

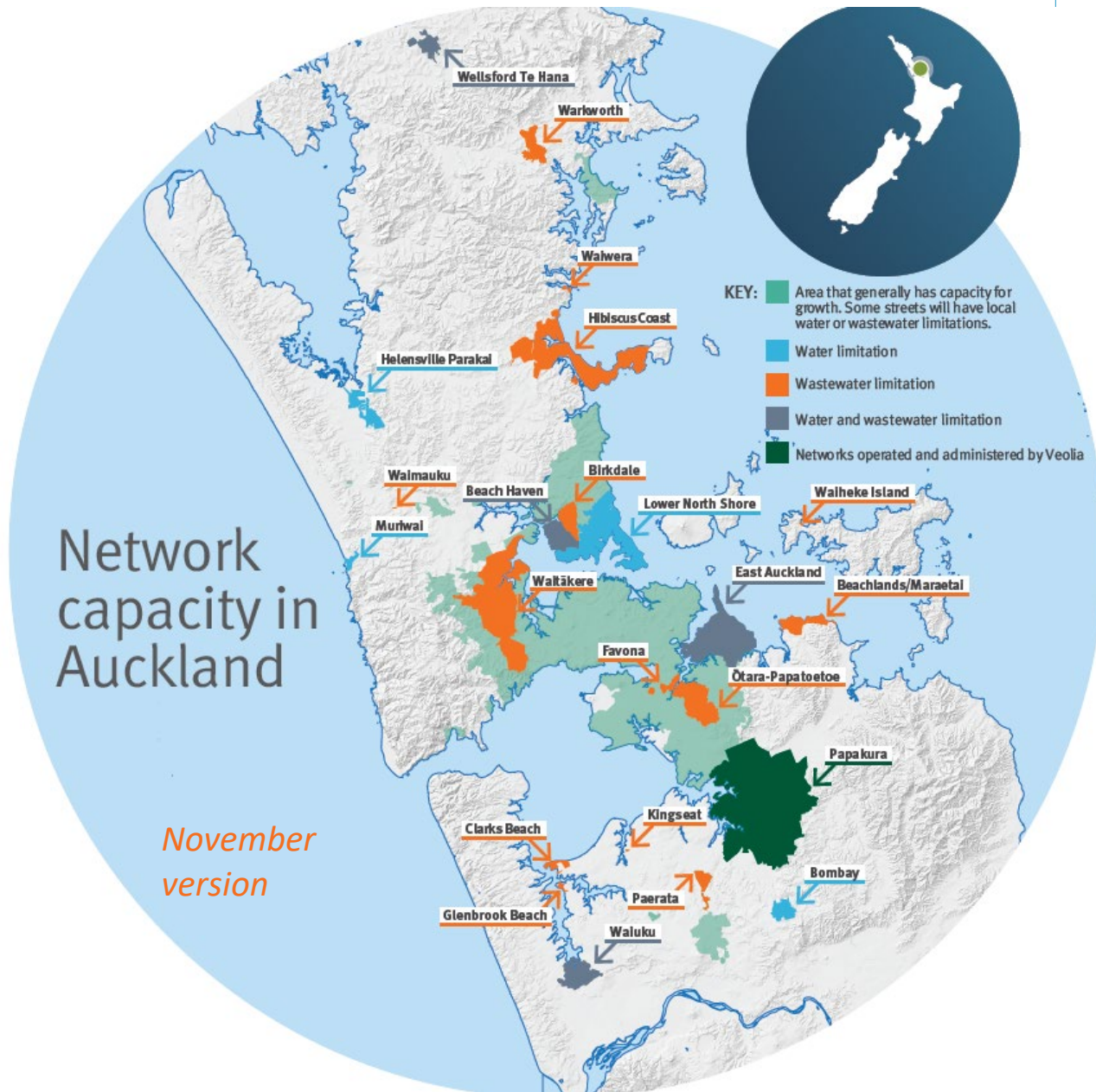
Understanding Watercare's network capacity



