



# Assets and Infrastructure Meeting

## Public Business Agenda

A meeting of the Assets and Infrastructure Committee  
will be held in the Council Chamber,  
29 Bowler Avenue, Gore  
on Tuesday 4 March 2025  
commencing at 4:00pm

Our vision:

*To provide an environment that allows people to enjoy the lifestyle  
and culture of their choice*

## Health and safety – emergency procedures

**Toilets** – The toilets are located in the corridor near reception.

**Evacuation** - Should there be an evacuation, please exit the chambers via the main door, then through the office front doors to the assembly point at the front of the building, near the road.

**Earthquake** - Drop, cover and hold. Once the shaking has stopped, evacuate through the chamber's main door, then through the office front doors to the assembly point near the road.

**Phones** - Please turn your mobile device to silent mode.

**Recording** - These proceedings are being live-streamed and will be available to share or download from the Council's YouTube channel. You consent to being filmed for public viewing by remaining in the meeting.

## Attendees

|                    |  |             |
|--------------------|--|-------------|
| Members            | Mayor (Chairperson)                    | B Bell      |
|                    | Chairperson                            | J Gardyne   |
|                    | Councillors                            | A Fraser    |
|                    |  | S MacDonell |
|                    |  | P McPhail   |
|                    |  | R McKenzie  |
|                    |  | N Phillips  |
| J Stringer         |  |             |
| Independent member | D Prentice                             |             |
| Staff              | Chief Executive                        | D Lascelles |
|                    | General Manager (GM) Corporate         | L Straith   |
|                    | General Manager (GM) Critical Services | J Domigan   |
|                    | Governance - minutes                   | S Jones     |

### Agenda confirmed by:



D Lascelles

**Chief Executive**

***Recommendations*** contained in reports are ***not*** to be construed ***as Council decisions.***  
*Refer to the Council minutes for **resolutions.***

## Order of Business

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Health and safety – emergency procedures .....                        | 2  |
| Attendees.....  | 3  |
| Order of Business.....  | 4  |
| 1. Welcome / Karakia.....   | 5  |
| 2. Apologies / Leave of Absences.....                                 | 5  |
| 3. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest .....                         | 5  |
| 4. Confirmation of Agenda .....                                       | 5  |
| 5. Reports for Information .....                                      | 6  |
| 5.1 3 Waters Capital Projects Update Report .....                     | 6  |
| 5.2 3 Waters Levels of Service Performance Measures Update .....      | 21 |
| 5.3 Major Capital Roading Works Progress Report – February 2025 ..... | 23 |
| 5.4 Waste Minimisation Act Review - Letter of Support .....           | 29 |
| 6. Meeting closed .....   | 34 |

- 1. Welcome / Karakia**
  
- 2. Apologies / Leave of Absences**
  
- 3. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**
  
- 4. Confirmation of Agenda**

## 5. Reports for Information

### 5.1 3 Waters Capital Projects Update Report

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|                       |                                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Report to:            | Assets and Infrastructure Committee |
| Meeting date:         | Tuesday, 4 March 2025               |
| Author:               | Jason Domigan                       |
| Author title:         | General Manager Critical Services   |
| General Manager lead: |                                     |
| Report date:          | Monday, 24 February 2025            |
| Confidentiality:      | Public                              |

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#### Purpose

1. To inform the Committee on the status of key 3 Waters capital projects.

#### Recommendation

2. That the Committee:
  - a) receives and notes the 3 Waters Capital Projects Update Report and attachments.

#### Executive Summary

3. The attachments to this report provide updates on the following 3 Waters capital projects:
  - Gore and Maitauna wastewater consent renewal project
  - Maitauna River Crossing project
  - Hilbre Avenue site development project
4. Applications have now been lodged with Environment Southland for the Gore and Maitauna wastewater consent renewals. Staff have provided information and continue to work through the consenting process with Environment Southland.
5. The second separable portion of the contract with Hadlee and Brunton for the Maitauna River crossing project has now been signed by both parties. Enabling works for the drilling are expected to start in March with the main drilling works occurring during May, June and July.
6. A scope of works for the Hilbre Avenue site has been developed and staff have begun high level planning for the procurement processes.
7. No new issues of significance have arisen since the last project update in October.

## **Attachments**

Appendix 1: Gore and Matura wastewater consent renewal project update – February 2025

Appendix 2: Matura River crossing project update – February 2025

Appendix 3: Hilbre Avenue site development project update – February 2025

## Gore and Mataura Wastewater Consent Renewal Project Update February 2025

### Project description/background

The Gore District Council holds three resource consents associated with the Gore and Mataura wastewater treatment plants (WWTP). The Mataura WWTP consent expired in May 2021, while the Gore WWTP consents expired in December 2023. In January 2021, the Council applied to renew these consents, as part of this application the following upgrades were proposed:




- Expansion of the existing wetlands at the Mataura wastewater treatment plant to be completed by 2027 (estimated cost of \$1.6 - \$2.1 million)
- Construction of a Biological Nutrient Removal (BNR) plant to replace the existing Gore oxidation ponds. It was proposed that this would be completed in three stages over the next 30 years with an estimated total cost of between \$46 and \$61 million.

While the Hokonui Runanga believed that the Council's proposed treatment system will provide an acceptable level of ecological treatment, it believed that the proposed ongoing piped discharge to the Mataura River did not address cultural concerns. Due to this, in June 2021 a technical working group was established to investigate land disposal options.

Environment Southland agreed to put the Council's consent application on hold while the technical working group investigated land disposal options. The Technical Working Group has agreed a decision-making approach and a long list of discharge options to be investigated.

At the Council meeting on 10 May 2022, a proposal from Pattle Delamore Partners (PDP) to undertake an investigation into land disposal options (in accordance with the agreed decision-making approach) was approved.

### Status key

|  |   |
|--|---|
| As expected/no change from previous reporting          |  |
| Some concerns but these are manageable                 |  |
| Being closely monitored or requires a Council decision |  |

### Health and safety

#### Status



No physical works are currently being completed.

### Procurement

#### Status



Harrison and Grierson (H&G) has been engaged to provide planning and engineering advice to the Council for this project.

However, due to the need for specialist advice regarding land disposal, on 10 May 2022 the Council resolved to engage Pattle Delamore Partners (PDP) to undertake an assessment of the land disposal options.



Additionally, SLR Consulting (formerly Ryder Consulting) is providing the technical input required for the assessment of ecological effects (AEE).

**Design and Consenting**

**Status**



One of the first tasks the technical working group undertook was to develop a decision-making approach to agree on the process that would be followed to determine the preferred disposal options for both the Gore and Maitāwhiri wastewater treatment plants.

Based on this decision-making approach, the technical working group oversaw the development of a number of key documents. On 21 July 2023, a Hui with the Councils elected members and representatives from the Hokonui Rūnanga (HR) was held to discuss the findings of these reports. Following this Hui, at the September 2023 Council meeting, the preferred options to be carried forward for further investigation and assessment were confirmed.

In March 2024, the Council approved proceeding with the lodgement of a consent application with the following preferred upgrade options to be proposed as part of the application:

- Gore – a Biological Nutrient Removal (BNR) plant and optimization of the existing oxidation pond system, then discharging to a 1-day hydraulic retention time (HRT) horizontal sub-surface wetland, prior to eventually discharging to the Maitāwhiri River via a land passage. The estimated capital cost of this is between \$55.5 and \$64.0 million.
- Maitāwhiri – optimisation of the existing oxidation pond system, reconfiguration of the existing wetlands to a 1-day HRT horizontal sub-surface wetland, prior to eventually discharging to the Maitāwhiri River via a land passage. The estimated capital cost of this is between \$9.7 and \$13.0 million.

Given the complex nature and significant capital investment required for these upgrades, it is proposed that they be completed over a period of 10 years for Maitāwhiri and 15 years for Gore.

**Programme**

**Status**



Following completion of a Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA) by Hokonui Rūnanga in late August, revised consent applications for both Gore and Maitāwhiri were submitted to Environment Southland on 13 September 2024.

Environment Southland has now started processing the consent application and a request for further information (RFI) was received and responded to late last year.

