



AGENDA

Wastewater Management Review Committee meeting Wednesday, 11 October 2023

I hereby give notice that a Wastewater Management Review Committee meeting will be held on:

Date: Wednesday, 11 October 2023

Time: 1pm

**Location: Ground Floor Meeting Room 1
306 Cameron Road
Tauranga**

Please note that this meeting will be livestreamed and the recording will be publicly available on Tauranga City Council's website: www.tauranga.govt.nz.

**Marty Grenfell
Chief Executive**

Terms of reference – Wastewater Management Review Committee

Membership

Chairperson	Ms Lara Burkhardt – Ngā Pōtiki
Deputy chairperson	Commissioner Bill Wasley – Tauranga City Council
Members	Commissioner Stephen Selwood – Tauranga City Council Commissioner Bill Wasley – Tauranga City Council Commissioner Shadrach Rolleston – Tauranga City Council (<i>alternate member</i>) Mr Spencer Webster – Ngā Pōtiki Mr Whitiora McLeod - Ngāi Te Rangi Mr Des Heke - Ngāti Ranginui Ms Destiny Leaf – Ngāti Ranginui (<i>alternate member</i>)
Quorum	Four members with at least one member representing Tauranga City Council and one member representing Ngā Pōtiki
Decision-making	By consensus where possible. If consensus cannot be reached, by majority vote. If there is an equal number of votes, the member who is chairing the meeting has a casting vote.
Meeting frequency	A minimum of twice yearly
Meeting venue	To alternate between marae and council venues; or as appropriate to a meeting agreed by the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson.

The Committee previously had a membership of eight, four elected members from Tauranga City Council (TCC) and four iwi. Currently the membership will be reduced to six, two Commissioners appointed to represent the TCC and four who are appointed as representatives of iwi, with one member each from Ngāti Ranginui and Te Runanga o Ngāi Te Rangi Iwi Trust and two members representing Ngā Pōtiki ā Tamapahore Trust Board.

The Wastewater Management Review Committee is established as a committee of Council under the Local Government Act 2002 and conditions imposed on Bay of Plenty Regional Council Coastal Permit # 62878.

Role

- To ensure Wastewater operations are in accordance with the Wastewater Management Review Committee Management Plan.

Scope

- (a) To receive reports on the operation of the Wastewater Scheme, including reports in relation to monitoring and permit compliance, and to make recommendations to the Permit Holder on the development of Tauranga City Council's policies in relation to wastewater management, treatment and disposal, particularly following the review of wastewater treatment in light of new technologies and standards addressed in the Monitoring, Upgrade and Technology Review Report required by Condition 20 of Coastal Permit N^o 62878.

- (b) To make decisions about the application of the Environmental Mitigation and Enhancement Fund established in accordance with Condition 19 of Coastal Permit N^o 62878.
- (c) To make recommendations to the Permit Holder as to physical measures and initiatives to address or compensate for actual or potential effects of the Tauranga City Wastewater Scheme (in the broadest environmental sense).
- (d) Without limiting the generality of function (c) above, to make recommendations to the Permit Holder as to the implementation of the works to be undertaken in accordance with Permit N^o 62881, namely:
 - (i) Decommissioning of the Te Maunga Sludge Pond and the future use of the pond.
 - (ii) Conversion of the Te Maunga Oxidation Ponds to wetlands.
- (e) To make recommendations to the Permit Holder in relation to the independent consultant to be appointed to undertake the Monitoring, Upgrade and Technology Review Report required by Condition 20 of Coastal Permit N^o 62878.
- (f) To make recommendations to the Permit Holder as to enhancing the involvement of tangata whenua in sampling, testing and monitoring.
- (g) Assessment of the scope and adequacy of sampling and monitoring.
- (h) Notification to appropriate parties of activities that may have adverse effects.
- (i) To receive, review and recommend action following receipt of wastewater reports.
- (j) To recommend the commissioning of reports and future Tauranga City Council actions on wastewater management, treatment and disposal issues and options, including:
 - (i) Development of alternatives to waterborne wastewater systems;
 - (ii) Options for further treatments;
 - (iii) Options for methods of disposal;
 - (iv) Monitoring effects on the environment.
- (k) To co-ordinate and oversee education of the community on wastewater management, treatment and disposal issues.
- (l) To identify and make recommendations to the Permit Holder as to sources of funding which may be available to supplement the Environmental Mitigation and Enhancement Fund established pursuant to Condition 19 of Coastal Permit N^o 62878 hereof and to be applied for the purposes specified in that condition.
- (m) To make recommendations to the Permit Holder as to changes to conditions of these permits pursuant to section 127 of the Resource Management Act 1991, in light of the exercise of the Review Committee's functions, including reports received and information received as a result of monitoring, etc. or to avoid, remedy or mitigate actual or potential adverse effects associated with the operation of the Wastewater Scheme.
- (n) To foster robust relationships and dialogue between the Review Committee, the Permit Holder, the Western Bay of Plenty District Council and Bay of Plenty Regional Council in relation to wastewater management, treatment and disposal, particularly following the review of wastewater treatment in light of new technologies.
- (o) To make recommendations to Bay of Plenty Regional Council as to amendments to the conditions of these permits which could be implemented via a review under section 128 of the Act in accordance with Condition 22 of Coastal Permit N^o 62878.
- (p) Prior to making any:
 - (i) Decisions as to the allocation of the Environmental Mitigation and Enhancement Fund in accordance with Condition 18.3(b) of Coastal Permit N^o 62878 hereof or,
 - (ii) Recommendations to the Permit Holder in relation to physical environmental mitigation or enhancement or mitigation works in accordance with Condition 18.3(c) of Coastal Permit N^o 62878 hereof; -

the Review Committee will exercise its best endeavours to ascertain the existence of any persons or bodies who may have a particular interest or stake in the ecological health of the

Tauranga Harbour (particularly the Upper Harbour/Rangataua Bay area) and to consult with those bodies or persons as to appropriate initiatives and measures to be so recommended (in accordance with Condition 18.3(b) of Coastal Permit N^o 62878) or undertaken (in accordance with Condition 18.3(c) of Coastal Permit N^o 62878). As a minimum, the Review Committee shall consult with

- Nga Potiki Kaitiaki Resource Management Unit hapu and iwi of Te Runanga o Ngaiterangi Iwi Trust, Ngati Ranginui and Ngati Pukenga and Te Arawa and their respective hapu which hold kaitiaki status over the wider Tauranga Moana district, including any Working Group established by those hapu or iwi;
 - Bay of Plenty Regional Council and the Western Bay of Plenty District Council in relation to issues which may affect those councils in accordance with their function under Condition 18.3(m) of Coastal Permit N^o 62878 hereof.
- (q) Not later than one month following the first anniversary of the commencement of these permits and on each anniversary thereafter, the Wastewater Management Review Committee shall forward to the General Manager, Bay of Plenty Regional Council, a report on the exercise of its activities and functions, including where appropriate a report on the effectiveness of measures undertaken pursuant to the Environmental Mitigation and Enhancement Fund.
- (r) Not less than six months following the first anniversary of this permit and each fifth anniversary thereafter, the Wastewater Management Review Committee's annual report shall contain a review of its activities over the previous five-year period and recommendations for appropriate initiatives over the next five-year period, including any recommendations for changes to conditions of these permits which may be considered necessary or desirable. This report shall be available at least three months prior to the date on which Bay of Plenty Regional Council is entitled to review the conditions of these permits in accordance with Condition 22 of Coastal Permit N^o 62878 hereof.
- (s) A copy of this report shall also be provided to the Chief Executive, Tauranga City Council.
- (t) As set out in Condition 18.1.3 of Coastal Permit N^o 62878, the Wastewater Management Review Committee Management Plan may be amended with the written approval of the Chief Executive of Bay of Plenty Regional Council or delegate.
- (u) Confirmation of Committee minutes.