Wellsford Wastewater Treatment Plant

Recap on November 2024

- First version of network capacity map was released.
- Provided transparency for developers regarding where there was capacity in the bulk networks to support new housing, and where there were limitations.
- Distinguished between water and wastewater limitations.
- Led to a misperception that all areas identified as having capacity limitations were closed for development.
- **Of the 3,454 queries we've responded to since publishing the maps, we've confirmed capacity is available in 3,087 cases.**

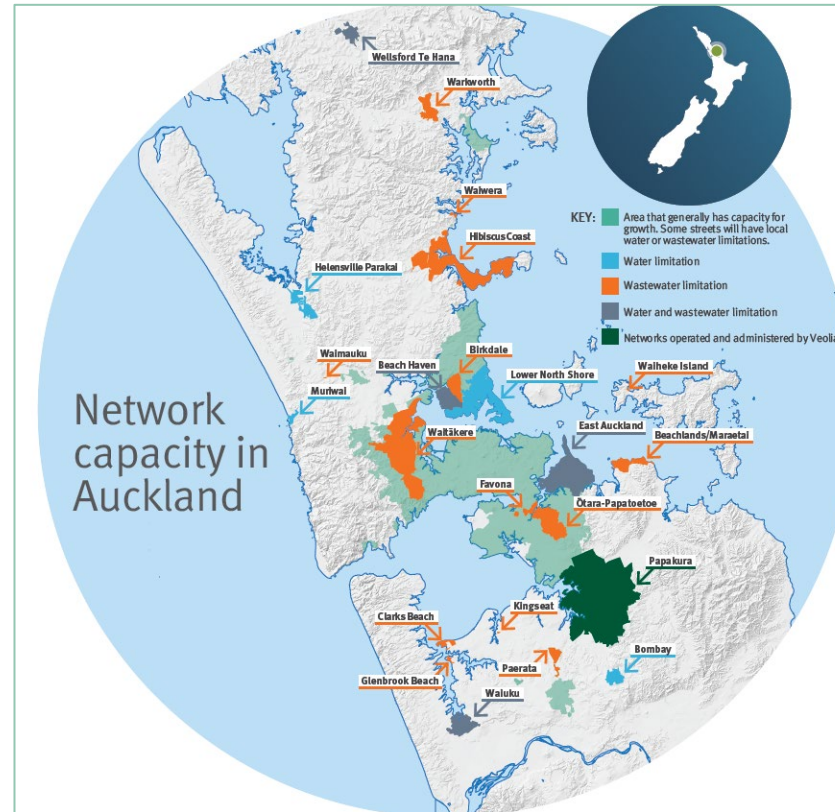


Responding to capacity enquiries since November 2024

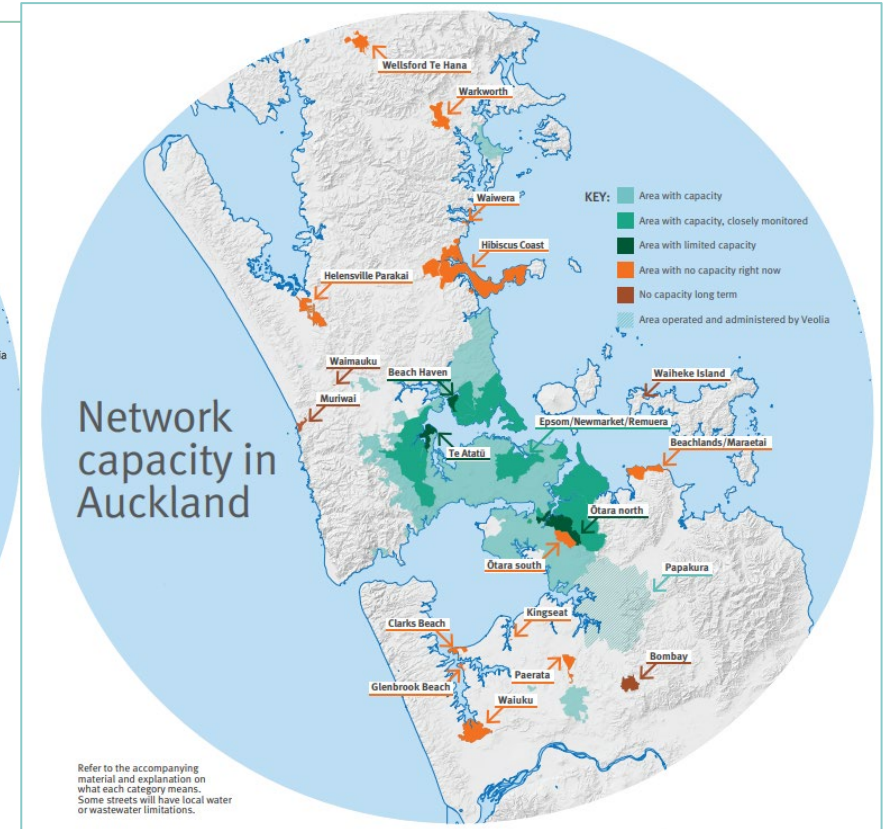
Area	Total enquiries	Capacity available	Capacity not available
Beach Haven	178	177	1
Beachlands/Maraetai	25	15	10
Birkdale	49	48	1
Clarks Beach	1	0	1
Favona	11	10	1
Helensville/Parakai	2	1	1
Hibiscus Coast	362	260	102
Otara-Papatoetoe	391	170	221
Waiheke Island	1	0	1
Waitakere	932	919	13
Waiuku	8	2	6
Warkworth	24	19	5
Wellsford/Te Hana	6	2	4
East Auckland	815	815	0
Lower North Shore	281	281	0
Non-capacity limited Areas	368	368	0
Total	3454	3087	367

