

OIR: 2526/286

10 February 2026

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Tēnā koe ██████████,

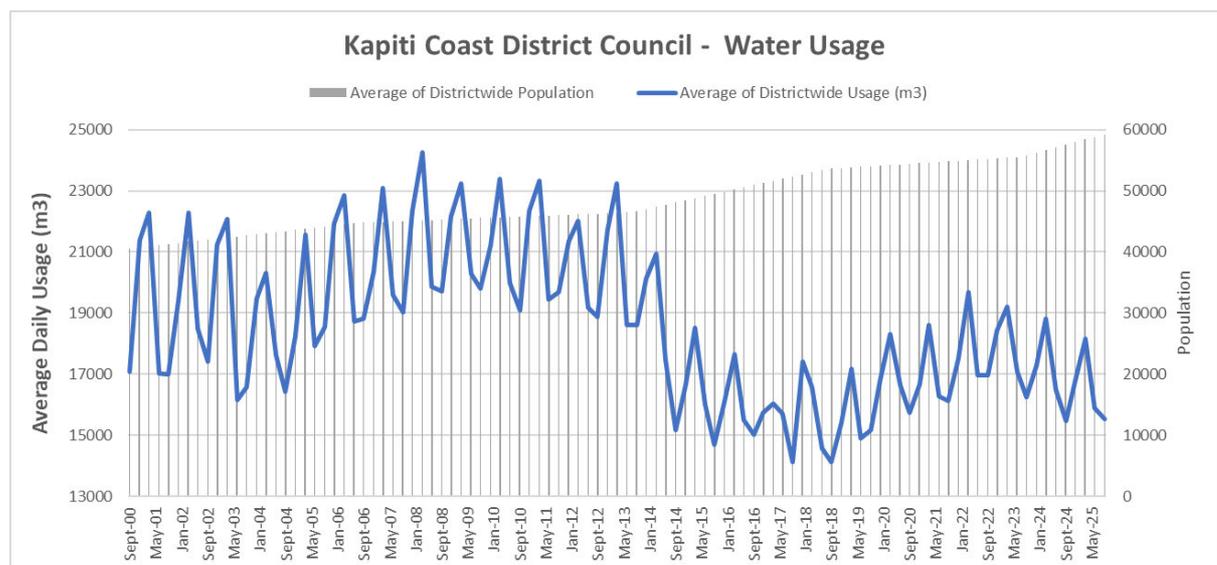
Request for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) (the LGOIMA)

Thank you for your email of **5 February 2026** requesting the following information in relation to water meters:

1. What the effect on water consumption has been for KCDC before & after meters became the norm?

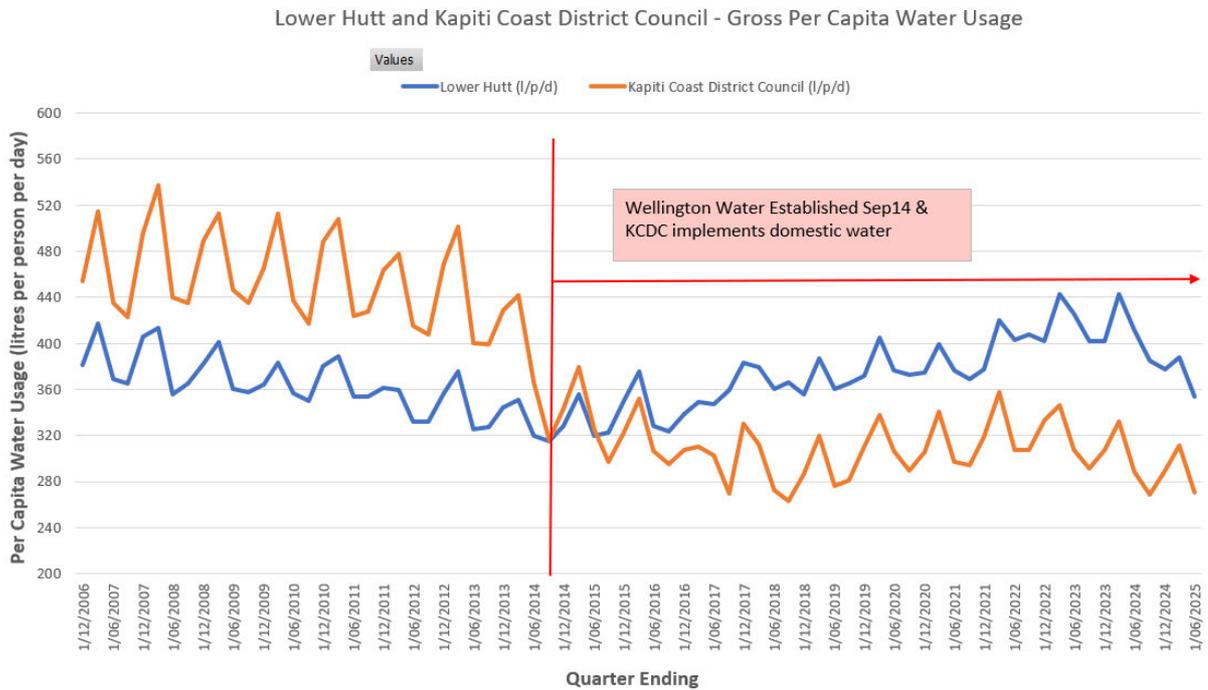
Following Water metering there was a significant reduction in water usage.

Average daily usage dropped from about 20,000 m³/day to 16,500 m³/day (17.5%) following water metering and average peak summer usage dropped from 22,500 m³/day to 18,000 m³/day (20%)



Please note that any information provided in response to your request may be published on the Council website, with your personal details removed.

During a similar period, water usage per capita had been increasing. Other factors will impact this total such as leak management and changes in industry/commercial activity.



2. What has that translated in to as far as water costs have been?

Calculating the impact of costs is quite challenging as a reduced daily demand can delay the need for infrastructure upgrades along with reducing power costs and chemical costs used in water treatment and pumping.

Retail Water Costs per m³ have increased from \$0.95/m³ in 2014/15 to \$1.72/m³ in 2025/26 (45%) and based on a water reduction of 3,500 m³/day, this would equate to about \$6,000 per day reduction in water costs at current water charges. Note that Lower Hutt currently charge \$4.75/m³.

Resource Consenting conditions for abstracting water require the council manage water resources sustainably and water metering is considered an effective tool in water loss management.

While almost 10 years old, this link provides useful analysis on how water meters impacted on ratepayers and Council expenditure

(<https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/services/waters/water-supply/water-projects/crag/>)

Ngā mihi,



Sean Mallon

Group Manager Infrastructure and Asset Management
Kaiwhakahaere Rōpū Anga me te Whakahaere Rawa