Reporting

The Wastewater Management Review Committee reports to Council and the Chief Executive of the Bay of Plenty Regional Council.

Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson acting as Co-Chairs

The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the Wastewater Management Review Committee (WWMRC) have a governance role to ensure that the WWMRC meets regularly and undertakes its role to monitor and provide advice to Tauranga City Council as the consent holder of Bay of Plenty Regional Council Coastal Permit # 62878 and ensure wastewater operations are in accordance with the Wastewater Management Plan.

- The Chairperson will be appointed by the Tauranga City Council following a recommendation of the Wastewater Management Review Committee.
- The Deputy Chairperson will be appointed by the Wastewater Management Review Committee.
- While these roles are separately appointed it is the intention that they act as co-chairs.
 - Only one person can chair a meeting at any one time. The person chairing the meeting has the powers of the chairperson as set out in standing orders and has the option to use the casting vote in the case of an equality of votes.

- The rotation of the meeting chairs is at the discretion of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson and subject to their availability, however it is expected that they will alternate chairing meetings when possible.
- When the Deputy Chairperson is chairing the meeting, the Chairperson will vacate the chair and enable the Deputy Chairperson to chair the meeting. The Chairperson will be able stay and participate in the meeting unless they declare a conflict of interest in an item, in which case they will not participate or vote on that item.
- The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson will attend pre-agenda briefings and split any other duties outside of meetings, e.g. spokesperson for WWMRC.
- The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson will jointly oversee and co-ordinate all activities of the WWMRC within their specific terms of reference and delegated authority, providing guidance and direction to all members and liaising with Council staff in setting the content and priorities of meeting agendas.
- The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson will be accountable for ensuring that any recommendations from the WWMRC are considered by the Tauranga City Council.

Refer to the position description for the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson for more details.

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- 1 OPENING KARAKIA**
- 2 APOLOGIES**
- 3 PUBLIC FORUM**
- 4 ACCEPTANCE OF LATE ITEMS**
- 5 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS TO BE TRANSFERRED INTO THE OPEN**
- 6 CHANGE TO ORDER OF BUSINESS**

7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

7.1 Minutes of the Wastewater Management Review Committee meeting held on 31 May 2023

File Number: A15162645

Author: Anahera Dinsdale, Governance Advisor

Authoriser: Anahera Dinsdale, Governance Advisor

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Minutes of the Wastewater Management Review Committee meeting held on 31 May 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Minutes of the Wastewater Management Review Committee meeting held on 31 May 2023**



MINUTES

Wastewater Management Review Committee meeting Wednesday, 31 May 2023

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**MINUTES OF TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL
WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE GROUND FLOOR MEETING ROOM 1, 306 CAMERON ROAD, TAURANGA
ON WEDNESDAY, 31 MAY 2023 AT 1 PM**

PRESENT: Commissioner Bill Wasley (Deputy Chairperson who chaired the meeting as per terms of reference), Ms Lara Burkhardt (Chairperson), Commissioner Stephen Selwood, Mr Des Heke, Mr Whitiora McLeod, Mr Spencer Webster

IN ATTENDANCE: Nic Johansson (General Manager: Infrastructure), Jane Groves (Stormwater Programme Leader), , Radleigh Cairns (Manager: Drainage Services), Jim Summers (Consents Officer), Claudia Hellberg (Team Leader: City Waters Planning), Keren Paekau (Team Leader: Pou Takawaenga)Coral Hair (Manager: Democracy & Governance Services) andAnahera Dinsdale (Governance Advisor)

Nicola Houlding (Canopy Consulting)

1 OPENING KARAKIA

Mr Des Heke opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 APOLOGIES

Nil

3 PUBLIC FORUM

Nil

4 ACCEPTANCE OF LATE ITEMS

Nil

5 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS TO BE TRANSFERRED INTO THE OPEN

Nil

6 CHANGE TO ORDER OF BUSINESS

Nil

7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

7.1 Minutes of the Wastewater Management Review Committee meeting held on 31 August 2022

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WW1/23/1

Moved: Mr Whitiora McLeod

Seconded: Commissioner Bill Wasley

That the minutes of the Wastewater Management Review Committee meeting held on 31 August 2022 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

8 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

9 BUSINESS

9.1 Wastewater Programme Business Case

Staff Nic Johansson, General Manager: Infrastructure Services
Jane Groves, Stormwater Programme Leader

External Nicola Houlding (Canopy Consulting)

Key points

- The project team had been working on the Programme Business Case (PBC) for some time to provide a way forward for future investment in the wastewater scheme including investment in the water treatment plants and the wastewater network as a whole.
- The initial focus was for the future plans of the marine outfall because of the connection between the marine outfall, the wastewater network and the water treatment plant.
- The key issues found were set out in Attachment 1 of the report.
- There was a broad range of responses to implement, both infrastructure and non infrastructure including educational and policy initiatives.
- Looking at the new water services entity and how the wastewater system may service a broader region and any areas where consenting may be compromised.
- Checking with the level of comfort held by the Committee, aside from the four matters which would be discussed further, to enable staff to move on with subsequent stages of the PBC to embed the foundational aspects and to start looking at what potential responses could be targeted to meet the investment objectives.
- Staff had learnt a lot from the process, including the level of detail early in the stages with all of the parties coming together providing a joint understanding of the matters and issues.

In response to questions

- The shortlist stage would be provided to Council in draft before the end of the year and the drafting of the business case would be in early 2024. There would be a gap in having the options in the long list identified and the studies and investigations that needed to take place.
- The shortlist was a way forward, and once Council had approved that, it would be turned into a road map with the detail and tranches of work and details in the short and long term. The road map would not be started until staff were aware of which high priority shortlist options to take forward.
- It was noted that there were some high targets set for levels of service for the impact of water on all of the wastewater services within the network. Staff were working collaboratively with all partners to get the best outcomes for the city.
- Once the PBC was decided, the Council would report to the Department of Internal Affairs.
- Staff were looking for consensus on everything, but there were several items of wording where consensus had not been able to be achieved.
- The possibility of developing a Terms of Reference around the decision making process was discussed, especially when a consensus was not reached or a Hui te Marama – to work through the options, drawing on everyone's knowledge and experience to try to reach consensus.
- It was agreed to return the issues back to the project team for additional input as appropriate, including possible legal advice, to work through and resolve the four matters and then the project team was asked to report back to the Committee for consideration.
- In relation to the pathway forward, it was noted that there was concern with words such as 'avoid' as the meaning under the Resource Management Act (RMA) statutory definition could have significant implications in a PBC. Other matters included the phrase 'must not disturb

urupa or waahi tapu sites' and what that meant, whether there was alternate routes and the implications of that.

- It was noted that the wider application of hapū and iwi management plans, the number and dating of those, could be a significant workload and matters of strategic level might still achieve the same outcome.