Refreshed network capacity map

- New map provides greater clarity for developers.
- Water and wastewater distinction removed.
- Shows areas:
 - with capacity
 - with capacity, closely monitored (NEW)
 - with limited capacity
 - with no capacity right now
 - With no capacity long term



November 2024 map



June 2025 map

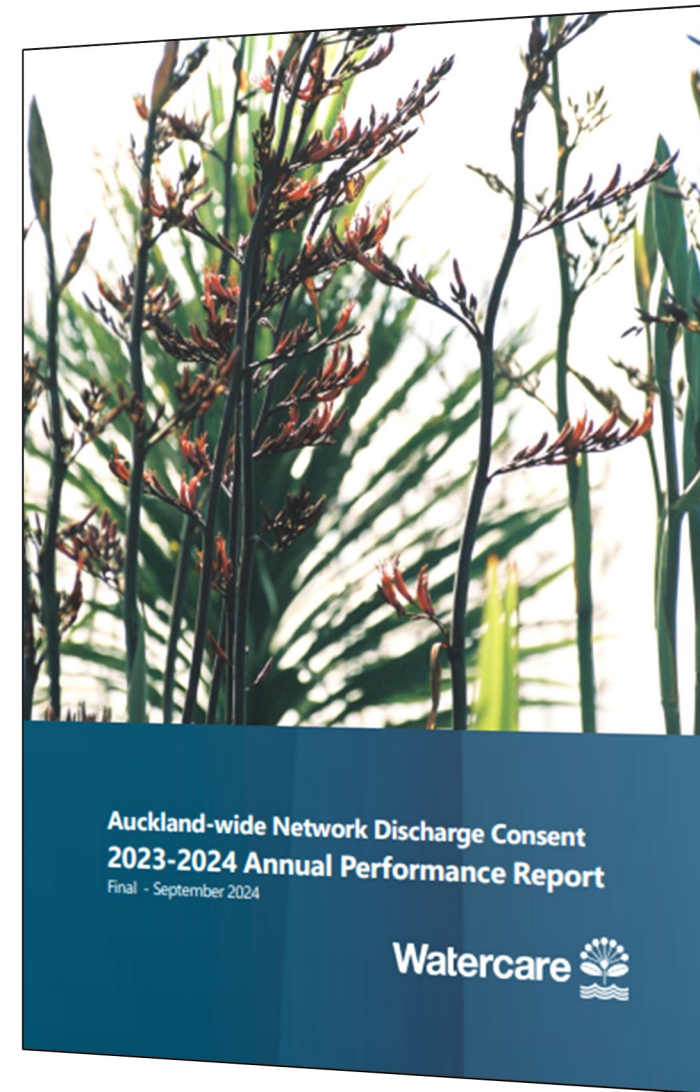
The map still focuses on capacity in our bulk infrastructure. There may still be limitations in local streets.