It is currently unclear how long the processing of the consent will take, however given the importance and complex nature of the consents, this process is expected to take several months.

| Milestone  | Previous forecast/<br>Actual | Current forecast |
|--|------------------------------|------------------|
| Long list options assessment completed                 | 23 Sep 22                    | Complete         |
| Draft feasibility assessment completed                 | 28 February 23               | Complete         |
| Preliminary Shortlist feasibility assessment completed | 16 June 2023                 | Complete         |
| Final short list options confirmed                     | 12 Sept 23                   | Complete         |
| Preferred option Identified                            | 12 March 2024                | Complete         |

|   |            |            |
|---|------------|------------|
| Consent applications submitted to Environment Southland | 13/09/2024 | Complete   |
| Response to Environment Southland RFI due               | 05/11/2024 | 10/12/2024 |
| Processing of consent application                       | N/A        | TBC        |

|                  |               |   |
|------------------|---------------|---|
| <b>Financial</b> | <b>Status</b> |  |
|------------------|---------------|---|

Over the past 5 years, the Council has spent a total of \$922,000 on this project. Of this, \$404,000 was spent prior to 30 June 2021 on investigating the performance of the existing treatment plants, investigating potential upgrade options, an assessment of environmental impacts and preparing a resource consent application. Post 30 June 2021, (ie following the establishment of the technical working group), a further \$517,000 has been spent undertaking the work outlined in this report.

The consent applications have now been submitted however further costs associated with processing the consent is expected. A budget of \$100,000 for this additional cost is proposed for the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years for this.

| Activity   | Budget                 | Current Expenditure  | Final Forecast Cost    |
|--|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Original consent Application and post lodgement work to 30 June 2021 | \$ 305,000.00          | \$ 404,444.00        | \$ 404,444.00          |
| Post Lodgement Work during the 2021/22 FY                            | \$ 205,400.00          | \$ 54,594.00         | \$ 54,594.00           |
| Post Lodgement Work during the 2022/23 FY                            | \$ 106,290.00          | \$ 203,231.00        | \$ 203,231.00          |
| Post Lodgement Work during the 2023/24 FY                            | \$ 300,000.00          | \$ 228,191.00        | \$ 228,191.00          |
| Post Lodgement Work during the 2024/25 FY                            | \$ 200,000.00          | \$ 31,690.00         | \$ 100,000.00          |
| Post Lodgement Work during the 2025/26 FY                            | \$ 100,000.00          | -                    | \$ 100,000.00          |
| <b>Total Costs</b>   | <b>\$ 1,116,690.00</b> | <b>\$ 922,150.00</b> | <b>\$ 1,090,460.00</b> |

|                         |               |   |
|-------------------------|---------------|---|
| <b>Key risks/issues</b> | <b>Status</b> |  |
|-------------------------|---------------|---|

It is believed that by going through a collaborative process, a solution that meets both the Council's and Hokonui Rūnanga's requirements has been identified. The Cultural Impact Assessment that Hokonui Runanga has recently completed indicates that the proposed upgrades will ensure that the Council's wastewater discharge consents will not have significant adverse effects on cultural values. This significantly increases the Council's chances of successfully obtaining a resource consent. However, there is a risk that other affected parties may not agree with the Council's proposed upgrades. Consultation/update meetings with some of the key affected parties were held prior to the consent applications being lodged and no significant concerns were raised at these meetings. However, perceived effects and whether there are parties that oppose the Council's application will not be fully understood until the consent application has been processed.

The required upgrades proposed in the resource consent applications are expected to be significant and complex. As a result of this, there are several significant hurdles such as ensuring the performance of the upgrades, financial restraints and land purchase that will need to be overcome. Please refer to the report tabled at the 26 April 2024 Council meeting for more detailed discussion regarding these key risks.

The development of a national standard for wastewater discharges is currently underway and significant changes to the regulatory requirements of wastewater discharges is proposed. As part of this, it is understood there will potentially be changes and clarification regarding the level of ecological and cultural treatment that must be achieved. While this could impact the upgrades required for Gore and Mataura, at this stage there is very little certainty as to what the proposed changes will be and if in fact changes will be made. Unfortunately, as the Council's existing discharge consents have already expired there is a need to continue with the consent applications based on the current regulatory requirements. The Council is proposing to take 10 and 15 years to implement the Mataura and Gore upgrades respectively. It is expected that if the regulatory requirements change in the meantime, there will be an opportunity to amend the Councils proposed upgrades to align with the revised regulatory requirements.

# Mataura River Crossing Project

## Project Update February 2025




### Project background

This project began in December 2017 with the Council’s resolution to centralise Gore’s water treatment facility at the Wentworth Street/East Gore WTP site to comply with Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules (DWQAR). To achieve this, two pipelines crossing the Mataura River are required. Additionally, the Council identified an opportunity to create a multi-purpose bridge that would also provide a new pedestrian and cycle transportation link between East and West Gore.

In March 2022, the Environment Court declined the Council’s resource consent application for a multi-purpose bridge at Surrey Street. Following the Environment Court decision, an options assessment comparing various possibilities for the project was completed, so that a decision regarding the next steps could be made. After considering the findings of this options assessment, in March 2023, the Council engaged with the community to help determine the preferred approach. In May 2023, the Council resolved to focus on getting the pipelines across the river by drilling underneath it. Following this decision, Council staff have been working through the required design and procurement for the directional drilling aspects of the project.

On 17 December 2024, the Council resolved to proceed with engaging Hadlee and Brunton (H&B) to install the required pipelines under the river via directional drilling at an estimated cost of \$2.65 million. In addition to the directional drilling component of the project, it is proposed to issue a separate contract to install the interconnecting pipelines on either side of the river. The total estimated cost to complete the project is \$4.9 million.

### Status key

|  |   |
|--|---|
| As expected/no change from previous reporting          |  |
| Some concerns but these are manageable                 |  |
| Being closely monitored or requires a Council decision |  |

### Health and safety and environmental

#### Status



Only minor investigations works have been completed in recent months. The appropriate H&S procedures are being followed when undertaking these investigation works.

Hadlee and Brunton will be required to implement a site-specific H&S and environmental plan before beginning construction works onsite for the directional drilling.

### Procurement

#### Status



Beca has been engaged to assist with the geo-technical investigation, consenting and hydraulic design of the pipeline.

Given the specialty equipment and skills required, a Registration of Interest (ROI) for the directional drilling component of the project was issued to the market in June 2023. Only one joint response to the ROI was received from Fulton Hogan and Hadlee and Brunton (H&B). On 27 July 2024, the Council

entered a design-build contract with H&B. On 17 December 2024, the Council resolved to proceed with engaging Hadlee and Brunton (H&B) to install the required pipelines under the river via directional drilling at an estimated cost of \$2.65 million. Refer to the report included in the agenda at the 17 December 2024 Council meeting for further details regarding the process that was followed engaging H&B to undertake the directional drilling works.

It is expected a “standard” measure and value tender will be issued to the open market for the interconnecting pipeline on either side of the river crossing in the coming months.

| Design and consenting | Status |  |
|-----------------------|--------|---|
|-----------------------|--------|---|



Over the past 18 months the Council staff have been working with H&B to complete the required investigation works and develop the design of the directional drilling works. While the large majority of the design for the drilling works has been completed, now that the Council has confirmed it is proceeding with the drilling, H&B are working through final confirmation of the design.

The required resource consents for the drilling works has now been obtained and H&B has confirmed it can comply with the conditions of this consent. While the required bylaw approval allowing works to be completed in the flood plain has not yet been received, it is understood Environment Southland are satisfied with what is proposed and the required bylaw approval is imminent.

Now that the Council has confirmed it is proceeding with the directional drilling works, Beca have been given approval to proceed with the design of the interconnecting pipelines on either side of the river.

| Programme | Status |  |
|-----------|--------|---|
|-----------|--------|---|



Following on from the Council confirming it will proceed with the drilling works, H&B have provided a detailed programme for this aspect of the project. Enabling works for the drilling are expected to start in March with the main drilling works occurring during May, June and July.

In parallel to the drilling works, the Council is expecting to have a contractor engaged to install the interconnecting pipeline by mid-June, allowing this work to be completed by mid-November.