Discussion points raised

- Commissioners noted that there was a need to understand the view of tangata whenua and whether they were open to these options, a pathway forward and having those conversations to achieve a better outcome.
- Concern was expressed that the report was from Council staff with a Council perspective and tangata whenua had not had any input into the document or had an opportunity to present a separate written report for the Committee to consider. Therefore there was the inability to reach agreement as the Committee had not been advised of the tangata whenua perspective. It was agreed that the opportunity be given for tangata whenua to provide a written report to the Committee.
- The use of the wording, "avoid" or "seek to avoid", unless it was in a regional plan, it did not mean anything but did change the meaning. It was considered that the phrases sat in the business case, but was being treated as if they were in an RMA document. "Seek to avoid" was different to "avoid" and gave the Council flexibility. It was suggested that legal advice be sought around these terms to give comfort to the Committee on how they might be used. The project team needed to have this discussion to ensure it had not misdirected itself in terms of what the implications might be of using these terms.
- The Committee referred the original recommendations back to staff and the project team for further consideration at a subsequent meeting to be held on 12 July 2023.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WW1/23/2

Moved: Commissioner Stephen Selwood

Seconded: Commissioner Bill Wasley

That the Wastewater Management Review Committee:

- (a) Refers the Wastewater Programme Business Case Report back to the Project Team with a request that the views of tangata whenua on any areas that required clarification be expressed in writing.
- (b) Requests the Project Team to hold a subsequent meeting after receipt of the written views from Tangata Whenua with a view to resolving any outstanding matters.
- (c) Holds a further committee meeting to receive the update from the Project Team.

CARRIED

At 2.02pm the meeting adjourned.

At 2.05pm the meeting reconvened.

9.2 Wastewater Management Review Committee Activity Report

Staff Nic Johansson, General Manager: Infrastructure Services
Jim Summers, Consents Officer

Key points

- Desludging commenced in August 2022.
- There had been no new odour complaints at the Chapel Street or Te Maunga Treatment Plants.

- Two notices for discharge consents were due to the heavy rain fall in March 2023. Chapel Street was pushed to its limits and resulted in a discharge of non UV treated wastewater due to a software failure.
- The May 2023 event was a heavier and localised rainfall which resulted in the peak flows exceeding the Chapel Street's ability to discharge to the Te Maunga pipeline, resulting in the plant discharging for approximately 90 minutes into the harbour. It was noted that the UV Plant was fully operational and no emergency discharge was recorded at the Te Maunga Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- It was noted that from August 2022 to May 2023 there were 112 wastewater blockages - 81 of those did not leave the network and were contained to land; 12 were contained within the stormwater network or on land; 19 overflows potentially made the receiving environment and were notified to Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Toi Te Ora and local iwi/ hapū and signage placed in the relevant areas.
- The implementation of the Inflow and Infiltration Strategy helped to take the pressure off the network in huge weather events.
- The previous biosolidstes strategy from 2016 would be provided to Members.
- Desludging of pond 1 and the decommissioning would be reported at each committee meeting.
- The construction of Te Maunga bioreactor two was progressing with the ground improvement work scheduled to be completed in December 2023. The above ground works commenced in January 2023 and would last for approximately 15 months.
- The landward outfall project was now completed.
- Works on the marine section of the outfall were underway with 400m cleared of debris and further work would continue when the weather permits.
- Clarifier Number 3 piling trials were completed in September 2022.

In response to questions

- The main cause of blockages was fats and wipes. Staff looked at catchment areas in an attempt to pin point blockage areas, cracks, slumps or dips within the network.
- Modelling had been carried out within the wastewater network around the city. Storm and ground water were not monitored but staff were aware there was more ground water across the country at present due to the weather.
- The current rate of progress for desludging enabled disposal of 6,000 – 7,000 dry tonnes in the first stage of the project and there may still be more sludge in the pond. There was an option on the table for removing any further sludging material if there was a need to continue past the current consents.

Discussion points raised

- Mr Whitiora McLeod and Ms Te Rangimarie Williams were the current Environmental Mitigation and Enhancement Fund Members however as Ms Williams was no longer a Member of this Committee, she needed to be replaced.
- The Chairperson, Members and staff thanked Te Rangimarie Williams for her service to the Committee.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WW1/23/3

Moved: Mr Des Heke

Seconded: Commissioner Stephen Selwood

That the Wastewater Management Review Committee:

- (a) Receives the report " Wastewater Management Review Committee Activity Report".
- (b) Replaces Te Rangimarie Williams on the Environmental Mitigation and Enhancement Fund Panel with Lara Burkhardt.

CARRIED

Attachments

- 1 Presentation - Matapihi Southern Pipeline Advisory Group - PDF

10 DISCUSSION OF LATE ITEMS

Nil

11 CLOSING KARAKIA

Mr Des Heke closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 2:42pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed as a true and correct record at the Wastewater Management Review Committee meeting held on 11 October 2023.

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CHAIRPERSON

UNCONFIRMED

8 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

9 BUSINESS

9.1 Wastewater Programme Business Case

File Number: A15085364

Author: Jane Groves, Stormwater Programme Leader

Authoriser: Nic Johansson, General Manager: Infrastructure

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. This report provides an update on progress made on the Wastewater Programme Business Case (PBC) since the last WWMRC meeting on 31st May 2023. It seeks endorsement of agreed actions following a recent project hui held between staff and tangata whenua project team members on 13th September 2023. This meeting was held in response to a tangata whenua paper (The Paper) received on 29th August 2023 which set out outstanding and additional matters for discussion.
2. This report requests that the WWMRC endorse **b)**. PBC outputs that were presented at the 31st May WWMRC meeting for endorsement and **c)**. agreed actions from the September 2023 hui. If **b)** and **c)** are endorsed, the WWMRC is then asked to endorse **d)** external engagement and **e)** subsequent stages of the PBC commencing.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Wastewater Management Review Committee:

- (a) Receives the report "Wastewater Programme Business Case".
- (b) Endorse the PBC outputs (as set out below and in **Attachment 1** which were presented at the 31st May WWMRC meeting for endorsement). Those items coloured green in the attachment are not confirmed and are addressed separately in c) below.
 - Investment Logic Map: confirms problem statements and define benefits from investment
 - Benefits, KPIs and Measures: baseline and target values to be confirmed
 - Investment Objectives
 - Key Service Requirements (KSRs): describe a change sought, and the degree of change (minimum, intermediate, maximum) the programme investment is expected to deliver. Subsequent steps of the PBC will identify responses capable of delivering the respective levels of change for each KSR. The KSRs are broad, and include growth and geographical coverage, tangata whenua partnership and values, environmental considerations and resilience requirements.
 - Scope parameters: the scope boundaries for the investment (based on the KSRs). Only options within the range of minimum, intermediate and maximum will be assessed.
- (c) Endorse actions as agreed at the 13th September hui:
 - i. All reporting to the WWMRC in relation to the PBC will be joint, and as such, represent the views of the PBC project team as a whole.
 - ii. Amend KSR 6 to '**Promotes opportunities for strong and enduring partnerships with tangata whenua**' and directly incorporate KSR 8 level/metric and scope levels as noted below.

KSR	Level/metric	Scope levels		
		Minimum (Critical)	Intermediate (Desirable)	Maximum (Aspirational)
6 Promotes opportunities for strong and enduring partnerships with tangata whenua <i>(enabling active protection and informed decision-making)</i>	Extent to which impact on iwi/hapu from existing arrangements taken into account in wastewater decisions.	Iwi and hapū of Tauranga Moana impacted by wastewater infrastructure are supported in their visions for the restoration of their whenua / wai / taiao, giving special regard to impact of Te Maunga wastewater infrastructure on <u>Ngā Pōtiki</u> whenua, <u>wai</u> and <u>taiao</u> .		Iwi and hapū of Tauranga Moana impacted by wastewater infrastructure are supported in their visions for the restoration and return of their whenua / wai / taiao, giving special regard to impact of Te Maunga wastewater infrastructure on <u>Ngā Pōtiki</u> whenua, <u>wai</u> and <u>taiao</u> .
	Decision-making quality, authority and capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Te Tiriti o Waitangi and Treaty of Waitangi Partnership Principles are given effect to. 3 Waters legislative requirements met (incl. co-governance provisions). Partnership is enabled and effective at all levels (including co-design) <i>(active protection and informed decision making)</i> Partners are enabled by timely, relevant, high-quality information <i>(informed decision-making)</i> Partners have sufficient capability and capacity to act effectively 	No Intermediate scope set	No Maximum scope set
	Partnership health/maturity	Partnership health is prioritised, sufficiently resourced and reported on through long term mechanisms/fora	No Intermediate scope set	No Intermediate scope set

- iii. Amend wording for KSR 11 to **‘Actively seeks practicable alternative options to the two consented overflows from the WWTPs’**. The level/metric has also been amended to reflect this change. The scope levels remain unchanged.