How we categorise each area

We assess:

- Treatment plant capacity
- Bulk infrastructure capacity in the water and wastewater networks, including overflow data

Our **network discharge consent** sets a target of no more than two overflows per location per year, on average. However, more frequent overflows may be permitted if we have a plan in place to improve the situation.



Area with capacity closely monitored

What makes an area 'closely monitored'?

- Some locations have **more than two wastewater overflows** a year.
- Some locations have an average of 1-2 overflows a year and we **anticipate the wastewater network's performance will decline** due to growth in the area.
- Limitations in the **bulk water supply** network

What does it mean for developers?

- There is generally capacity in the bulk infrastructure
- Some larger developments may be declined at resource consent stage
- Please use our online tool to check what it could mean for you.
- It's possible these areas could have limitations in the future.

Area with limited capacity

Why is capacity 'limited'?

- Some locations have **more than six wastewater overflows** a year.
- We anticipate the wastewater network's performance will decline due to growth in the area.

What does it mean for developers?

- Developments of up to five additional houses on a section can go ahead.
- Larger developments are likely to be declined at resource consent stage.
- We will continue to closely monitor capacity, and it's possible the status may change in the future.

Area with no capacity right now

Why is there no capacity right now?

- Local water or wastewater treatment plants are at capacity, OR
- The area is regularly experiencing overflows on private properties from manholes or gully traps.

What does it mean for developers?

- We are planning to upgrade infrastructure, however timeframes for solutions can vary.
- Developments with resource consent or building consent can go ahead as normal, however, one exception is the Hibiscus Coast, where the situation is unique.



Image: Wellsford Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade underway

Update on the Hibiscus Coast

- Last year we signalled there was capacity for approximately another 4000 homes.
- Since then we have connected almost 300 new homes.
- Have building consent? You can connect
- Have resource consent? Please check in with us about the remaining capacity at the treatment plant.
- We'll invest about **\$500m in wastewater infrastructure** for the Hibiscus Coast over the next decade. This includes a major upgrade to the Army Bay Wastewater Treatment Plant – currently scheduled for completion in 2031.



Army Bay WWTP upgrade (Hibiscus Coast update cont'd.)

- The upgrade has been split into three packages so we can do more, sooner.
- We'll upgrade the UV disinfection facility by mid-2027 to improve compliance.
- We will install alternative treatment technology on one of the existing SBR tanks over the next 12-18 months. This will inform our detailed design and may release some capacity early.
- The main upgrade remains on track for completion by 2031.



Creating visibility of our programmes of work

- The infrastructure required to provide large-scale water and wastewater services to Aucklanders is extremely complex. We are balancing multiple priorities across our rapidly-growing city. Often, multiple projects are required to create a wider community benefit.
- Infrastructure development and delivery will always have an impact on existing communities.

