



MINUTES

**Wastewater Management Review
Committee meeting
Wednesday, 6 March 2024**

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**MINUTES OF TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL
WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL,
GROUND FLOOR MEETING ROOMS 1 & 1B, 306 CAMERON ROAD, TAURANGA
ON WEDNESDAY, 6 MARCH 2024 AT 1PM**

PRESENT: Mr Spencer Webster (Chairperson), Commissioner Bill Wasley, Commissioner Stephen Selwood, Mr Des Heke, Mr Whitiora McLeod (via Teams), Ms Lara Burkhardt (via Teams) and Commissioner Shadrach Rolleston.

IN ATTENDANCE: Wally Potts (Acting General Manager: Infrastructure), Radleigh Cairns (Manager: Drainage Services), Jane Groves (Stormwater Programme Leader), Jim Summers (Consents Officer), Coral Hair (Manager: Democracy & Governance Services), Anahera Dinsdale (Acting Team Leader: Governance Services) and Caroline Irvin (Governance Advisor)

EXTERNAL: Celia Walker (Senior Associate, Beca), John Crawford (Technician Fellow, Wastewater Engineering, Beca)

1 OPENING KARAKIA

Mr Des Heke opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 APOLOGIES

None

3 PUBLIC FORUM

None

4 ACCEPTANCE OF LATE ITEMS

None

5 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS TO BE TRANSFERRED INTO THE OPEN

None

6 CHANGE TO ORDER OF BUSINESS

CHANGE THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WW0/24/1

Moved: Commissioner Bill Wasley

Seconded: Mr Whitiora McLeod

Amends the order of business so the next item of business is 9.2 followed by 9.1

CARRIED

7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

7.1 Minutes of the Wastewater Management Review Committee meeting held on 22 November 2023

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WW0/24/2

Moved: Commissioner Bill Wasley
Seconded: Mr Whitiara McLeod

That the minutes of the Wastewater Management Review Committee meeting held on 22 November 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

8 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None

9 BUSINESS

9.2 Wastewater Activity Report

Staff Jim Summers, Consents Officer

PowerPoint Presentation

Key points

- It was noted that the Te Maunga outfall discharge was within the consent limits.
- There had been no new odour complaints recorded for Chapel St and Te Maunga Wastewater Treatment Plants.
- Since the previous Committee meeting, there had been 21 blockages notified to Council in the wastewater system. 6 of these did not leave the system. Six had discharged in to the storm water system and four potentially made the receiving environment. All of these had been notified to Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Toi Te Ora and the local iwi/hapū.
- It was estimated that before the consent expires on 30 March 2024, 11,000 dry tonnes of sludge had been removed from Pond 1 and placed in Tip Lane Landfill.
- Staff and contractors were unable to project the full tonnage of sludge removed.
- Clarifier Three was progressing well and tracked four weeks ahead of schedule.
- The piles for Bioreactor Two was complete and the bulk excavation was expected to commence by middle of 2024.
- The Marine section outfall had been cleared of debris which was mainly grout and also inspected by CCTV. The CCTV inspection was being reviewed by a specialist consultant and early indications were that the pipe was in good condition.
- The preliminary design of New Inlet Works would commence Oct 2024
- Since the last Committee meeting, site investigation which included geotechnical, groundwater and environments investigations, had almost been completed for Bio Reactor three and Picket Fence Thickener three.
- The Wastewater Network staff were working through pump station drop test and a number of catchment inspections which included smoke testing to check the system for cracks or escape routes.

- Heed sensors had been installed in various wastewater manholes around the city. The heed sensors were found to provide useful data regarding the wastewater flows.

In response to questions

- Heed sensors were devices that sit in the system and send a signal when flows reached a certain level. These were installed 10 months ago and proved useful for staff.
- The desludging project had removed 11,000 tonnes and was in a 24 hour operation. It was noted that the project was currently in a state of chasing the sludge. Contractors worked to remove as much of the sludge before the consents expire on 30 March 2024. Assessments would then be completed once the Decommissioning consents had been completed to determine the remaining sludge.
- The Consents only discusses the decommissioning of pond one. It was noted that the floor of pond was below the ground water flow
- The expectation around the desludging of pond one was discussed when the Wastewater Management Review Committee was established. The future use of the pond was not yet confirmed.

Discussion points raised

- The Environmental Enhancement Fund (EMEF) Panel was now at a point of review and appointing the additional panel members.
- The EMEF Panel had to make recommendations to Wastewater Committee regarding the fund.
- The Committee requested that staff provide the Committee Members a report on the assessment of the remaining Sludge in Pond One, post 30 March 2024.
- It was noted the Landfill consents expired March 2024, all other consents relating to Wastewater Treatment Plant expired in 2040.

Beca Monitoring Upgrade and Technology Review (MUTR) Presentation

Staff Radleigh Cairns, Manager: Drainage Services

External Celia Walker, Senior Associate, Beca
John Crawford, Technician Fellow, Wastewater Engineering, Beca

Key points

- A five yearly monitoring upgrade and technology Review was one of the requirements for the Discharge Consents at Te Maunga and Chapel Street Wastewater Treatment Plants. This was a comprehensive assessment of the effects of the wastewater scheme, technological developments and reuse systems and developments that may be available. There was an ability to integrate a cultural aspect to the report. The last report was presented to the Committee in 2019.
- The assessment included a report on all the monitoring and upgrades completed over the five years.
- It was a function of Wastewater Management Review Committee to provide input to the MUTR report.
- The scope of MUTR and consent requirements included the progress towards targets, technological changes and advances review, environmental monitoring results and consent compliance and changes in legislation and policy review.
- It was noted that there were advances in technology in the wastewater space.
- In the past five years, there had been a fair amount of changes legislation and policy.
- A proposal to include additional factors to the scope of the MUTR. These were outside of the consent requirements but were found to be an increased focus. These include Climate change mitigation, resilience to natural hazards and Te Mana o Te Wai.
- There was an ability for the Committee to instigate the inclusion of a Cultural paper into the MUTR report. Discussions had taken place with stakeholders and iwi members along with Ms Elva Conroy from Conroy Consultants to facilitate the integration of the cultural paper into the report.