KSR	Level/metric	Minimum (Critical)	Intermediate (Desirable)	Maximum (Aspirational)
11	Seeks to avoid direct wet weather wastewater overflows to wai receiving environments	No increase in extent of direct wet weather wastewater overflows to wai receiving environments	Reduction in extent of direct wet weather wastewater overflows to wai receiving environments	Minimise direct wet weather wastewater overflows to wai receiving environments

NEW KSR NAME:
Actively seek practicable alternative options to the two consented overflows from the WWTPs

NEW KSR LEVEL/METRIC:
Extent of direct wet weather wastewater overflows to wai receiving environments from 2 consented overflows from the WWTPs

- iv. Add a new CSF17 **‘Must not disturb additional urupā or wāhi tapu sites’ (or similar wording), noting that further discussion will be needed by the project team in order to apply this CSF due to uncertainty around the wording of ‘disturb’ and ‘additional’. Wording to be agreed once clarification achieved by the Project Team’**.
- v. Add long list assessment criteria on **‘Hapū and Iwi Management Plans’**
- vi. Amend wording for CSF 10 to **‘Must not discharge wastewater directly to natural freshwater receiving environments’**.
- vii. Amend KSR 12 to **‘Actively seek practicable alternative options to the discharge of wastewater to seawater’**. The metric and scope levels for this KSR will need to be confirmed with the project team.
- viii. Request that the WWMRC ask staff to investigate the separation of mortuary waste from the wastewater stream for report back at future WWMRC meetings.

-
- ix. Continue to work together on the 'Terms of Reference', paying particular attention to setting out PBC purpose, decision-making and PBC approval, with a view to finalising within one month of this meeting.
 - (d) On the basis of endorsement being given for recommendations b) and c) i.-ix. gives approval for external engagement to commence on the PBC (and confirmed outputs); and,
 - (e) Approves subsequent stages of the PBC commencing, starting with long-list option identification in October/November 2023.
-

BACKGROUND

Wastewater Programme Business Case Overview

- 3. The PBC will define a 'preferred way forward' for future investment in the wastewater scheme (including the marine outfall) and broader initiatives to improve environmental performance, strengthen partnerships with tangata whenua and improve system resilience. Tauranga City Council (TCC) is currently working on integrating its network and plant strategies to support integrated investment and the PBC will both reflect and support this integration.
- 4. A project team (planning/technical experts, staff and three Tangata Whenua Iwi representatives) have been working through the initial stages of the PBC (utilising Treasury's Better Business Case framework). The Tangata Whenua representatives were invited to join the project team on the basis of them also being members of the WWMRC (and thus having a pan-scheme mandate).
- 5. The PBC process involves defining key issues with the wastewater scheme, the development of objectives and service requirements for future investment and proposes possible options or responses which could be implemented to meet service requirements. These responses may include both infrastructure and non-infrastructure options (e.g. educational and policy setting/coverage changes). The PBC will provide a 'preferred way forward' and 'roadmap' for future investment across the wastewater scheme as a whole.
- 6. The PBC will guide strategic planning for Council's wastewater activity, inform future detailed business cases (DBC's), resource consenting process (such as that for a new marine outfall) and key strategic documents such as the Long-Term Plan and 30 Year Infrastructure Strategy. It will also set the scene for wastewater when Tauranga City potentially moves into a new water services entity, demonstrating a robust decision process has been followed which is recognised by central government. It provides an opportunity for Tauranga to show what great looks like in terms of collaborative, long-term planning.

Progress Following 31st May 2023 WWMRC Meeting

- 7. This report provides an update on the PBC since last reporting to the WWMRC on 31st May 2023. At this meeting the WWMRC were asked to endorse a range of outputs and make decisions on four outstanding matters. The recommendations, as put forward in the 31st May report are reproduced in **Attachment 2** (for information).
- 8. At this meeting tangata whenua members of the project team expressed their disappointment with the report commenting that it did not represent the views of the project team as a whole and that it was staff's perspective on the outstanding matters only.
- 9. In response to these comments, the WWMRC:
 - (a) *Referred the Wastewater PBC Report back to the project team with a request that the views of tangata whenua on any areas that required clarification be expressed in writing.*
 - (b) *Requested the project team to hold a subsequent meeting after receipt of the written views from tangata whenua with a view to resolving any outstanding matters.*
 - (c) *Holds a further committee meeting to receive the update from the project team.*

10. Staff received 'The Paper' on behalf of tangata whenua project team members on 29th August (**Attachment 3, Tauranga City Council Wastewater Programme Business Case, Tangata Whenua Paper, 29 August 2023**). On 13th September all convened at a hui to discuss the matters raised and try and reach agreement on a way forward. This report outlines the key matters raised and sets out the agreed position of Council staff and tangata whenua members of the Project Team. Given the nature of the matters raised, and required WWMRC reporting timeframes, Council staff are comfortable that the wider Project Team will be briefed on developments after the 11th October WWMRC meeting.
11. **Reporting to WWMRC:** Following reporting to the 31st May WWMRC, there was a clear desire for some mechanism of joint reporting to future WWMRC meetings to ensure that perspective of all was appropriately presented. This was strongly reiterated in point 5 of 'The Paper'. It was agreed at the hui that all reporting going forward to the WWMRC in relation to the PBC would represent the collective view of the PBC project team.

Agreed Action: All reporting to the WWMRC in relation to the PBC will be joint, and as such, represent the views of the PBC project team as a whole.

12. **PBC Scope Regarding Cultural Redress:** At the 31st May meeting, the WWMRC were asked to consider whether a KSR (8) relating to the extent to which the impact on iwi/hapū from existing arrangements is taken into account in wastewater decisions should be included in the PBC. Specifically, whether a) Cultural redress should be included and b) if so, was the proposed Minimum and Aspirational scope wording presented acceptable. Refer **Attachment 2** for specific wording.

- In relation to the proposed KSR 8, the following comments were made in the 31st May WWMRC report: The definition to 'Provide greater equity in wastewater decision-making' does not align well with the metric and scope descriptions which relate to: *i) mitigation of effects for cultural effects of existing wastewater infrastructure, ii) restoring whenua/wai/taiao; and iii) returning whenua/wai/taiao*. Should the WWMRC decide to include this KSR within the scope of the PBC, staff recommend renaming this KSR to more clearly reflect its purpose (refer options for possible wording).
- In Points 7 and 8 of 'The Paper' tangata whenua project team members describe the intent behind this KSR, namely, to ensure historical and ongoing effects associated with the taking of Nga Potiki and others lands for public works infrastructure are taken into account when making decisions. 'The Paper', in point 8a and b categorically states that this should not be referred to as 'cultural redress' and that KSR is not asking WWMRC or the WWPBC to provide for cultural redress or the return of lands, rather that the KSR for a future wastewater management system "**supports tangata whenua's vision to have land returned**". "For us, this includes meaning that action will not be taken in the WWPBC that would mean that tangata whenua could not pursue their aspirations in this respect, and that it is not automatically assumed that wastewater infrastructure would remain on tangata whenua lands that were taken under public works legislation".
- At the hui between Council staff and tangata whenua project team members on 13th September, and following further clarification from tangata whenua project team members on intent, reference to 'cultural redress' was removed from this KSR, and the intention to 'promote opportunities for partnership' agreed.
- An existing KSR (6) sets out the lenses through which the wastewater programme is to enable strong and enduring partnerships with tangata whenua. The 'extent to which the impact on iwi/hapu from existing arrangements is taken into account in wastewater decisions' provides one such lens, and it was subsequently agreed to amend existing KSR (6) to '*Promotes opportunities for strong and enduring partnerships with tangata whenua*' and to directly incorporate the KSR 8 metric and levels, as shown below.
- The 'Minimum (Critical)' and 'Maximum (Aspirational)' scope levels, as written currently provide for iwi and hapū of Tauranga Moana being supported by Council in their vision for the 'restoration (minimum scope)' and 'restoration and return (maximum scope)' of their whenua/wai/taiao. Although it is recognised that these aspects extend beyond the

scope of the WWMRC (and PBC) alone, and that there are other statutory requirements and processes that Council would be required to step through, e.g. Local Government Act 1974/2022 (LGA)/ Reserves Act 1977 (depending on land ownership), the Project Team agree that the PBC should reflect and support this vision and follow/implement as it can any Council-led direction in this regard.