Projects to increase network capacity in the lower North Shore and Beach Haven

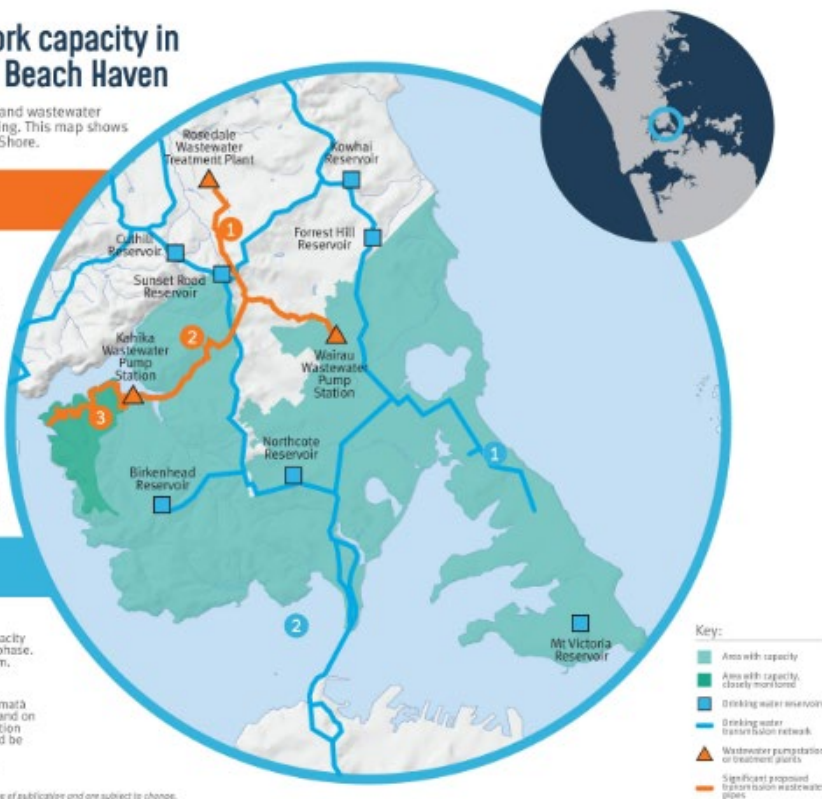
In some areas, there is limited capacity in our water and wastewater networks and treatment plants to support new housing. This map shows our projects that will increase capacity on the North Shore.

2030 – 2035 Wastewater projects

- 1 Wairau Branch Sewer duplication**
We will construct a larger pipeline to run from the Wairau Pump Station to the Rosevale Wastewater Treatment Plant. The delivery method is being investigated. The work should be complete by 2032, costing \$152m.
- 2 Kahika Pump Station upgrade**
We will upgrade the Kahika Pump Station and construct a larger pipeline from the pump station to the Wairau Branch Sewer. The first stage of the project is complete, between the pump station and Easton Park Parade, and the delivery method for the second stage is being investigated. The work should be complete by 2034, costing \$20.4m.
- 3 Beach Haven Sewer diversion**
We will upgrade the sewer system upstream of the Kahika Pump Station. The delivery method is being investigated. The work should be complete by 2034, costing \$23m.

2040 – 2045 Water projects

- 1 Devonport 2 Watermain**
We will construct a larger watermain to increase capacity for the Devonport area. The project is in the design phase. The work should be complete by 2027, costing \$50m.
- 2 North Shore 3 Watermain**
We will construct a new watermain across the Waitemata Harbour to increase resilience and meet future demand on the North Shore. The project is in the early investigation stage, and the route is not selected. The work should be complete by 2045, costing \$100m.



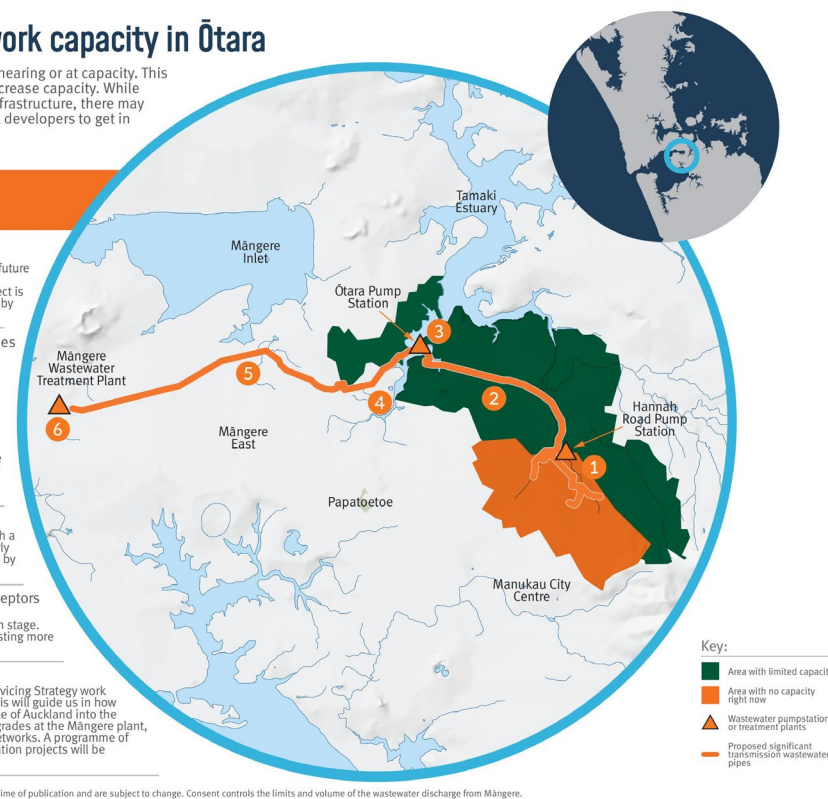
June 2025. All timelines and costs represent our best estimates at the time of publication and are subject to change.

