

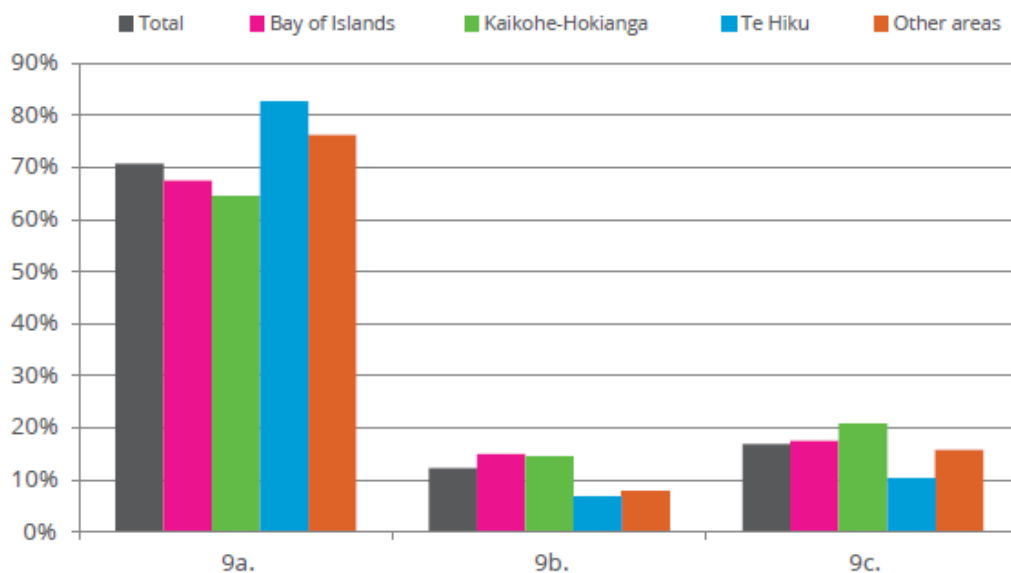
1.9. Rainwater harvesting for Te Kao?

Council's proposed option was 9a, rainwater harvesting to two tanks with UV treatment.

Respondents:	
BOI-Whangaroa ward	82
Kaikohe-Hokianga ward	46
Te Hiku ward	35
Outside district or unknown location	23
Total submitters	186

Responses:		
9a. Rainwater harvesting to two tanks (approx. \$16.5k per household)	133	72%
9b. Bore supply with one tank (\$260k bore plus \$13.5k per household)	28	15%
9c. Treatment plant (\$2.2m)	25	13%

Feedback by location



There were not many comments on the options included in the Consultation Document, with most crossing over with the next question (whether funding assistance should be provided). Comments ranged from:

“it’s appalling that the livelihoods of our people of Te Kao do not have clean drinking water, a necessity. ... the water supply is a fundamental resource that should have been managed years ago. Sometimes you have to spend the money to get better quality and sustainability really, you can’t go wrong here”

to preferences for spending more on Te Kao water and in other small communities to “solve their water problems” than on a hub in Kaikohe or to take money from the Kerikeri sports field proposed increase to fund all works at Te Kao, and that UV treatment should be a personal choice.

Ngātiwai Trust Board, Te Amokura Iwi Consortium Ltd, and Te Rūnanga a Iwi o Ngapuhi all supported the “re-direction” of funding to water tanks with UV.

The Northland District Health Board did not indicate a preferred option, noting it was difficult to make a strong recommendation. It commented as follows:

“Small communities need the most cost effective, safest and sustainable infrastructure (including drinking water supplies) that are compatible with the socio-demographic profile, governance and cultural aspirations of that community. Careful consideration needs to be given to any rating increase (targeted or general) on small communities that may result in people coming under increased pressure due to their financial circumstances.”

The NRC “supports implementation of a safer water supply for the residents of Te Kao”.

The one Te Kao resident that responded to this question did not make a comment.

Staff comment:

After extensive community engagement, the community of Te Kao were surveyed at the end of 2017 on their preferred option for achieving a potable water supply that addressed the small size of the community, the unacceptable public health risks and level of service issues that currently exist. Four options were put to the community at that time:

- A. Rainwater tanks (two) with treatment at each property
- B. One rainwater tank with treatment at each property plus bore for “top up supply” using existing pipe network
- C. A new water treatment plant, new pipework and new bore supply
- D. Status quo, i.e. no action.