This project is a key component of the Council’s strategy to centralise its water treatment at the existing East Gore site and achieving compliance with Taumata Arowai’s Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules. Taumata Arowai has set a deadline of 31 December 2025 for all Councils to meet the DWQAR. Refer to the risks section of this report for further details regarding meeting the December 2025 deadline.

| Milestone   | Previous forecast | Current target/actual |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Directional drilling contractor engaged to complete design  | 07/06/2024        | 27/06/2024 (Complete) |
| Directional drilling design and investigation works completed   | 31/10/2024        | 11/11/2024 (Complete) |
| Submission of applications for required consents  | 15/11/2024        | 18/11/2024 (Complete) |
| Council makes decision on proceeding with directional drilling, design of interconnecting pipework begins | 30/11/2024        | 17/12/2024 (Complete) |
| Updated design of interconnection pipeline completed, and tender issued to the market                     | 15/01/2024        | 28/03/2025            |
| Enabling works for the directional drilling begin   | N/A               | 10/03/2025            |
| Directional drilling equipment established onsite   | N/A               | 05/05/2025            |
| Directional drilling works completed  | 29/03/2025        | 05/08/2025            |
| Contractor engaged to complete the interconnecting pipeline   | 29/03/2025        | 14/06/2025            |
| Interconnecting pipeline completed  | 01/08/2025        | 15/11/2025            |

#### Financial

#### Status



As discussed and approved at the 17 December Council meeting, the estimated cost to complete this project is \$4.9 million. The remaining contingency for the project is approximately \$460,000. Refer to the risk section of this report for details regarding the financial risks associated with this work.

| Activity   | Budget          | Current Expenditure | Final Forecast Cost |
|--|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| High-level options assessment and community engagement | \$ 53,382.00    | \$ 53,382.00        | \$ 53,382.00        |
| Initial Geotechnical investigations                    | \$ 60,000.00    | \$ 137,765.99       | \$ 137,765.99       |
| Design, consenting and contract negotiations           | \$ 120,000.00   | \$ 40,965.01        | \$ 180,000.00       |
| Construction Supervision                               | \$ 120,000.00   | \$ -                | \$ 120,000.00       |
| Directional Drilling Works <sup>1</sup>                | \$ 2,649,500.00 | \$ -                | \$ 2,645,900.00     |
| Interconnecting Pipeline                               | \$ 1,300,000.00 | \$ -                | \$ 1,300,000.00     |
| <b>Total Costs</b>                                     |                 | \$ 232,113.00       | \$ 4,437,047.99     |
| <b>Approved Budget<sup>2</sup></b>                     |                 |                     | \$ 4,900,000.00     |
| <b>Remaining Contingency</b>                           |                 |                     | \$ 462,952.01       |

#### Notes:

- 1 - Council resolved to proceed with the directional drilling works at an estimated cost of \$2,649,500 on 17 December 2024
- 2 - Council approved proceeding with the project at an estimated cost of \$4.9 million at the Council meeting on 17 December 2024

#### Risks/general

#### Status



As discussed in the programme section of this report, Taumata Arowai has set a deadline of December 2025 for all Councils to comply with the requirements of the DWQAR. Completion of the Maitara River crossing project will ensure the Council achieves this. At this stage, staff are expecting to have the project completed in November 2025, approximately six weeks before the Taumata Arowai deadline. The proposed timeframes for this project are tight, however all parties involved are working hard to try to meet these while also ensuring the work is not rushed, and important steps are not

missed. Staff are monitoring the project timeline closely and will be in contact with Taumata Arowai should any concerns about meeting the December 2025 deadline arise. Providing the Council can demonstrate it is making steady progress towards achieving protozoa compliance, it is expected there will be some leniency regarding the December 2025 deadline.

The directional drilling component of this project is complex and not something that the Council regularly undertakes. Due to this, prior to the Council deciding to proceed with the drilling works, Future-proof Solutions were engaged to complete a peer review of the information provided by H&B. Future-proof Solutions is an Australian-based company that specialises in trenchless technology. Future-proof Solutions was very complimentary of the design information provided by H&B for this project making the following statement in the summary of its peer review report:

*“The trenchless contractor has demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of the trenchless project requirements, with a methodology that effectively addresses the technical and logistical demands of the trenchless pipe installation. Its design aligns with the capabilities of the selected equipment, incorporates site-specific ground conditions, and includes detailed planning with robust risk management. With proven experience and proactive measures, such as the recommendation to use a pipe sleeve, the contractor has shown strong competence and suitability for the successful execution”*

There are several risks that create uncertainty about the requirements and costs of completing large-scale directional drilling projects, such as the one required for this project. In particular, it is difficult and expensive to fully understand the ground conditions below the river prior to undertaking the drilling works. Due to this, if the Council had required H&B to provide a fixed price to complete the works, H&B would have needed to build in a significant risk component into its price. As a result of this, the Council has negotiated a pricing model with H&B which includes a mixture of:

- Fixed price items - where the contractor has control over the work required; and
- Measure and value and cost reimbursement items – where there are risks outside of the contractor’s control, ie unexpected ground conditions.

Additionally, as part of the design process, H&B and the Council staff have developed a risk allocation matrix which identifies 38 different risks associated with the work and who this risk (and the associated costs) for the drilling works sits with. In general, it has been agreed that risks that H&B has control over ie issues with workmanship and or plant and equipment breakdowns sit with H&B. However, where there are risks that are outside H&B’s control, ie flooding of the Mataura River or unexpected ground conditions resulting in time delays or additional equipment being required, the risks sit with the Council. The risk allocation matrix will be regularly reviewed and updated as the project progresses.

# Hilbre Avenue Site Development Project Update February 2025

## Project background

The Hilbre Avenue site development follows on the back of several projects with the Council’s 2017 resolution to centralise Gore’s water treatment facility at the Wentworth Street/East Gore WTP site to comply with the Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules (DWQAR). Some of the key projects are listed below:




- New water treatment plant at East Gore – completed
- Mataura River crossing – underway and construction imminent
- Interconnecting pipelines to the crossing – in design stage
- Hilbre Avenue site development – discussed in this project update.

The scope of works for the Hilbre Avenue site development includes (see Appendix A for drawings from the concept design by Beca):

- Demolishing of the existing tower;
- Decommissioning and demolishing of the existing water treatment plant (WTP);
- Replacement of the reservoir; and
- Relevant site work, eg trees and vegetation, pipework etc.

Beca completed the concept design of the site development in March 2022 that includes relevant geotechnical information and planning assessment.

## Status key

|  |   |
|--|---|
| As expected/no change from previous reporting          |  |
| Some concerns but these are manageable                 |  |
| Being closely monitored or requires a Council decision |  |

## Health and safety and environmental

### Status






#### Water tower:



Council staff commissioned Beca to report on the potential safety risks associated with the Hilbre Avenue water tower and to demolish it (Refer: *Gore Water Tower - Structural Condition Assessment, May 2022*). The Council made the decision in March 2023 to defer the planned demolition of the tower to maximise the benefit of the desludging of the Gore wastewater treatment ponds.

#### Asbestos:

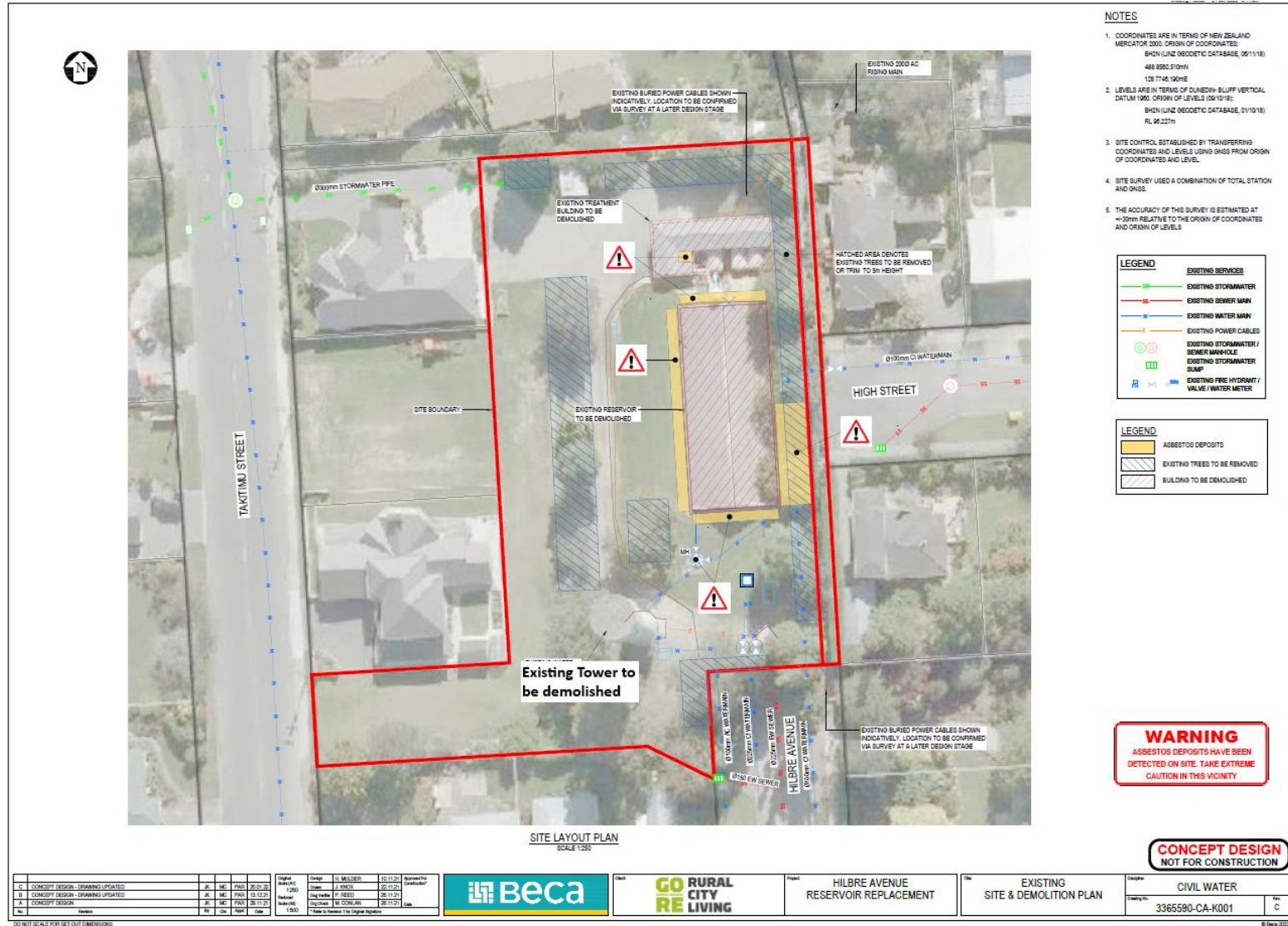
Council staff commissioned investigations relating to Asbestos on site as specialised procedures for removal will be required. The relevant reports provide good information of the asbestos products and locations on site, and this information will be available for the final design, site planning and construction work to be done.

