems compatible with the water supply is at the property owner's expense.
- It is the plumber's responsibility to advise the property owner if their plumbing system is not constructed according to the building code.
- The property owner is liable if their plumbing system is not constructed according to the latest standards and regulations.