



# Notes

**Meeting Title:** Wairoa Wastewater – Stakeholder Focus Group Meeting 7

**Date & Time:** Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017; 10:00am

**Location:** Wairoa Airport

**Organiser:** Jamie Cox

**Facilitator:** Neil Cook

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**Stakeholder Group Attendees:** Min Johansen Charles Lambert; Michelle McIlroy; Katarina Kawana; Naomi Wilson; Gary Mayo; Beretta Keefe; Paul Sullivan.

**WDC Staff and Project Team:** Jamie Cox; Duane Culshaw; Kitea Tipuna; Neil Cook; Hamish Lowe; Karen Akuhata; Patrick Knerlich.

**Apologies:** Jean Cooper

**Notes:** -

Timing	Activity
10:00 am	<b>Introduction</b>
	Discussion: Karakia - Charlie Welcome
10:10 am	<b>Session 2 – Update</b>
	Discussion: Council Meeting, Hui-a-iwi, Public Meeting, Te whare wananga o awanui a rangi Eastland Networks compensation payment
	Outcome: NC recapped on previous meetings, including public meeting and hui-a-iwi. Key point coming out of those meetings was need to consider bigger picture of effect on river. Spent some time discussing Eastland Network payout. JC discussed payout and the march. He indicated the march showed that people were passionate about the health and state of the river. Initially he saw the issue not as a big issue as it simply released silt that would have always gone down the river prior to the dam. However, now agrees that Eastland could have been more effective in releasing the water. JC indicated that the Playground Trust were short of dollars and had already made a funding application to Eastland. He (like council) thought appropriate that Eastland contributed to a project which had already been started. On reflection maybe the money should have gone back into a project more directly related to the river. JC did indicate that there is an annual \$15,000 which will come to council. He would think it appropriate that now this issue has been raised it should go into river

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	<p>related projects.</p> <p>NW noted that if known, a number of other groups would like to have applied for funding.</p> <p>MM/NW noted that payment was \$250,000 (\$100,000 for playground and \$15,000 annually for 10 years)</p> <p>JC noted that the settlement process meant that money was not wasted on lawyers, and as it was a Regional Prosecution, there was the potential that no money would have stayed in the district.</p> <p>MM expressed concern about conflicts of interest with people sitting round table, in that the views were not balanced as there was too much council representation.</p> <p>JC noted that the stakeholder group was only making recommendations and not decisions.</p> <p>GM noted that discussion had grown and would be good to focus on the initial intent, being a focus on wastewater.</p> <p>JC noted that the community gave clear direction of the need to look at river health.</p> <p>MM noted that both interlinked and need to be dealt with.</p> <p>NC summarised the short journey:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial focus was on w/w</li> <li>Then it was clear there was a need to look at the bigger picture (river)</li> <li>Clear desire is to get w/w out of the river, but this comes at a cost</li> <li>There is a need to realise limitations of options and affordability.</li> </ul>
11:00 am	<b>Morning Tea</b>
11:15 am	<p><b>Session 3 – Options for Wastewater</b></p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the options, their costs, their pros and cons</li> <li>What is suitable for Wairoa?</li> <li>Consider all values – Cultural, Financial, Recreational, Environmental</li> </ul> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>HL presented options and explained how they were developed. Included the need to select a range to cover the spectrum of options.</p>
11:15 am	<p><b>Session 4 – Introducing Catchment Management</b></p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-ordinating and administering catchment management initiatives</li> <li>Work programmes around catchment improvement for river enhancement</li> <li>What can you get for your \$\$\$?</li> </ul> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>HL summarised options for catchment. Noted difference between catchment management and catchment programmes. Gave examples and costs of catchment programmes.</p>
11:30 am	<p><b>Session 5 – Integrating Catchment Management and Wastewater Options</b></p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arriving at 9 scenarios</li> <li>Discussion and narrowing down to one or more scenarios to take forward</li> </ul>



Timing	Activity
	<p>Outcome:</p> <p>HL presented 9 scenarios that had different funding levels (\$200, \$400 and \$800 /connection) and options that varied from a wastewater to a catchment focus.</p> <p>The catchment focus involved urban rates contributing to catchment management and programmes. There was some good discussion on this, particularly the need for urban contribution that was caused by rural landowners. There was discussion about urban contribution being focused management and landowners focused on programmes. Also, there was scope for external funding to assist with programmes.</p> <p>HL provided examples of the extent (area) of catchment programmes that could be achieved with the three funding levels.</p> <p>Looked at the 9 scenarios and ruled out \$800/connection options. \$200 and \$400/connections are potentially viable. However, it is noted that many in the community would not be able to afford \$200.</p> <p>Group agreed that the focus of the dollars should go either into solely wastewater or if any, catchment management. Catchment programmes should be dealt with separately.</p> <p>Agreed that we should look to express costs on a weekly basis.</p> <p>Could consider scenario 5 where we take out the catchment programmes and focus on w/w with catchment management. Means look at \$7 M w/w and about \$1 M catchment management.</p> <p>Essentially have two treatment options: cheaper being land passage and into river, or more expensive and discharge into dunes. Running parallel to that the catchment options are no investment or only in catchment management.</p> <p>Discussed tangata whenua perspective of dune discharge option. Could be ok, especially if there was no river discharge. Better going directly to sea as it gets it out of the river. Both options would need additional treatment, particularly to remove pathogens/bugs.</p> <p>Noted that while dune discharge option may be technically possible, the challenge would be planning (rules and legislation) and convincing iwi it was appropriate.</p> <p>Need to also consider storage and the role that can play.</p> <p>Discussed the option of adding irrigation over time.</p> <p>Discussed the Whangawehi catchment model. Agreed that should have a look and/or have someone come and talk to us about it.</p>
12:30 pm	<p><b>Session 6 – Next Steps?</b></p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council update and endorsement</li> <li>Tangata whenua and Community consultation</li> <li>Refine the preferred option(s)</li> </ul> <p>Outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussed forward process.</li> <li>Project team would refine options based on the reduced number of Scenarios and report back. Focus on land passage and river and also dune rapid infiltration.</li> <li>Where things are at would then be workshopped with council.</li> <li>Next meeting ideally before end of month and ready for council forum by 12</li> </ul>

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Timing	Activity
	October.
12:45pm	<b>Session 7 – Administration</b> Discussion: Dropbox information – does anyone need hard copies? Next meeting focus – options and engagement process with the community Meeting date and time  Outcome: Discussed what records people were missing. Agreed that Angela/Robyn would contact people individually and work out what info was needed.
1:30pm	<b>Lunch</b>
2:00 pm	<b>CLOSE</b>