Agreed Action: Amend wording of KSR 6 to ‘Promotes opportunities for strong and enduring partnerships with tangata whenua’, and directly incorporate the KSR8 level/metric and scope levels as noted below (amended and incorporated text shown in green).

13.

KSR	Level/metric	Minimum (Critical)	Scope levels	
			Intermediate (Desirable)	Maximum (Aspirational)
6 Promotes opportunities for strong and enduring partnerships with tangata whenua <i>(enabling active protection and informed decision-making)</i>	Extent to which impact on iwi/hapu from existing arrangements taken into account in wastewater decisions.	Iwi and hapū of Tauranga Moana impacted by wastewater infrastructure are supported in their visions for the restoration of their whenua / wai / taiao, giving special regard to impact of Te Maunga wastewater infrastructure on Ngā Pōtiki whenua, wai and taiao.		Iwi and hapū of Tauranga Moana impacted by wastewater infrastructure are supported in their visions for the restoration and return of their whenua / wai / taiao, giving special regard to impact of Te Maunga wastewater infrastructure on Ngā Pōtiki whenua, wai and taiao.
	Decision-making quality, authority and capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Te Tiriti o Waitangi and Treaty of Waitangi Partnership Principles are given effect to. – 3 Waters legislative requirements met (incl. co-governance provisions). – Partnership is enabled and effective at all levels (including co-design) <i>(active protection and informed decision making)</i> – Partners are enabled by timely, relevant, high-quality information <i>(informed decision-making)</i> – Partners have sufficient capability and capacity to act effectively 	No Intermediate scope set	No Maximum scope set
	Partnership health/maturity	Partnership health is prioritised, sufficiently resourced and reported on through long term mechanisms/fora	No Intermediate scope set	No Intermediate scope set

KSR 11 ‘Seek to avoid direct wet weather wastewater overflows to wai receiving environments’: The WWMRC was asked on 31st May to consider whether KSR 11 'Seek to avoid direct wet weather wastewater overflows to wai receiving environments' should be included as a KSR, and, if included whether the wording proposed was acceptable.

- The 31st May paper to the WWMRC indicated that there were some overlap of this KSR with KSR 10 Enables a reduction in wet weather wastewater overflows, and also outlined staffs concern around the use of the word ‘avoid’, even when prefaced with ‘seeks to’. This concern related to staff considering that seeking to avoid such overflows would, in practice, require Council to cease use of, and not renew consents for, the City’s only two consented direct wet weather overflow points (located at each of the WWTPs).
- At the hui on 13th September the following was agreed:
 - Removal of the word ‘seeks’, replacing with ‘where practicable’ to acknowledge that in some circumstances total avoidance may not be achievable, particularly in the short-term. This is acknowledged in The Paper, point 10b., which clarifies that there is a wish “to plan for a future where direct discharge to water is not an option i.e. emergency wet weather overflows at least go to land based treatment first before being discharge to any wai receiving environment”, but that “We do not consider this means TCC needs to cease the use of, or not seek to renew consents for the 2 consented direct wet weather overflow points as long as there is a plan to cease this practice”. Discussion at the hui further clarified that investigations into alternative locations or further treatment of wastewater prior to discharge was sought.
 - That the intent was that this KSR should be directed to the two consented overflows only. The ‘name’ of the KSR and ‘level/metric’ wording has also therefore been amended to reflect this.

Agreed Action: Amend wording of KSR 11 to *‘Actively seeks practicable alternative options to the two consented overflows from the WWTPs’*. The level/metric has also been amended to reflect this change. The scope levels remain unchanged.

KSR	Level/metric	Minimum (Critical)	Intermediate (Desirable)	Maximum (Aspirational)
11	Seeks to avoid direct wet weather wastewater overflows to wai receiving environments	No increase in extent of direct wet weather wastewater overflows to wai receiving environments	Reduction in extent of direct wet weather wastewater overflows to wai receiving environments	Minimise direct wet weather wastewater overflows to wai receiving environments

NEW KSR NAME:
Actively seeks practicable alternative options to the two consented overflows from the WWTPs

NEW KSR LEVEL/METRIC:
Extent of direct wet weather wastewater overflows to wai receiving environments from 2 consented overflows from the WWTPs

17. **Long-List Assessment Criteria (CSF17) ‘Must Not Disturb Additional Urupā or Wāhi Tapu Sites’:** The WWMRC was asked in May to consider whether (CSF17) ‘Must not disturb additional urupā or wāhi tapu sites’ should be included in the PBC. This would see a given option assessed and scored against how well it meets this criterion. CSFs are "the must dos/must not dos", i.e. they are intended to be directive.

- When considering this, a number of matters were raised in the 31st May report, such as the existence already of requirements under Sections 6(e) and (f) of the RMA to recognise and provide for the relationship of tangata whenua with wāhi tapu and for the protection of historic heritage from inappropriate use and development. A number of uncertainties regarding interpretation of wording disturb, additional and the location of these sites were raised. These matters are discussed in ‘The Paper’ at point 11.
- Regardless of these uncertainties and comments, the Project Team at the 13th September hui agreed to include a new CSF 17, with wording as noted in the 31st May report (and as below).
- It is also agreed that, in order to apply this CSF, further discussion will be needed within the project team to clarify the perceived uncertainties around the wording ‘disturb’ and ‘additional’, but that these uncertainties should not preclude the addition of this CSF to the PBC.

Agreed Action: Include a new CSF17 *‘Must not disturb additional urupā or wāhi tapu sites’ (or similar wording), noting that further discussion will be needed by the project team in order to apply this CSF due to uncertainty around the wording of ‘disturb’ and ‘additional’. Wording to be agreed once clarification achieved by the project team’.*

18. **Long List Assessment Criteria on Hapū and Iwi Management Plans (HIMPs):** The WWMRC in May were asked to consider whether HIMPs should be added as CSFs within the Long List Option Assessment Criteria (as above, they are "the must dos/must not dos" and are directive).

- CSFs are essential to the successful delivery of the programme and cover a range of categories. Strategic Fit CSFs consider strategic alignment with national, regional and local- level legislation, policy and plans to provide opportunity to reflect the needs of the organisation, tangata whenua and community through merit/performance-based criteria. Further, "Strategic Fit" CSFs are assessed for strategic alignment rather than ‘provision by provision/section by section’ compliance.