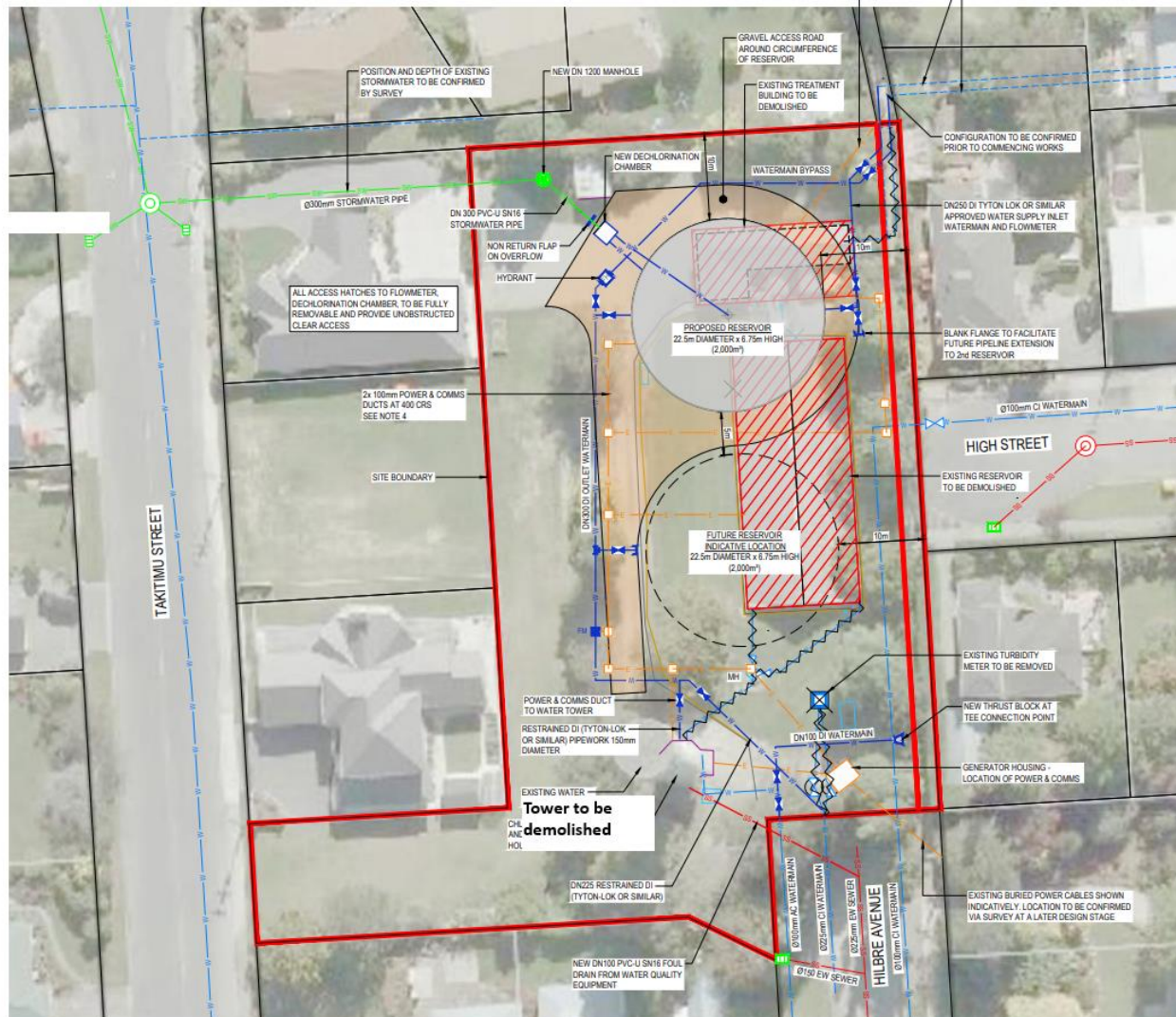


| Procurement  | Status            |    |           |                   |                       |                                       |  |        |                                       |  |              |                           |  |                 |  |  |                 |                      |  |              |                            |  |              |
|--|-------------------|---|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--------|---------------------------------------|--|--------------|---------------------------|--|-----------------|--|--|-----------------|----------------------|--|--------------|----------------------------|--|--------------|
| <p>The high-level planning for procurement for the various services and contracts includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design for the site development (staff have approached Beca and are currently awaiting its proposal); and</li> <li>• Planning services (to be procured separately).</li> </ul> <p>Once the design for the site development has been completed, the following works will be tendered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demolition of existing tower, reservoir and WTP. It is expected that an open tender to the market will be issued targeting experienced contractors. Several demolition contractors have already expressed interest in the work.</li> <li>• Construction of new reservoir. It is expected a “design and build” tender will be issued to the open market.</li> </ul>  |                   |   |           |                   |                       |                                       |  |        |                                       |  |              |                           |  |                 |  |  |                 |                      |  |              |                            |  |              |
| Design and consenting  | Status            |    |           |                   |                       |                                       |  |        |                                       |  |              |                           |  |                 |  |  |                 |                      |  |              |                            |  |              |
| <p><i>Design</i><br/>Staff are currently awaiting a proposal by Beca as already stated.</p> <p><i>Planning/consenting</i><br/>Planning services are required as the site is not designated under the Operative District Plan (currently in hearings phase). The new reservoir exceeds the standard exemption volume of 30,000l for on ground tanks, plus the water tower demolition exceeds the max 3 storey height for a standard demolition exemption.</p> <p><i>Landscaping</i><br/>A landscaping plan will be compiled internally by the Council’s Parks and Recreation team.</p>  |                   |   |           |                   |                       |                                       |  |        |                                       |  |              |                           |  |                 |  |  |                 |                      |  |              |                            |  |              |
| Programme  | Status            |  |           |                   |                       |                                       |  |        |                                       |  |              |                           |  |                 |  |  |                 |                      |  |              |                            |  |              |
| <p>Originally, the programme of works was planned so that it would be completed in the 2025/26 financial year. However, with the slower than anticipated progress with the Mataura River crossing project, the timeline has shifted, and it is expected that the works will be completed in the 2026/27 financial year.</p> <p>The revised expected programme of works is as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="205 1657 1418 1951"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="205 1657 788 1724">Milestone</th> <th data-bbox="788 1657 1102 1724">Previous forecast</th> <th data-bbox="1102 1657 1418 1724">Current target/actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="205 1724 788 1765">Completion of site development design</td> <td data-bbox="788 1724 1102 1765"></td> <td data-bbox="1102 1724 1418 1765">Jul 25</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="205 1765 788 1805">Procurement demolition and site works</td> <td data-bbox="788 1765 1102 1805"></td> <td data-bbox="1102 1765 1418 1805">Sep – Nov 25</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="205 1805 788 1845">Demolition and site works</td> <td data-bbox="788 1805 1102 1845"></td> <td data-bbox="1102 1805 1418 1845">Dec 25 – Jun 26</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="205 1845 788 1886">Procurement design and build new reservoir</td> <td data-bbox="788 1845 1102 1886"></td> <td data-bbox="1102 1845 1418 1886">Dec 25 – Feb 26</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="205 1886 788 1926">Design new reservoir</td> <td data-bbox="788 1886 1102 1926"></td> <td data-bbox="1102 1886 1418 1926">Mar – Jun 26</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="205 1926 788 1966">Construction new reservoir</td> <td data-bbox="788 1926 1102 1966"></td> <td data-bbox="1102 1926 1418 1966">Jul – Dec 26</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> |                   |   | Milestone | Previous forecast | Current target/actual | Completion of site development design |  | Jul 25 | Procurement demolition and site works |  | Sep – Nov 25 | Demolition and site works |  | Dec 25 – Jun 26 | Procurement design and build new reservoir |  | Dec 25 – Feb 26 | Design new reservoir |  | Mar – Jun 26 | Construction new reservoir |  | Jul – Dec 26 |
| Milestone  | Previous forecast | Current target/actual   |           |                   |                       |                                       |  |        |                                       |  |              |                           |  |                 |  |  |                 |                      |  |              |                            |  |              |
| Completion of site development design  |                   | Jul 25  |           |                   |                       |                                       |  |        |                                       |  |              |                           |  |                 |  |  |                 |                      |  |              |                            |  |              |
| Procurement demolition and site works  |                   | Sep – Nov 25  |           |                   |                       |                                       |  |        |                                       |  |              |                           |  |                 |  |  |                 |                      |  |              |                            |  |              |