Options A, B and C were all recognised as good options to achieve a reliable potable water supply, the major difference being the costs involved.

Option A was the first preference of 30 respondents.

Option B was the first preference of 4 respondents.

Option C was the first preference of 28 respondents.

Option D was the first preference of 18 respondents.

The results were therefore very close between options A and C.

Using the Single Transferrable Vote system, option A scored 176, option B scored 66, option C scored 140 and option D scored 83.

Council consulted on options A, B and C as part of the Consultation Document, proposing option 9a (two rainwater tanks with UV treatment at each property). There was majority (71%) support for this option.

There was only one submission from a resident of Te Kao. Based on discussions between staff and the community, staff believe the reason for this is that the Te Kao community think they have already had their say and there was nothing further to be gained by submitting again.

The staff recommendation for the issue is:

1.9a) That Council supports option 9a (rainwater harvesting using two tanks and UV treatment as proposed in the Consultation document).

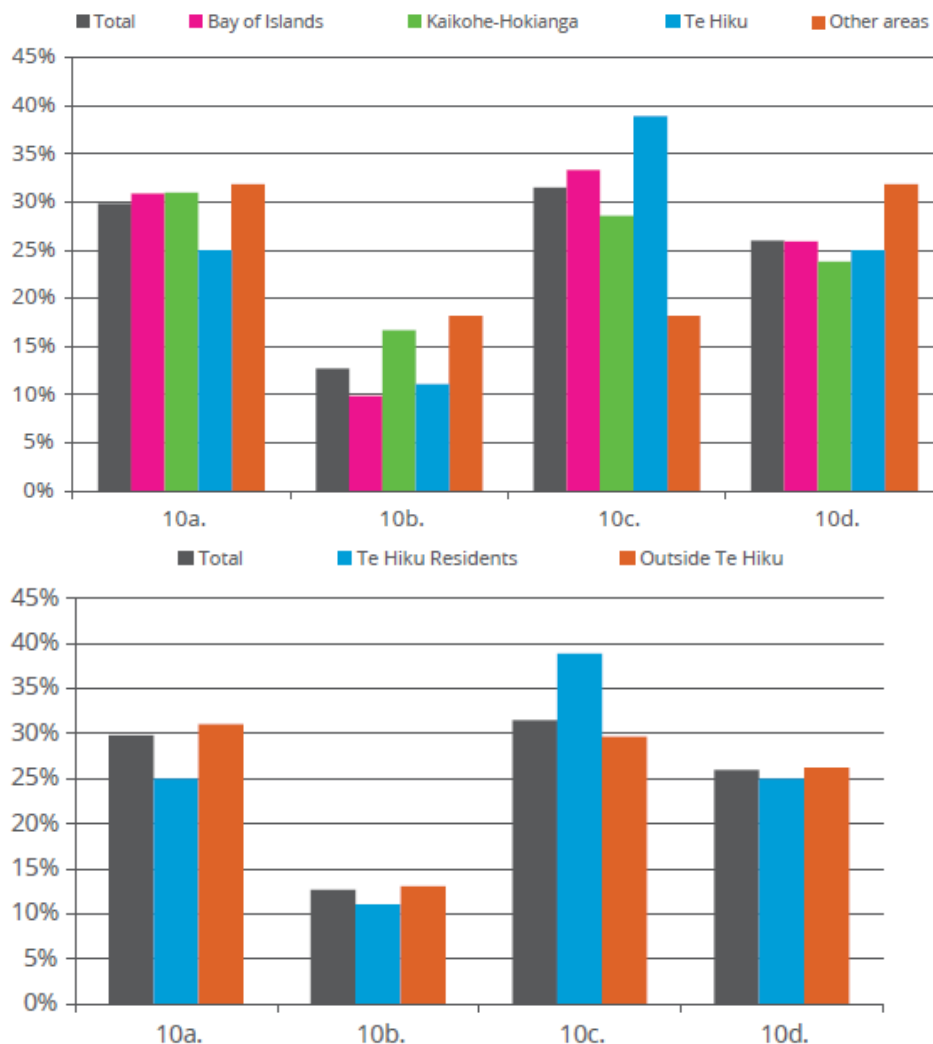
1.10. How should we fund safe drinking water at Te Kao?

Council did not propose any particular option, recognising that any targeted rate, loan or grant would have implications for Te Kao residents and all ratepayers if adopted. Council wished to therefore consider feedback from the community before making any decisions.