- In the 31st May report concerns were raised in relation to adding HIMPs as CSF. These related to the number and varying and potentially broad nature of HIMPs across the region, the age of some, and the risk that it would be unclear which HIMPs need to be assessed.
- Regardless of these concerns, the project team agreed to include long-list assessment criteria on Hapu and Iwi Management Plans. The inclusion assumes an assessment of strategic alignment (as will be the case for assessment of strategic fit with all other documents referenced in the Strategic Fit CSFs) - not a 'provision by provision/section by section' assessment – this approach is supported in The Paper at 13.c. Further commentary in The Paper also supports their inclusion at this level “*strategic assessment against HIMPs may be an opportunity to capture whakaaro from iwi/hapu who have yet to engage in the is process or unable to engage due to resourcing issues*”. Further that “*issues of interpretation or whether or not they are up to date (and possibly not be considered) can be determined by checking with the iwi/hapu who created it*”.

Agreed Action: Include long list assessment criteria on ‘Hapū and Iwi Management Plans’

19. **Critical Success Factor 10 ‘Must not discharge treated wastewater directly to natural wetlands, groundwater, rivers, lakes and streams’.** ‘The Paper’ at 14b. states that “*there is a preference for the wording below as it allows a wide interpretation ensuring wider protection of wai receiving environments*”. This amended wording is agreed. The project team will also work together to confirm a consistent, shared view of the word ‘directly’ in the context of natural freshwater receiving environments, prior to long list option assessment.

Agreed Action: New wording for CSF 10 Must not discharge wastewater directly to natural freshwater receiving environments.

- There was discussion and agreement within the hui that this new wording/CSF does not encompass direct discharges to seawater, but that discharge of wastewater to seawater requires further Iwi discussion as there is a strong desire for it to be phased out. In this regard, ‘The Paper’ at 14c. states that Tangata Whenua members of the project team “*did not have direction on appropriate receiving environment of treated wastewater post-treatment at the Te Maunga constructed wetlands and we would need to consider this with iwi entities*” and that “*it is questionable as to whether the constructed wetlands have the qualities of an actual wetland so that wastewater is receiving the treatment required from a tangata whenua perspective. We consider this a significant issue to tangata whenua that will involve wānanga amongst iwi entities*”. On the basis of these comments, it was subsequently agreed to amend existing KSR 12 to the following:

Agreed Action: Amend KSR 12 to ‘Actively seeks practicable alternative options to the discharge of wastewater to seawater’. The metric and scope levels have been provided in draft, below, and will be confirmed by the project team. Within the existing metric and scope levels for this KSR, ‘coast’ is to be replaced with ‘seawater’.

KSR	Level/ metric	Scope levels			Out of Scope	
		Minimum (Critical)	Intermediate (Desirable)	Maximum (Aspirational)		
12	Actively seek practicable alternative options to the discharge of wastewater to seawater	Proportion of treated wastewater discharged to seawater	No increase in discharge (L/p/day) to seawater during dry weather flows	Minimise discharge to seawater during dry weather flows	Discharge to seawater during (defined) wet weather peaks	Direct discharge of treated wastewater to freshwater

20. **Mortuary Waste:** The Paper at 14e Long List SWOT Analysis #4 – Tangata Considerations, affirms Tangata Whenua’s strong preference to separate waste streams, particularly mortuary waste. This is not reflected in SWOT Analysis #4.

Agreed Action: Request that the WWMRC ask staff to investigate the separation of mortuary waste from the wastewater stream for report back at future WWMRC meetings. The commissioning of investigations and reports, such as this, falls within the terms of reference of the WWMRC.

21. **Geographical Scope:** Key Service Requirement 1 – Adequate Geographical Area is Serviced. The Paper in point 14a states that tangata whenua “do not support increasing the geographical scope beyond where Te Maunga WWTP already takes wastewater from. This is based on the premise that Nga Potiki do not wish to treat wastewater on Nga Potiki whenua from iwi/hapu well removed from the Nga Potiki rohe”.

Staff at the hui clarified that scope in the PBC related to geographical areas being considered for wastewater servicing in some way – it did not automatically infer that the areas would be serviced specifically by the Te Maunga WWTP. There was general acceptance by all of the clarification.

22. **Project Terms of Reference:** A draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the PBC (and project team) was circulated in June 2023 for comment (**Attachment 4**). This draft ToR describes the purpose of the project team, scope of work, membership, responsibilities and decision making processes. This ToR requires further discussion to agree some elements and remains in draft. ‘The Paper’ (in points 6a.-c.) sets out several matters for discussion and possible inclusion; *clearly stating the purpose of the WWMRC, clear consensus decision-making process with an independent facilitator and approval of PBC work*. Whilst the independence of the existing facilitator was discussed and confirmed at the September 13th hui, the other aspects raised have not been discussed yet in any detail and it was agreed at the hui that the project team will continue to work together with a view to finalising the ToR within one month of this meeting .

Agreed Action: Continue to work together on the Terms of Reference, paying particular attention to setting out PBC purpose, decision-making and PBC approval, with a view to finalising within one month of this meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS

23. The WWMRC:
- a) Receives the report "Wastewater Programme Business Case".
 - b) Endorse the PBC outputs (below and in **Attachment 1** of this report). Those items coloured green in the attachment are not confirmed and dealt with separately in c). below. These are those elements that were presented at the 31st May WWMRC meeting for endorsement:
 - Investment Logic Map: confirms problem statements and define benefits from investment
 - Benefits, KPIs and Measures: baseline and target values to be confirmed
 - Investment Objectives
 - Key Service Requirements (KSRs) and the degree of change for each (minimum, intermediate, maximum) the programme investment is expected to deliver. These are broad, and include growth and geographical coverage, tangata whenua partnership and values, environmental considerations and resilience requirements.

- Scope parameters: the scope boundaries for the investment (based on the KSRs). Only options within the range of minimum, intermediate and maximum will be assessed.

c) Endorse actions as agreed at the 13th September Hui for:

- All reporting to the WWMRC in relation to the PBC will be joint, and as such, represent the views of the PBC project team as a whole.
- Amend wording of KSR 6 to *'Promotes opportunities for strong and enduring partnerships with tangata whenua'* and directly incorporate KSR 8 level/metric and scope levels as noted below.

KSR	Level/metric	Minimum (Critical)	Scope levels	
			Intermediate (Desirable)	Maximum (Aspirational)
6	Promotes opportunities for strong and enduring partnerships with tangata whenua <i>(enabling active protection and informed decision-making)</i>	Iwi and hapū of Tauranga Moana impacted by wastewater infrastructure are supported in their visions for the restoration of their whenua / wai / taiao, giving special regard to impact of Te Maunga wastewater infrastructure on Ngā Pōtiki whenua, wai and taiao.		Iwi and hapū of Tauranga Moana impacted by wastewater infrastructure are supported in their visions for the restoration and return of their whenua / wai / taiao, giving special regard to impact of Te Maunga wastewater infrastructure on Ngā Pōtiki whenua, wai and taiao.
	Decision-making quality, authority and capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Te Tiriti o Waitangi and Treaty of Waitangi Partnership Principles are given effect to. - 3 Waters legislative requirements met (incl. co-governance provisions). - Partnership is enabled and effective at all levels (including co-design) <i>(active protection and informed decision making)</i> - Partners are enabled by timely, relevant, high-quality information <i>(informed decision-making)</i> - Partners have sufficient capability and capacity to act effectively 	No Intermediate scope set	No Maximum scope set
	Partnership health/maturity	Partnership health is prioritised, sufficiently resourced and reported on through long term mechanisms/fora	No Intermediate scope set	No Intermediate scope set

- Amend wording of KSR 11 to *'Actively seek practicable alternative options to the two consented overflows from the WWTPs'*. The level/metric has also been amended to reflect this change. The scope levels remain unchanged.