- Mr Cairns spoke about the process for preparing the Draft MUTR before starting the Cultural Paper preparation.

In response to questions

- There was an increased scope for Beca to implement a cultural element to the MUTR report.

Discussion points raised

- There was support by the Committee for the MUTR report to be integrated with a cultural paper included.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WW0/24/3

Moved: Commissioner Bill Wasley

Seconded: Commissioner Stephen Selwood

That the Wastewater Management Review Committee:

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

CARRIED

Attachments

- 1 WWMRC Activity Report Power point 6 March 2024
- 2 Presentation - WWMRC 060324 MUTR 2024 Proposal pdf

9.1 Wastewater Programme Business Case

Staff Stephen Burton, Acting General Manager: Infrastructure Services
Jane Groves, Stormwater Programme Leader

External Nicola Houlding, Consultant

Key points

- Staff proposed agreed wording for CSF 17, KSR 5 and KSR 6 for endorsement by Wastewater Management Review Committee.
- A series of workshops and emails set the foundation for the development of the agreed wording for the Programme Business Case.
- As previously agreed by the Committee, Ms Te Rangimarie Williams provided input into the process.
- There was an inclusion for impacts from existing wastewater infrastructure on maori land.

In response to questions

- The Committee spoke through the process of the Programme Business Case.

Discussion points raised

- An additional Recommendation was added to seek approval of the PBC by Council before progressing with the long list.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WW0/24/4

Moved: Commissioner Bill Wasley

Seconded: Mr Whitiara McLeod

That the Wastewater Management Review Committee:

- (a) Receives the report "Wastewater Programme Business Case".

(b) Endorse the agreed wording for the three previously outstanding matters.

i. **CSF17: Disturbance to Urupā and Wāhi Tapu from Wastewater Infrastructure**

Must minimise disturbance at identified urupā or wāhi tapu sites, or further disturbance where wastewater infrastructure has already disturbed urupā/wāhi tapu*.

*Council and tangata whenua will work as Te Tiriti partners to achieve this.

'Identified urupā or wāhi tapu sites' are defined as those identified as urupā or wāhi tapu in the Register of Significant Maori Areas on the TCC City Plan

ii. **KSR5: Gives greater effect to tangata whenua values** (Level/Metric: Protecting and Enhancing the Mauri of the Taiao)

	Level / Metric	Minimum (Critical)	Intermediate (Desirable)	Maximum (Aspirational)
KSR5 Level / Metric	Protecting and enhancing the mauri of taiao	Protect existing mauri of sites impacted by wastewater infrastructure	Enhance the mauri of sites impacted by wastewater infrastructure	Mauri ora at sites impacted by wastewater infrastructure

iii. **KSR6: Promotes opportunities for strong and enduring partnerships with tangata whenua**

(Level/Metric: Extent to which impact of existing wastewater infrastructure on iwi/hapū is taken into account or addressed in wastewater decision making.)

	Level / Metric	Minimum (Critical)	Intermediate (Desirable)	Maximum (Aspirational)
KSR6 Level / Metric	Extent to which impact of existing wastewater infrastructure on iwi/hapū is taken into account or addressed in wastewater decision making.	Status quo – current and future wastewater infrastructure decisions take into account impact of existing wastewater infrastructure and public works on iwi/hapū through existing mechanisms.	Minimum, plus: Further impact on iwi/hapū disproportionately impacted by existing wastewater infrastructure is minimised.	Intermediate, plus: Disproportionate impact from existing wastewater infrastructure on iwi/hapū is addressed or reduced.

(Level/Metric: Decision making quality, authority and capacity.)

	Level / Metric	Minimum (Critical)	Intermediate (Desirable)	Maximum (Aspirational)
KSR6 Level / Metric	Decision making quality, authority and capacity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi Partnership principles are given effect to. - Legislative requirements are met (including, the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011; incoming 'Local Water Done Well' legislation). - 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.

(c) Endorse the agreed addition to the list of 'Tangata whenua considerations' within 'Other attributes that need to be given regard to and/or are of interest':

‘The impact from existing wastewater infrastructure on iwi/hapū, in particular where disproportionate, is addressed or reduced’.

- (d) On the basis of endorsement being given for recommendation b) i-iii) and c) gives approval for external engagement to commence on the PBC (and confirmed outputs); and,
- (e) Recommends to Council to endorse the outputs of the Wastewater Programme Business Case (PBC), continue the PBC process and approve the subsequent stages of the PBC commencing, starting with long-list option identification in March 2024 including engagement.

CARRIED

At 1.06pm, Commissioner Shadrach Rolleston entered the meeting.

10 DISCUSSION OF LATE ITEMS

None

11 CLOSING KARAKIA

Commissioner Shadrach Rolleston closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 2:04pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed as a true and correct record at the Wastewater Management Review Committee meeting held on 29 May 2024.

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Mr Spencer Webster
CHAIRPERSON