Projects to increase network capacity in Ōtara

Our wastewater network in the wider Ōtara area is nearing or at capacity. This map highlights the projects we have planned to increase capacity. While there are no limitations in the bulk water supply infrastructure, there may be localised capacity limitations. We encourage all developers to get in touch with us early to identify potential issues.

2028 – 2040 Wastewater projects

- 1 Ōtara local wastewater network upgrade**
We will upgrade the local network upstream of the future pump station at Hannah Road to address existing overflows and create additional capacity. This project is being investigated. The work should be completed by 2029, costing \$36m.
- 2 Ōtara catchment wastewater capacity upgrades**
We will build a pump station at Hannah Road and pipelines to add more capacity. Additional underground storage at Billington Reserve will reduce overflows during heavy rain. This project is being designed. The work should be complete by 2028, costing \$70m.
- 3 Ōtara Pump Station upgrades**
We will upgrade the Ōtara Pump Station to increase storage and pumping capacity. The project is in the early investigation stage. The work should be completed by 2036, costing \$20m.
- 4 Ōtara Branch Sewer upgrade**
We will replace the existing Ōtara Branch Sewer with a larger pipe to add capacity. The project is in the early investigation stage. The work should be completed by 2036, costing \$40m.
- 5 Duplication of the Eastern and Southern Interceptors**
We will add capacity in the Eastern and Southern Interceptors. The project is in the early investigation stage. Work should be completed by 2040, potentially costing more than \$500m.
- 6 Māngere Wastewater Treatment Plant**
We will consider the output of our Metropolitan Servicing Strategy work and the wider wastewater balance for Auckland. This will guide us in how we will deliver wastewater services across the whole of Auckland into the future. It will allow us to complete our plans for upgrades at the Māngere plant, other wastewater treatment plants, and the bulk networks. A programme of wastewater treatment plant upgrades and optimisation projects will be implemented over the next decade.



June 2025. All timelines and costs represent our best estimates at the time of publication and are subject to change. Consent controls the limits and volume of the wastewater discharge from Māngere.

An aerial photograph of Auckland, New Zealand, showing the city skyline with the Sky Tower, the harbor with a large ferry, and residential areas in the foreground.

Investing in growth

Over the next 10 years, we'll invest \$13.8b on new and upgraded water and wastewater infrastructure for Auckland. About half of that will be spent on projects that enable growth.

Recent progress

- \$115m Huia 1 watermain now in service
- Warkworth wastewater scheme about to be commissioned
- \$64.4m wastewater upgrades for Māngere/Favona starting soon
- Upgrades to Clarks Beach and Wellsford wastewater treatment plants progressing well
- Tunnelling completed on Central Interceptor

How to engage with us

Try our [online tool](#)

- This often gives instant answers, or will ask for more information

[illegible]

Email our team

If you still have information that isn't answered by using the online tool, please email us at

networkcapacity@water.co.nz

Call us

(09) 442 2222 Monday to Friday:
8am to 5pm

Option 3: for works over queries

Option 4: for building and development queries

Improving our service to you

- In the first 10 months of the 2024/2025 financial year, we **connected more than 7000 new customers**.
- Works over process. We've reviewed the process and added resource. Our **turnaround time is down to four weeks**.
- We're **out on site more** to support contractors with compliance.

We're listening, learning from feedback and adapting