| Demolition and site works  |                   | Dec 25 – Jun 26   |           |                   |                       |                                       |  |        |                                       |  |              |                           |  |                 |  |  |                 |                      |  |              |                            |  |              |
| Procurement design and build new reservoir   |                   | Dec 25 – Feb 26   |           |                   |                       |                                       |  |        |                                       |  |              |                           |  |                 |  |  |                 |                      |  |              |                            |  |              |
| Design new reservoir   |                   | Mar – Jun 26  |           |                   |                       |                                       |  |        |                                       |  |              |                           |  |                 |  |  |                 |                      |  |              |                            |  |              |
| Construction new reservoir   |                   | Jul – Dec 26  |           |                   |                       |                                       |  |        |                                       |  |              |                           |  |                 |  |  |                 |                      |  |              |                            |  |              |

| Financial  | Status |  |
|--|--------|---|
| <p>Staff have compiled a preliminary cost estimate ranging between \$5.7 – \$6.0 million. This is based on the cost estimate provided by Beca in the concept design report that excluded the cost for the demolition of the water tower. Council staff subsequently obtained quotes for the demolition and updated the cost estimate.</p>  |        |   |
| Risks/general  | Status |  |
| <p>Staff have identified several risks and want to highlight the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public interest and affected residents in the area surrounding the site requires good communication to minimise negative publicity and expectations</li> <li>• Dealing with asbestos on site – to be communicated to designers and contractors</li> <li>• Temporary works to ensure continuous supply of water while the new reservoir is under construction – The design team to take due care to ensure a robust solution is provided.</li> </ul> |        |   |

# Appendix A: Drawings of existing Site and proposed Development Works





SITE LAYOUT PLAN  
SCALE 1:250

MERCATOR 2000. ORIGIN OF COORDINATES:  
 BH2N (LINZ GEODETIC DATABASE, 06/11/18)  
 488 8560.510mN  
 128 7746.190mE

2. LEVELS ARE IN TERMS OF DUNEDIN - BLUFF VERTICAL DATUM 1960. ORIGIN OF LEVELS (09/10/18):  
 BH2N (LINZ GEODETIC DATABASE, 01/10/18)  
 RL 96.227m

3. ALL DUCTILE IRON TO BE RESTRAINED TYTON-LOK OR SIMILAR APPROVED

4. DUCTS TO BE SEATED AT ALL TERMINATION POINTS USING FLOSEAL + HD OR SIMILAR APPROVED

| LEGEND                   |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>EXISTING SERVICES</b> |   |
|                          | EXISTING STORMWATER                         |
|                          | EXISTING SEWER MAIN                         |
|                          | EXISTING WATER MAIN                         |
|                          | EXISTING POWER CABLES                       |
|                          | EXISTING STORMWATER / SEWER MANHOLE         |
|                          | EXISTING STORMWATER SUMP                    |
|                          | EXISTING FIRE HYDRANT / VALVE / WATER METER |
| <b>PROPOSED SERVICES</b> |   |
|                          | PROPOSED STORMWATER                         |
|                          | POWER & COMMS (UNDERGROUND)                 |
|                          | DRAWPIT                                     |
|                          | EXISTING SERVICES TO BE ABANDONED           |
|                          | PROPOSED STORMWATER SEWER MANHOLE           |
|                          | DN300 PE WATER SUPPLY                       |
|                          | FIRE HYDRANT (FH)                           |
|                          | GATE or SLUICE VALVE                        |
|                          | BACKFLOW PREVENTION VALVE                   |
|                          | TAPPING BAND                                |
|                          | END CAP                                     |
|                          | THRUST BLOCK                                |
|                          | INLINE THRUST BLOCK                         |
|                          | FLANGED TEE                                 |
|                          | WATER METER AT BOUNDARY                     |
|                          | UTILITIES CONNECTION                        |
|                          | FLOWMETER                                   |

| Revision                     | By | Chk | Appr | Date     |
|------------------------------|----|-----|------|----------|
| EPT DESIGN - DRAWING UPDATED | JK | MC  | PAR  | 25.11.21 |
| EPT DESIGN - DRAWING UPDATED | JK | MC  | PAR  | 13.12.21 |
| EPT DESIGN                   | JK | MC  | PAR  | 28.11.21 |

| Original | Design    | Drawn    | Checked      | Approved For |
|----------|-----------|----------|--------------|--------------|
| 1:250    | M. MÄLDER | 10.11.21 | Approved For | 10/11/21     |
| 1:250    | A. ANON   | 22.11.21 | 22/11/21     |              |
| 1:250    | P. REED   | 28.11.21 | 28/11/21     |              |
| 1:500    | M. CONLON | 28.11.21 | 28/11/21     |              |



Project: HILBRE AVENUE RESERVOIR REPLACEMENT

Title: PROPOSED SITE LAYOUT PLAN

**CONCEPT DESIGN**  
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

| Discipline  | Sheet           |
|-------------|-----------------|
| CIVIL WATER | C               |
| Drawing No: | 3365590-CA-K002 |



## 5.2 3 Waters Levels of Service Performance Measures Update

---

|                       |                                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Report to:            | Assets and Infrastructure Committee |
| Meeting date:         | Tuesday, 4 March 2025               |
| Author:               | Aaron Green                         |
| Author title:         | 3 Waters Operations Manager         |
| General Manager lead: | General Manager Critical Services   |
| Report date:          | Monday, 24 February 2025            |
| Confidentiality:      | Public                              |

---

### Purpose

1. To inform the Council on how the department is performing.

### Recommendation

2. That the Committee:
  - a) receives and notes the Level of Service Performance measures update.

### Executive Summary

3. The report shows that the department is continuing to meet the Levels of Service performance measures that are set in the Long Term Plan and reported on each year in the Council's Annual Report.
4. The only ongoing issue is around the response to stormwater flooding which was identified in the first quarter reporting to the Committee in November. There have been no additional issues since this previous report.

