

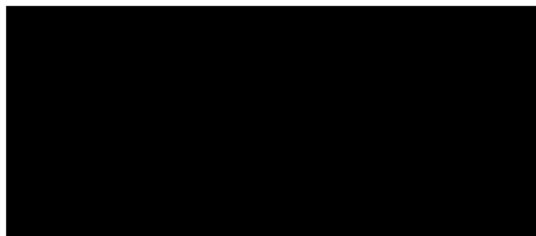


Ref: [REDACTED]

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9 January 2025

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OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST – WATER QUALITY TESTING

I refer to your official information request dated 9 December 2024 'LGOIMA' regarding the water quality testing of the Nelson drinking water, which is reproduced below:

Please kindly answer the following questions:

- 1. How often is the water quality tested?*
- 2. What components/bacteria/toxins etc are you testing for?*
- 3. Who does the testing?*
- 4. What laboratory is testing - is it council owned/operated or is it independent?*
- 5. In what time frame is action to comply with specified standards taken?*
- 6. Where are the quality reports/water testing results published for the public to see?*

In response to your queries I confirm the following:

- Council tests the water supply for different parameters either continuously, daily, weekly or annually depending on the feature.
- Council tests for turbidity, hardness, alkalinity, taste and odour, pH, chlorine, fluoride, e-coli and total coliforms and a range of chemicals.
- The test samples are collected by Council's contractors and analysed by either the contractor or an independent laboratory depending on the test type required.
- For specialist laboratory testing Council uses R J Hill Laboratories Limited. They are an independent company.
- The type of tests required and the test timeframes are set by the national regulator Taumata Arowai.
- The test results are provided directly to Taumata Arowai - these number in the hundreds each year. Council does not publish these on our website. Taumata Arowai publish some information around individual water supplies performance on their web site. These reports can be found through the following link.
<https://www.taumataarowai.govt.nz/about/water-services-insights-and-performance/>

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

Yours sincerely

Alec Louverdis

Deputy Chief Executive / Group Manager Infrastructure

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