Respondents:	
BOI-Whangaroa ward	81
Kaikohe-Hokianga ward	42
Te Hiku ward	36
Outside district or unknown location	22
Total submitters	181

Responses:		
10a. Targeted rate	54	30%
10b. Loan	23	13%
10c. Grant for tanks only	57	31%
10d. Grant for all work	47	26%

Feedback by location



Te Rūnanga a Iwi o Ngāpuhi and Te Amokura support a one-off community grant to fund the costs of buying the tanks to improve public health outcomes for this community, and recommend that communities “who experience material hardship” should receive direct funding from Council. Another submitter supported grants for tanks but not UV.

Ngātiwai Trust Board commented that “communities that experience hardship, are high need and for marae, there should be direct funding from FNDC ... toward roofing, gutter upgrades, pumps, tanks and sterilising systems”.

Of the 46 submitters that supported a grant in the region of \$1 million for all work, one commented that they “support policies which give low income communities like Te Kao a boost from across the whole rating base”. Another submitter commented that their support for this option assumed that the rate increase for this purpose will only be for 2018/19. Their other assumption is that Te Kao residents will be responsible, maintain their rainwater harvesting systems, and not neglect them.

The Kaikohe Business Association suggested interest free “lay-by” for those with limited means.

One submitter said they weren’t sure about which option to choose, stating “Hopefully Te Kao residents will make the decision now but I think FNDC should help out”. Another noted that:

“Rural properties all over the district fund their own water supplies and it is unfair to expect them to contribute to a Te Kao water supply ...” but in the circumstances ... “would support a one off payment for one 25,000L tank and filter only per household, means tested with an income of say \$50k. Income earners about that to provide their own water...”

Staff comment:

Council asked in the Consultation Document how safe potable water (proposed to be water tanks with treatment) could be made affordable for the community.

No option gained a majority; but there was majority support (57%) for a grant of some type to be made to the Te Kao community. 26% of submitters on this question thought the grant should cover all work (including spouting and rooves, estimated cost @\$1,000,000) and 31% thought it should cover the costs of two rainwater tanks (estimated at \$371,000). There is therefore a mandate from those who responded to this question to provide a grant of at least \$371,000.

For efficiency, ease of administration and to ensure a grant is targeted appropriately it is recommended that a suitable entity to administer the grant on behalf of Council is identified, the funds are transferred to it and it reports to Council on the use of the grant.

While 30% of submitters favoured a “voluntary targeted rate” it should be noted that only one submission came from Te Kao. Therefore there is no mandate from the residents and ratepayers of Te Kao for a targeted rate over them. If it was applied over 10 years, at \$2,343 for the average Te Kao household reducing over 10 years (or averaged over 10 years), it would be well above the working group’s \$1,200 affordability target. Staff therefore do not recommend that this option is pursued. If Council was minded to approve this option staff recommend that it be provided over 20 years.

Staff discussion with TPK staff indicates that both MSD and TPK may be able to provide some funding assistance to the Te Kao community to help them with their housing and water needs, and staff from those ministries would like to meet with Council and the Te Kao community once Council has made its decision about its preferred option and any funding assistance that Council is prepared to make.

There is the potential for funding from other sources and for options other than water tanks, e.g.: Provincial Growth Fund (PGF); a new water treatment plant, new pipework and new bore supply. At the time of writing this report staff did not have confirmation that an application had been made to the PGF. If further information is available at the time of the deliberations meeting, Council staff will update the meeting if requested.

Council may wish to consider whether it would be prepared to make the grant funding available for options other than option 9a (such as option 9b and 9c) if they achieved potable water standards affordably and the supply was not owned by Council.

The staff recommendation for the issue is:

1.10a) That Council approves a grant of \$371,000 to achieve affordable potable water in Te Kao for the purchase and installation of (up to) two 25,000 litre rainwater tanks for approximately 65 properties currently connected to the Doubtless Bay Water Supply Company Ltd's water supply scheme at Te Kao.

1.10b) That Council delegates to the CEO the ability to negotiate and conclude an agreement for the administration of the grant of \$371,000 with a suitable entity on Council's behalf.

1.10c) That Council agrees, upon request from the Te Kao community, to consider alternative uses of the grant funding that achieve affordable potable water in Te Kao (such as rainwater tank with treatment at each property plus bore for "top up supply" using existing pipe network or a new community owned water treatment plant, new pipework and new bore supply in line).