### Attachment

Appendix 1 - Levels of Service Performance Measures update – July 2024 to January 2025

## Levels of Service Performance Measures Update – July 2024 to January 2025

| Performance Measures   | Target          | Median Response time (and No of CRM's) |                       |
|--|-----------------|--|-----------------------|
|  |                 | 1/07/2023-31/01/2024                   | 01/07/2024-31/01/2025 |
| <b>Water Supply</b>  |                 |  |                       |
| Water quality complaints received (per 1,000 connections) (NFPM 4) – 5123 Connections to the Network                                   | 8               | 5.5 (28)                               | 3.1 (16)              |
| Response to an urgent customer request (Urban, no water) (NFPM 3a)   | 60 min          | 14 minutes (12)                        | 18.8 minutes (6)      |
| Resolution of an urgent customer request. (Urban, no water) ( NFPM 3b)   | 8 working hours | 6.13 hours (12)                        | 0.83 hours (6)        |
| Response to a non-urgent customer request (NFPM 3c)  | 5 days          | 0.1 days (179)                         | 1.1 days (218)        |
| Resolution of a non-urgent customer request (NFPM 3d)  | 14 days         | 0.6 days (179)                         | 1.7 days (218)        |
| <b>Wastewater</b>  |                 |  |                       |
| The number of dry weather overflows from Council's sewerage system, (per 1,000 connections) (NFPM 1 – 6004 Connections to the Network) | 1               | 0                                      | 0                     |
| Response to an urgent customer request. (Blockage or fault) (NFPM 3a)  | 120 mins        | 49.5 minutes (30)                      | 26.0 minutes (8)      |
| Resolution of an urgent customer request. (Blockage or fault) (NFPM 3b)  | 8 hours         | 4.6 hours (30)                         | 1.9 hours (8)         |
| Response to a general customer request. (Complaints) (NFPM 3a)   | 8 hours         | 0.9 hours (5)                          | 0.61 hours (10)       |
| Resolution of a general customer request. (Complaints) (NFPM 3b)   | 5 days          | <1 day (5)                             | <1 day (10)           |
| Wastewater complaints received (per 1,000 connections) (NFPM 4) – 6004 Connections to the Network                                      | 10              | 0.8 (5)                                | 1.7 (10)              |
| <b>Stormwater</b>  |                 |  |                       |
| Response to a customer request (Flooding event) (NFPM 3)   | 60 min          | 61.5 minutes (10)                      | 95.5 minutes (2)      |
| Stormwater complaints received (per 1,000 properties connected) (NFPM 4) Faults or blockages – 6004 Connections to the Network         | 4               | 1.33 (8)                               | 1.67 (10)             |
| Number of flooding events (that enters a habitable floor) – (NFPM 1a)  | 3               | 0                                      | 0                     |
| Number of habitable floors affected per 1,000 connected properties (per event) (NFPM 1b) – 6004 Connections to the Network             | 2               | 0                                      | 0                     |

## 5.3 Major Capital Roothing Works Progress Report – February 2025

---

|                       |                                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Report to:            | Assets and Infrastructure Committee |
| Meeting date:         | Tuesday, 4 March 2025               |
| Author:               | Murray Hasler                       |
| Author title:         | Roothing Asset Manager              |
| General Manager lead: | General Manager Critical Services   |
| Report date:          | Thursday, 20 February 2025          |
| Confidentiality:      | Public                              |

---

### Purpose

1. To inform the Asset and Infrastructure Committee, at mid-financial year, on progress on the most significant rooding capital works activities within the Gore District.

### Recommendation

2. That the Committee:
  - a) receives and notes the report.

### Executive Summary

3. Progress on the most significant rooding capex works programmed and budgeted for in the 2024-25 financial year is tracking well. The status of these activities at the end of January 2025 was as follows.
  - Rural maintenance metalling – ahead of programme
  - Rural drainage renewals – on target
  - Reseals – yet to start. Due for completion by end of March. Preparations complete.
  - Bridges – single bridge renewal programmed complete. Component replacements progressing.

## Context

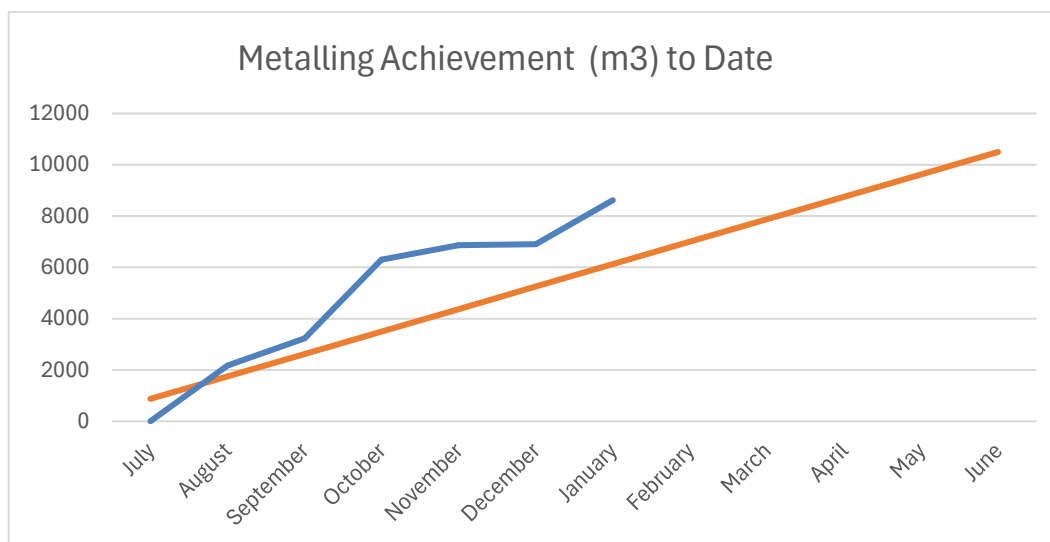
4. A new three-year funding cycle for roading activities in the District commenced on 1 July 2024. Most of the roading activities that are undertaken in the district are co-funded by central government through the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA). Currently, NZTA provides a financial assistance rate (FAR) of 61% to the Council for co-funded activities. The budgets required to undertake these activities during the 2024/2027 3-year cycle were formulated as part of the updating of the Roding Activity Management Plan (RAMP) during 2023 and were subject to Council workshops during that period. The resulting Councillor approved roading budget was submitted to NZTA for approval during the latter part of 2023. The elections in October 2023 brought a change in central Government. The new Government provided a new Government Policy Statement (GPS) for transport. This document sets central Government's priorities for transport along with associated funding. The new GPS significantly differs from the previous GPS on which the budget submission was based. In addition to the changed direction, the new GPS contains major reclassification or groupings of activities. The result of these changes is a shortfall in the NZTA co-funding of some activities. This has limited the Council's ability to undertake some operational and capex roading activities.

## Discussion

### 5. Progress to 31 January 2025

#### *Rural maintenance metalling*

The attached map (Appendix 1) illustrates the sections of rural roads which have had maintenance metal applied since the beginning of the current financial year on 1 July 2024. The map shows sites that were programmed for metalling as well as some sections which have had to be metalled due to extraordinary events, such as flooding. The graph below shows the maintenance metalling quantity placed achievement (8,620m<sup>3</sup>) versus the target quantity for the year (10,500m<sup>3</sup>). The programme was 82% complete at the end of January.

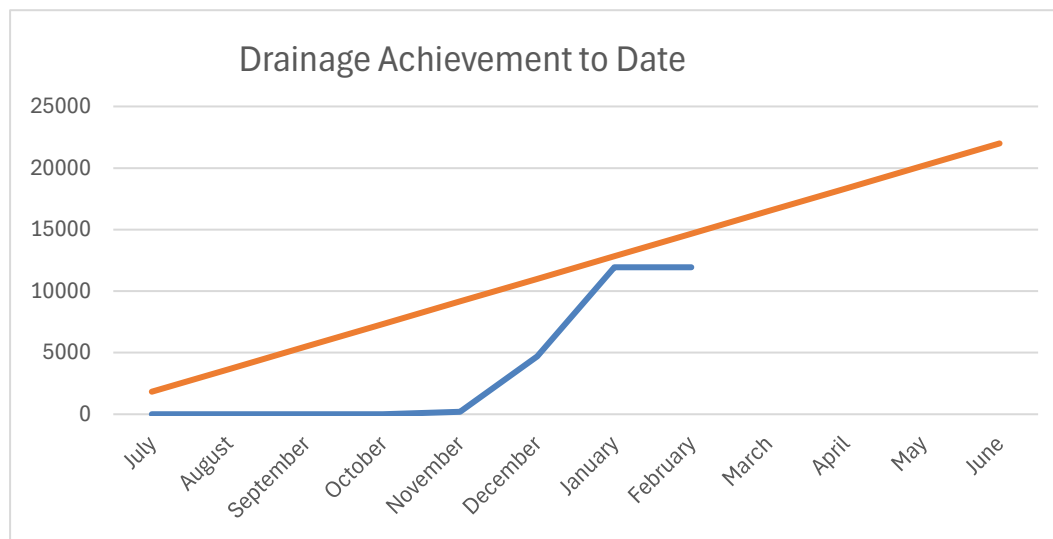


#### *Rural drainage renewals*

At the end of January, 11,939 lineal metres of surface water channels had been renewed at the edges of rural roads in the District. The graph below shows that this almost met the year-to-date target of 12,831 lineal metres. The annual target is 22,000 lineal metres. Wet winter and spring weather delayed the commencement of this work as our contractor was unable to access



dump sites for excavated spoil. This work covers both sealed and unsealed roads, and a significant portion of the work carried out was upgrading drainage on reseal sites programmed for this season. The budget available for this work also covers replacement or major works on stormwater culverts which limits the quantity of surface water channel upgrading which can be undertaken.



