

Shayne Cunis

Shayne is executive leader in the engineering industry with the ability to motivate teams to achieve to the highest possible level and a passion to deliver excellent customer outcomes. This is built upon a foundation of over twenty years' engineering experience in the water industry.

I have worked with Shayne since 1999 when Watercare developed NZ's largest water supply project in many decades, a new water supply for Auckland from the Waikato river. His passion and dedication to safe and effective water supply was evident then, and since that time I have observed Shayne always stand up for what he believes is right, even when that opinion is may run contrary to the views of others. In our changing world, this is a real strength that is worthy of recognition. His dedication to doing the right thing is undeniable.

Shayne is currently leading the procurement and delivery of one of the most significant wastewater projects in New Zealand's history – the Central Interceptor. This major \$1.2b initiative requires the construction of a 4.5m diameter wastewater tunnel that will run between Western Springs and the Māngere Wastewater Treatment development, to reduce environmental risk, provide the infrastructure that will allow continued service to a rapidly growing city, and target a reduction in wastewater overflows.

Through his significant experience in the water industry, Shayne has been in extensive operational leadership experience and have successfully led multiple capital works, change management, risk management, process improvement and operational functions, all with the view to improving the service and outcomes that Watercare delivers. This has spanned water catchment, treatment and storage, as well as the distribution of drinking water, and the collection, treatment and disposal of wastewater and associated by-products, for a city that is rapidly growing and expanding.

Recognised by many as an industry expert, Shayne has served as an International Board Member for the Water Research Foundation since 2018. He has held other Board positions, including with the Water Environment and Reuse Foundation (2017), Water New Zealand (2016/17), and has been made a Fellow of Engineering New Zealand in 2018 in recognition of his service to the water industry.

Alongside his governance roles, Shayne has been on a number on industry technical groups. This includes developing a White Paper for Operator Certification in the Water Industry, which was provided to the Havelock North Drinking Water Inquiry. He was invited to be on the expert panel in this area for the hearings associated with the Inquiry. Shayne has participated in the review and development of Drinking Water Standards for New Zealand and the Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality Management for New Zealand and was a member of the Water Industry Group for Connexis to provide advice on training needs facing the sector.

Nominated by: Clive Rundle

Seconded by: Raveen Jadrum