Summary of Information

Proposed Trade Waste Discharge Plan 2027 and Trade Waste Bylaw 2027

Manawatū District Council is seeking feedback on a proposed **Trade Waste Discharge Plan 2027** and a replacement **Trade Waste Bylaw 2027**.

Trade waste is wastewater from business, industrial, commercial or trade activities that is discharged into the public wastewater network. It can include wastewater from food premises, vehicle washing, manufacturing, laboratories, health and dental premises, laundries, waste management activities, and tankered or transported waste. Domestic wastewater is not regulated as trade waste.

Trade waste needs to be managed because it can damage pipes and equipment, affect wastewater treatment processes, create health and safety risks, affect biosolids and discharge quality, and increase the risk of non-compliance with environmental and consent requirements.

The law for managing water services has changed. The Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025 requires Council to prepare and issue a Trade Waste Discharge Plan by 26 August 2027. Council's current Trade Waste Bylaw 2022 remains useful, but it does not fully reflect the new legal framework, including the new role of a Trade Waste Discharge Plan, updated review and appeal rights, and updated compliance and enforcement tools.

Council's preferred approach is to adopt a new Trade Waste Discharge Plan and replace the current Bylaw at the same time. The proposed framework separates trade waste management into three parts:

The Plan sets Council's overall approach.
The Bylaw sets the enforceable rules.
Trade waste permits set site-specific conditions for individual dischargers, premises or carriers.

The main proposed changes are clearer permit requirements, a simpler classification system of **Permitted, Conditional and Prohibited and Tankered Trade Waste**, a more risk-based approach to monitoring, clearer rules for tankered and transported waste, updated accidental discharge requirements, updated infringement and enforcement provisions, and clearer transition arrangements for existing permits and approvals.

For most existing trade waste customers, the proposal is not intended to create a completely new type of control. It is mainly about making the framework clearer and better aligned with the new law. Some permit conditions may be reviewed over time, and higher-risk discharges may have more structured monitoring or reporting requirements.

Submissions open on **15 March 2027** and close at **5pm on 18 April 2027**. The full Statement of Proposal, Draft Trade Waste Discharge Plan, Draft Trade Waste Bylaw and submission form will be available through Council's consultation channels. Submissions can be made online, by email, by post, or delivered to Council's office at **135 Manchester Street, Feilding**.

Hearings are proposed for **11 May 2027**, with deliberations and adoption to follow.