### *Reseals*

All pre-reseal sealed pavement repairs have been completed. No reseals had been completed by Fulton Hogan at the end of January, however these are imminent and will, subject to weather, be completed in a relatively short period of time. This season, a total length of 17.6 centreline kms are programmed for reseal spread over 21 sites. A total of 15.3km are on rural roads.

Appendix 2 provides details of the sites programmed for reseal this season.

### *Bridges*

The bulk of the funding available for bridge replacement during the 2024-25 financial year was spent on replacing the Otama Valley Road bridge which was completed in August.

Replacement of the bridge deck on MacGibbon Road was also completed in August using the bridge structural component replacement funding. Discussions are currently in progress with affected landowners regarding potential repairs or replacement of two other rural bridges on Kemp Road and Parker Road. Funding assistance from NZTA for the replacement of these bridges is unlikely. Alternatives are being investigated.

## **Financial Considerations**

6. The roading capex works which are the subject of this report are forecast to meet the approved budgets for the activity classes they belong to.

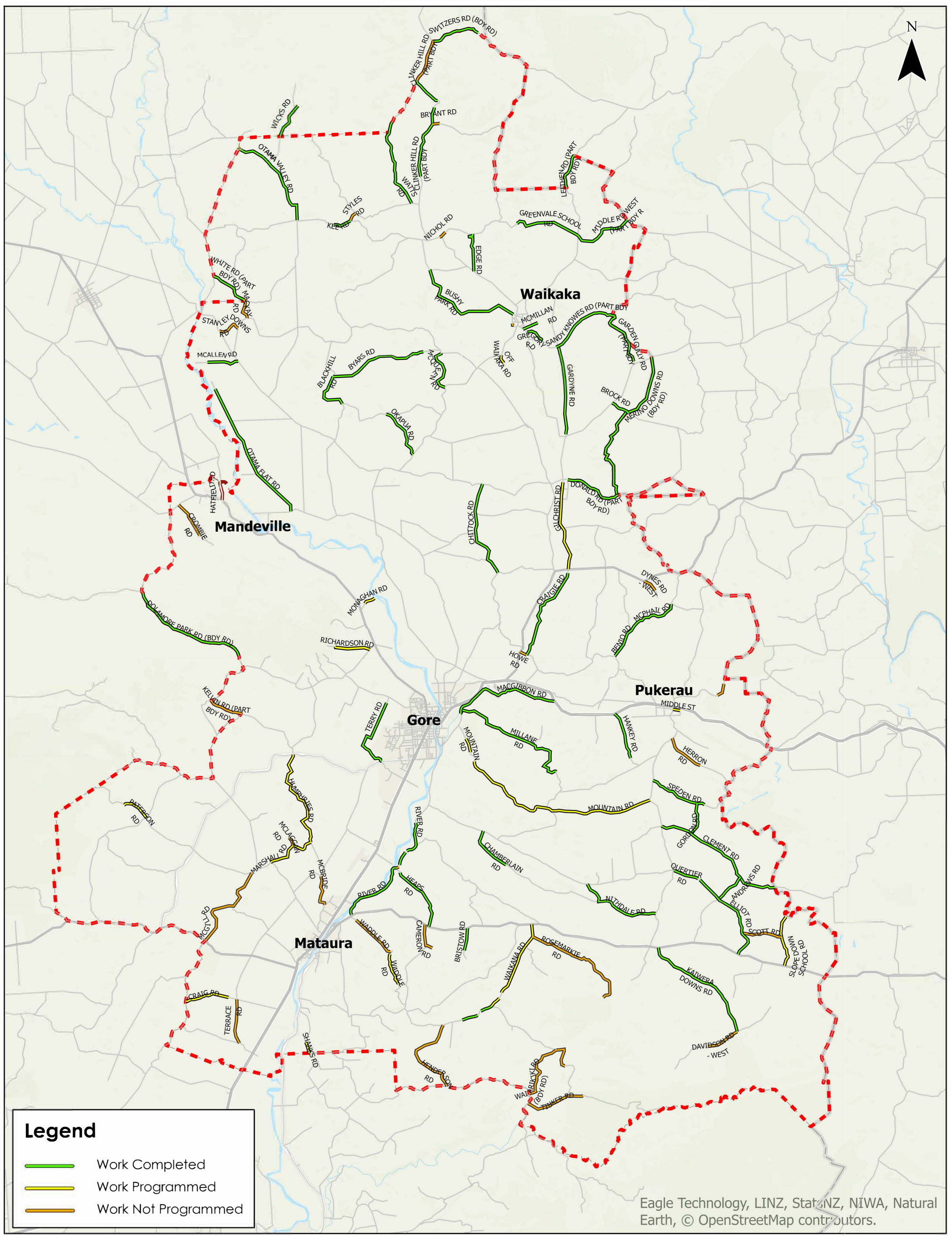
## **Risks**

7. No significant risks to the completion of these activities have been identified.

## **Attachments**

Appendix 1 - GDC metalling programme 2024 2025 - January 2025 progress map

Appendix 2 – GDC reseal sites list 2024 2025



# Gore DC Metalling Programme 2024-2025

Sourced from LINZ Data under the Creative Commons Attribution 4 International License © Not to be reproduced without permission of Gore District Council. The information shown in this plan may not be accurate and is indicative only. The Gore District Council accepts no responsibility for its accuracy or content.



Projection: NZGD2000 / NZ Transverse Mercator 2000

Ref: 2233

User: shewlett

Date Printed: 12/02/2025

| Road name                       | Start | Block start                 | End   | Block end       | Length (m) |
|---------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-------|-----------------|------------|
| <b>ROBERTSON ST</b>             | 604   | Pukaki St                   | 1300  | Coutts Rd       | 696        |
| <b>IRWELL ST - WEST</b>         | 0     | Hokonui Dr SH94             | 263   | Fairfield St    | 263        |
| <b>ALBION ST - EAST</b>         | 126   | Railway                     | 260   | River St        | 134        |
| <b>DUKE ST - EAST</b>           | 0     | Broughton St                | 278   | Duke St South   | 278        |
| <b>WENTWORTH ST</b>             | 2009  | Intersection approach       | 2074  | McKinnon Rd     | 65         |
| <b>DUKE ST - SOUTH</b>          | 0     | Canning St                  | 74    | Duke St East    | 74         |
| <b>WAYLAND ST WEST</b>          | 123   | Car park                    | 295   | End Loop        | 172        |
| <b>ELIZABETH ST</b>             | 0     | Broughton St                | 455   | St Andrew St    | 455        |
| <b>ELIZABETH ST</b>             | 455   | St Andrew St                | 626   | Frank St        | 171        |
| <b>MCKINNON RD</b>              | 0     | Talbot St                   | 1729  | Whiterig Rd     | 1729       |
| <b>WHITERIG RD</b>              | 0     | Boundary Rd                 | 1179  | McKinnon Rd     | 1179       |
| <b>WAIMUMU RD</b>               | 4545  | Lady Charlton Rd            | 5481  | Field Days Site | 936        |
| <b>GLENDHU RD (PART BDY RD)</b> | 3130  | Townsley Rd                 | 5176  | Paterson Rd     | 2046       |
| <b>SELBOURNE ST</b>             | 28    | Railway Crossing            | 35    |                 | 8          |
| <b>OTAMA RD</b>                 | 97    | FH Quarry                   | 3855  | Otama Valley Rd | 3873       |
| <b>MIDDLE ST</b>                | 402   | Pukerau St                  | 851   | Kaiwera Rd      | 449        |
| <b>KAIWERA RD</b>               | 5393  | Mountain Rd                 | 6520  | Clement Rd      | 1127       |
| <b>DIAMOND PEAK RD</b>          | 10520 | Nithdale Rd                 | 13286 | Kaiwera Rd      | 2766       |
| <b>GLENKENICH RD</b>            | 6434  | Brock Rd                    | 6610  | Garden Gully Rd | 176        |
| <b>GLENDHU RD (PART BDY RD)</b> | 1573  | Bridge Approach             | 2353  | Townsley Rd     | 780        |
| <b>SMILLIE RD</b>               | 0     | Waikaka Valley Highway SH90 | 206   | End of seal     | 206        |

## 5.4 Waste Minimisation Act Review - Letter of Support

---

|                       |                                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Report to:            | Assets and Infrastructure Committee |
| Meeting date:         | Tuesday, 4 March 2025               |
| Author:               | Jason Domigan                       |
| Author title:         | General Manager Critical Services   |
| General Manager lead: |                                     |
| Report date:          | Monday, 24 February 2025            |
| Confidentiality:      | Public                              |

---

### Purpose

1. This report provides the Committee with the opportunity to review the request from industry body, WasteMINZ, to request a review of the Waste Minimisation Act with full consultation.