KSR	Level/metric	Minimum (Critical)	Intermediate (Desirable)	Maximum (Aspirational)
11	Extent of direct wet weather wastewater overflows to wai receiving environments	No increase in extent of direct wet weather wastewater overflows to wai receiving environments	Reduction in extent of direct wet weather wastewater overflows to wai receiving environments	Minimise direct wet weather wastewater overflows to wai receiving environments

NEW KSR NAME: Actively seek practicable alternative options to the two consented overflows from the WWTPs

NEW KSR LEVEL/METRIC: Extent of direct wet weather wastewater overflows to wai receiving environments from 2 consented overflows from the WWTPs

- Add a new CSF17 *'Must not disturb additional urupā or wāhi tapu sites'* (or similar wording), noting that further discussion will be needed by the project team in order to apply this CSF due to uncertainty around the wording of 'disturb' and 'additional'. Wording to be agreed once clarification achieved by the project team.
- Add long list assessment criteria on *'Hapū and Iwi Management Plans'*
- Amend wording for CSF 10 to *'Must not discharge wastewater directly to natural freshwater receiving environments'*.
- Amend KSR 12 to *'Actively seek practicable alternative options to the discharge of wastewater to seawater'*. The metric and scope levels for this KSR will need to be confirmed with the project team.

- viii. Request that the WWMRC ask staff to investigate the separation of mortuary waste from the wastewater stream for report back at future WWMRC meetings.
- ix. Continue to work together on the 'Terms of Reference', paying particular attention to setting out PBC purpose, decision-making and PBC approval, with a view to finalising within a month of this meeting.
- d) On the basis of endorsement being given for recommendations b. and c i.-ix. gives approval for external engagement to commence on the PBC (and confirmed outputs); and,
- e) Approves subsequent stages of the PBC commencing, starting with long-list option identification in October/November 2023.

STRATEGIC / STATUTORY CONTEXT

24. The key obligations for Council, in respect to engaging with Tangata Whenua in the context of the PBC process, arise under:
 - (a) the LGA;
 - (b) future Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) consenting processes (whereby any assessment of alternatives and cultural effects of an activity will be assessed by the decision-maker); and
 - (c) the terms of reference and scope of the WWMRC.
25. Statutory obligations will also likely be strengthened further through the wider legislative reforms (e.g. the RMA, 3 waters reform) and the Te Mana o Te Wai requirements under the NPSFM 2020.
26. The PBC process itself, 'sets the scene' for the more detailed assessment of options and will feed into future processes under the RMA. However, it is important that some of the statutory obligations on Council are borne in mind in the context of this process. In particular, there are a range of LGA obligations in relation to Tangata Whenua. For example, S77 of the LGA imposes an obligation on a local authority when making a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water:

77 Requirements in relation to decisions: *A local authority must, in the course of the decision-making process,—*

 - (a) *seek to identify all reasonably practicable options for the achievement of the objective of a decision; and*
 - (b) *assess the options in terms of their advantages and disadvantages; and*
 - (c) *if any of the options identified under paragraph (a) involves a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, take into account the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water, sites, wahi tapu, valued flora and fauna, and other taonga.*
27. For Council to be able to 'take into account' those Māori-related matters, Council must engage with appropriate tangata whenua groups to fully understand what that relationship is. It is only tangata whenua that can articulate "the relationship of Māori and their culture/traditions" with a particular site or taonga, and what impact a particular proposed activity may have on that relationship.
28. The need for Council to have a clear understanding of these matters is also related to the Treaty principle of informed decision-making.

OPTIONS ANALYSIS

29. There are no options proposed in this report.

SIGNIFICANCE

30. The Local Government Act 2002 requires an assessment of the significance of matters, issues, proposals and decisions in this report against Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. Council acknowledges that in some instances a matter, issue, proposal

or decision may have a high degree of importance to individuals, groups, or agencies affected by the report.

31. In making this assessment, consideration has been given to the likely impact, and consequences for:
 - (a) the current and future social, economic, environmental, or cultural well-being of the district/region.
 - (b) any persons who are likely to be particularly affected by, or interested in, the decision.
 - (c) the capacity of the local authority to perform its role, and the financial and other costs of doing so.
32. In accordance with the considerations above, criteria and thresholds in the policy, it is considered that the decision is of high significance as it affects the Tauranga City wastewater scheme as a whole and looks at potential future servicing within the Western Bay of Plenty district. The populations, stakeholders and Tangata Whenua Iwi and Hapū groups potentially impacted by the outcomes of the PBC and decisions to be made through this report are wide ranging and extensive.

ENGAGEMENT





33. Taking into consideration the above assessment, that the decision is of high significance and the information contained within the **Strategic / Statutory Context** section above, the following comments regarding consultation/engagement on the PBC are noted:
 - The PBC project team comprises planning/technical experts, staff and Tangata Whenua Iwi representatives (who are also members of the WWMRC). These Iwi members represent the cultural interests of their respective Iwi/Hapū and the WWMRC by reporting to/back from these groups and providing cultural feedback on PBC deliverables. The PBC, and makeup of the project team serve, in the lead up to a new Water Services Entity operating, to lay the foundations for a genuine, collaborative, partnership approach (that provides for co-design, and co-governance).
 - Annika Lane (Principal, Beca) has been engaged to assist with the broader engagement approach for the PBC. Meetings with relevant staff have been completed to inform a draft Engagement Plan for the project - this is on hold pending inputs from TCC Communications staff, but on completion will inform the nature of stakeholder engagement which would commence when approval to do so is provided by the WWMRC.
 - Tangata Whenua project team members have been asked to provide a scope of work relating to a cultural engagement plan. This would inform the parties, nature of, and timing for additional engagement with relevant Iwi and Hapū both within Tauranga City and Western BOP. This work is still ongoing with progress to be reported to future WWMRC meetings.

NEXT STEPS

34. On the basis of the WWMRC endorsing recommendations a – e, the following is proposed:
 - (a) A full project team meeting to discuss any still outstanding matters, and progress/agree the Terms of Reference, likely late October/early November.
 - (b) Two workshops (est. October - December 2023) to carry out long-list option identification - both infrastructure and non-infrastructure options that can potentially meet the investment objectives and deliver the KSRs. To assist in this task, the project team will be provided with a starter set of long-list options for discussion and will be asked to consider alternative/additional options for tabling at the workshop.

- (c) As per the programme (last slide **Attachment 1**), the assessment of confirmed long-list options will not occur until early 2024, enabling any required investigations to be completed (these will inform the assessment process). Short-listing, programme road-map development and drafting of the PBC will then occur over subsequent months concluding in late mid 2024. Given the volume of material to be covered, complexity, rate of progress and feedback/input from stakeholder engagement, programme timing and completion of the PBC is indicative only.
- (d) Continue to link with other TCC initiatives to maximise alignment and leverage any mutually required activities and effort (e.g. the Sub-Regional Wastewater Study 'Our Water Futures').

ATTACHMENTS

1. **2023 May 31 Wastewater Management Review Committee - Wastewater Programme Business Case Attachment 1 PDF (A14691634) (A14691639) - A15086651** [↓](#) 
2. **2023 May 31 Wastewater Management Review Committee - Wastewater Programme Business Case Recommendations - A14691639** [↓](#) 
3. **2023 August 29 Tangata Whenua Paper - WWPBC - A15086707** [↓](#) 
4. **2023 June Draft PBC Terms of Reference - A15086699** [↓](#) 

9.2 WWMRC Activity Report

File Number: A15131521

Author: Jim Summers, Consents Officer

Authoriser: Nic Johansson, General Manager: Infrastructure

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To provide information to the Wastewater Management Review Committee on the status of wastewater network and associated projects.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Wastewater Management Review Committee:

- (a) Receives the report "WWMRC Activity Report".