### Recommendation

2. That the Assets and Infrastructure Committee:
  - a) Receives the report “Waste Minimisation Act Review letter of support”;
  - b) Notes the proposed draft letter provided by WasteMINZ (Appendix 1); and
  - c) Recommends to the Council that the Mayor sends the proposed letter of support for a review of the Waste Minimisation Act, with any noted changes.

### Executive Summary

3. In April, Minister for the Environment, Penny Simmonds indicated the Government’s intention to review the Waste Minimisation Act (WMA). Since then, a partial review, including consideration of changes to hypothecation of waste levies, was undertaken. This review resulted in changes to the Ministry for the Environment’s waste policies as outlined below.
4. In November 2022, the then Government agreed to five policies to improve household recycling:
  - standardising the materials collected in household recycling;
  - introducing a Council household recycling service to all urban areas;

- introducing a Council household food scraps service to all urban areas;
  - data reporting for private household recycling providers; and
  - a performance standard for household recycling and food scraps diversion.
5. Of the five policies, only standard materials for household recycling has come into effect.
  6. The Government has agreed the other four policies will no longer go ahead. This is to reduce additional costs on Councils, and to allow more choice around the timing for introducing any new services.
  7. The Government will continue to support Councils to introduce recycling and food scraps collections through the Waste Minimisation Fund.
  8. Industry body, WasteMINZ, has indicated significant concern with the lack of consultation and participation of the local Government sector in this review. It notes in particular, the funding impact which any change to the hypothecation of waste levies would have on the ability of local Government to continue to provide waste management and minimisation services. While hypothecation has not proceeded, they are requesting Councils to consider providing letters of support to ask for two specific things:
    - Proceed with a full review of the WMA, as signalled by Minister Simmonds at the WasteMINZ conference in May 2024, with a transparent and consultative process involving all stakeholders.
    - Commit to making no further changes to the WMA or levy settings outside of this full review process, ensuring that future amendments are debated openly and are subject to select committee scrutiny.
  9. The other Councils, working together through WasteNet, have also received this request. Their support is not known at the time of writing this report.

## Discussion

### Changes to Waste Policies

10. The four main changes signalled are of only minimal immediate impact to the Gore District Council. It means that the Council is not mandated to introduce organic waste collection.

### Hypothecation

11. The Government has chosen not to make changes at this time to the Waste Minimisation Fund nor to Waste Levy funding allocations. For 2022/23 year, the Council received \$123,790 from hypothecated waste levies, with the waste levy set to rise by \$5/tonne per annum over the coming three years in addition to the planned levy increase which occurred on 1 July 2024.
12. For the 2022/23 year, \$2,000,000 was received from targeted and general rates to fund solid waste and civil defence activities. The received waste levy is used to offset the cost of recycling collection and processing activities, thereby offsetting rates.

## Options

- a) Allow the status quo to continue, or



- b) Forward a letter of support for a review of the Waste Minimisation Act, with any noted changes.

### **Financial Considerations**

13. While there are no direct financial considerations in forwarding this letter, any changes to the hypothecation of waste levy funding allocations could have an impact on rates as this shortfall would require further targeted rate funding.

### **Risks**

14. There are no obvious risks to the Council by forwarding this letter.

### **Attachment**

Appendix 1 – WasteMinz draft letter regarding the Waste Minimisation Act.

## Draft letter regarding the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, recent amendments and reviews of the Waste Disposal Levy

### References:

- <https://environment.govt.nz/assets/publications/Proactive-release-full-pack-Waste-Minimisation-Amendment-Bill-final-version.pdf>
- <https://www.treasury.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2024-09/b24-bilat-envir-4984567.pdf>
- <https://environment.govt.nz/oia-releases/request-for-budget-bid-2024-programme-cuts/> (BRF-4418)

### DRAFT LETTER

[XX March 2025]

To the Honourable Ministers:

- Rt Hon Christopher Luxon, Prime Minister
- Hon Penny Simmonds, Minister for the Environment
- Hon Chris Bishop, Minister for Infrastructure
- Hon Nicola Willis, Minister of Finance

CC:

- Hon Simon Watts Brown, Minister of Local Government and Minister of Climate Change

### Request for transparent and consultative review process for future amendments to the Waste Minimisation Act 2008

Through the proactive release of Cabinet papers and Official Information Act disclosures, it has become evident that the recent amendment to the Waste Minimisation Act (WMA) 2008—altering the allocation, scope, and size of the Waste Disposal Levy—was driven primarily by the Government's focus on achieving Budget 2024 savings. This fiscal motivation appears to have taken precedence over the Act's original intent to support waste minimisation and deliver meaningful environmental outcomes.

Further, we are deeply concerned by the decision to make these changes under Budget urgency without public or industry consultation or a select committee process.

The WMA amendment conducted in May 2024 during Budget 24 deliberations was a Cabinet decision made without input from stakeholders, councils, or the public. As part of this decision, Cabinet “invited the Minister, in consultation with the Minister for Regulation, to report back to Cabinet by October 2024 on the performance of government spending funded by the levy, with a focus on value for money, whether private investment is being crowded out, on improved environmental outcomes, and on the market failures surrounding waste disposal that have resulted in the need for a levy.”

We agree that policy should be evidence-based and outcomes-focused. However, the lack of transparency and industry and council consultation surrounding these recent amendments is concerning. Good governance and sound policymaking require open discourse, especially on matters with significant impacts on public health, environmental outcomes, and local government services.

We are also troubled by Treasury's advice (released under the Official Information Act) suggesting de-hypothecation of the levy, effectively transforming it into a new industry tax. This move would erode



the levy's original purpose as a tool to support waste minimisation and would divert funds away from the critical services local government needs to provide to protect public health and wellbeing through safe and resilient waste management and minimisation infrastructure and services.

Territorial authorities have a statutory responsibility under the Waste Minimisation Act to promote and achieve effective and efficient waste management and minimisation. Our Council plays a vital role in waste management and disposal, as readily seen during the severe weather events of 2023.

Local government and our ratepayers also pay for the vast majority of waste minimisation and recycling services available to communities. Our residents highly value these services, which are partly funded through the waste disposal levy. Yet, this funding represents a fraction of our total operating expenditure for managing waste. Any reduction in support through the levy could compromise our ability to fulfil our responsibilities.

The amendments made under Budget urgency have left a range of critical issues unaddressed, and key policies—including decisions on product stewardship schemes for priority products, and the long-awaited container return scheme—remain in limbo. We believe that a full, transparent review of the WMA is necessary to ensure a balanced approach that reflects the needs of both central and local government as well as the waste and recycling sector on whole.

**Therefore, we strongly recommend that the Government:**

- 1. Proceed with a full review of the WMA**, as signalled by Minister Simmonds at the WasteMINZ conference in May 2024, with a transparent and consultative process involving all stakeholders.
- 2. Commit to making no further changes to the WMA or levy settings** outside of this full review process, ensuring that future amendments are debated openly and are subject to select committee scrutiny.

We respectfully request your confirmation that any future changes to the WMA will be subject to a thorough public review and legislative process, ensuring that the voices of all stakeholders, including local councils and industry, are heard and considered.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to your response and to working collaboratively towards sustainable waste management policies that serve both our communities and our environment.

Yours sincerely

[Signatories from the Mayor/s]

## 6. Meeting closed

| Council Mission  |
|--|
| Ensuring a sustainable environment for future generations  |
| Encouraging participation by the people  |
| Providing efficient quality services and facilities that meet the affordable needs and aspirations of the people |