DISCUSSION

RC62878 – Te Maunga Outfall Discharge Consent

2. All required sampling within consent limits.

RC62882, RC62883, RC62885 – Overflow Emergency Discharge (Chapel Street & Te Maunga)

3. Seepage into the harbour is being measured monthly. All results have been within consent limits with no significant changes since desludging began.
4. No emergency discharges from Chapel or Te Maunga Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) since the previous committee meeting in June 2023.

Wastewater Overflows

5. Since the previous committee meeting in June 2023 there have been 23 blockages that have been notified to council. 18 did not leave the network and were contained to land. Two discharged to the stormwater system, and three potentially made the receiving environment. These were all notified to BoPRC, Toi Te Ora and local hapu/iwi RMA reps. Water quality sampling was undertaken, and warning signage placed in the relevant areas until results indicated no further impacts on water quality.

RC62722 & RC62723 - Te Maunga & Chapel Street Odour

6. No odour complaints received for Te Maunga or Chapel Street since the last WWMRC meeting.

Inflow and Infiltration (I&I)

7. When stormwater and groundwater enters the wastewater network this can provide a number of issues to the functionality of the wastewater network. The effects are wide ranging but mainly reduce the capacity within the wastewater network from unwanted inputs.
8. TCC's engineer will provide an update on TCC's I&I strategy, and what the next steps are.

Desludging Pond 1

9. The contractor has removed over 6000 dry tonnes of sludge from Pond 1 since the start of the desludging.
10. The desludging programme is currently on schedule with Conhur working 24-hour shifts.

11. Two sludge cells on Tip Lane landfill are filled and stabilised with saw dust.
12. BoPRC attended site on July 2023 and were satisfied with compliance with the consent.

Clarifier 3

13. Construction contract has been awarded to HEB and construction has commenced.
14. To date works completed are topsoil stripping, site establishment, sheet piles and installation of a dewatering system.
15. Bulk excavation is due to commence late September 2023.
16. Nga Potiki has been commissioned to provide monitoring service during excavation.

Bioreactor Two

17. Construction of the internal grid CFA piles is complete. Piles are being tested and checked for compliance with the specification. Defective piles will be repaired in due course.
18. Perimeter wall remedial works are in the planning phase with work expected to commence early October 2023.
19. Delays have occurred, pushing the completion date of the ground improvement works to March 2024.
20. Balance of works Contract (above ground works) is scheduled to commence in April 24 and take 15 months to complete.

Landward Section of Outfall

21. This project has been completed.

Marine Section of Outfall

22. The marine outfall has been cleared of debris (pieces of grout) and inspected by CCTV.
23. The CCTV inspection data is being reviewed to assess the condition of the pipeline. Results are expected in about 6-9 weeks' time

New Inlet Works

24. Work has commenced on the decommissioning of the existing odour bed and replacement with new technology with a smaller footprint. This will be completed in the 3rd quarter of 2024.
25. Work is progressing with the assessment of concept options for the New Inlet Works. Once a preferred option is selected, procurement of mechanical plant will commence.
26. Preliminary design of the NIW will commence in the 3rd quarter of 2024, after the mechanical plant supply contracts have been awarded.

Site Investigations

27. Site investigations (geotechnical, groundwater, environmental) will commence later this year for Bioreactor 3 and Picket Fence Thickener 3.

Environmental Mitigation & Enhancement Fund (EMEF)

28. Next steps are for the appointment panel (made up of committee members) to assess and appoint the independent panel members. Once the panel is in place applications to the fund can reopen.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

9.3 Treated Wastewater for Street Tree/Garden Irrigation

File Number: A15148013

Author: Jim Summers, Consents Officer

Authoriser: Nic Johansson, General Manager: Infrastructure

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To get feedback from the Wastewater Management Review Committee (WWMRC) on the potential reuse of treated wastewater for street tree and garden irrigation throughout Tauranga.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Wastewater Management Review Committee:

- (a) Receives the report "Treated Wastewater for Street Tree/Garden Irrigation".
- (b) Provide feedback on the reuse of treated wastewater for watering street trees and potentially other locations

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. A changing climate, population and economic growth all put pressure on Tauranga's water supply. Tauranga City Council (TCC) are committed to maintaining and enhancing the health of our source water streams.
3. The use of treated wastewater to irrigate urban open spaces is considered a practical solution to address water resource scarcity and is commonly used in arid or semi-arid parts of the world.
4. The Spaces and Places team have been planting an increasing number of juvenile trees as part of its numerous projects and more planting is proposed for 2023/24 which will increase the pressure on their fresh water supply.
5. Tauranga's wastewater system currently discharges treated wastewater via the Te Maunga Wastewater Water Treatment Plants (WWTPs) ocean outfall 950m offshore.
6. As part of any consenting of the network and discharge through the Programme Business Case (PBC) TCC will be assessing a number of alternative options and the reuse of treated wastewater will be one of those.
7. Reuse of treated wastewater is already undertaken in some areas of New Zealand and TCC have also previously utilised this option for Omanu Golf Course
8. There are a number of challenges that would need to be addressed for Council to begin using treated wastewater in this way. Staff are keen to discuss the potential for a trial with the committee.

DISCUSSION

9. TCC introduced the Water Watchers Plan as a city-wide plan to manage water demand and protect stream health all year round and demonstrate our commitment to water conservation.
10. Water use which falls outside of the Waters Plan approval are required to have a Smart Water Plan.

11. The Spaces and Places team are required to submit Smart Water Plans for water needed during the months of December to March for watering green spaces i.e. sports fields, reserves, street trees, gardens. Bore water is often used to irrigate sports fields.
12. The current water approvals only meet minimal needs of these green spaces resulting in juvenile trees taking longer to establish and risk putting newly planted trees and plants under stress especially over the first summer post planting.
13. The recently adopted Environment Strategy and Nature and Biodiversity Action Plan will see more trees planted across the city. Additional trees will support climate change mitigation, provide amenity and ensure council meets targets to increase tree canopy and indigenous vegetation. However, in the short-term, this will likely increase demand for water until the new plantings reach a level of maturity.
14. Treated wastewater is used to irrigate reserves in Christchurch and Taupō uses treated wastewater to irrigate ryegrass pasture.
15. Taupo District Council uses treated wastewater to irrigate the Kinloch Golf Course via a sub-surface irrigation system. This has been operational for a number of years.
16. Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BoPRC) granted a consent in October 2005 which authorises the use of treated wastewater at various sites throughout Tauranga. This consent expires in April 2040 (Attachment 1).
17. Historically treated wastewater was used to irrigate the Omanu golf course, this was discontinued around 2008. Reasons for discontinuing this use included golfers noticing an odour after irrigation. Since spray irrigation was last used, technology has improved, and it is unlikely treated and disinfected wastewater would have a detectable odour.
18. The consent is quite stringent in its requirements meaning that at times Council could not meet the conditions of consent however there was no additional disinfection of the water at the time prior to usage.
19. With the requirement for 'greenification' of the city and the increased level of service that this involves, and Council's commitment to maintaining and enhancing the health of our source water streams while giving effect to Te Mana o Te Wai, TCC would like to re-explore the use of treated wastewater for irrigation of trees and gardens.
20. Staff are keen to investigate a trial using disinfected treated wastewater from Te Maunga on the newly planted trees and gardens along Maunganui Rd and in Papamoa. This would require investigating consenting, health and safety, and operational requirements before reporting back to the committee.
21. Although there could be significant environmental benefits of this type of re-use, staff would like to understand potential positives and negatives from tangata whenua and whether the committee would support staff continuing to investigate and progress such a trial.
- 22.

ATTACHMENTS

1. **RC62886 - Treated Wastewater Irrigation Consent - A15147999** [↓](#) 

10 DISCUSSION OF LATE ITEMS

11 CLOSING KARAKIA