

SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

6 APRIL 2016

AGENDA ITEM C4

WAIOHINE FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR CONSULTATION

Purpose of Report

To enable Council to decide whether to formally support the draft Waiohine Floodplain Management Plan (as circulated by the Wellington Regional Council) for release for public consultation.

Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Council:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Support the public release of the draft Waiohine Floodplain Management Plan by the Wellington Regional Council for public consultation.*

1. Background

The draft Waiohine Floodplain Management Plan (FMP) has been in gestation for around a decade.

The plan has been developed by the Wellington Regional Council in conjunction with a widely based consultation committee (the Waiohine River Floodplain Management Plan Advisory Committee [WRFMPAC]), which has included Council representatives.

The plan is designed to address the flood risk posed by the Waiohine River to Greytown and surrounding lands.

The draft is now proposed to be opened up for community comment by the Wellington Regional Council as part of its public consultation process for the FMP.

Any feedback will then be considered and incorporated into the plan as appropriate.

The final adoption or otherwise of an FMP for the Waiohine River will have significant future financial and development effects for the Greytown community and wider lands.

2. Overview of draft proposals

A copy of the draft FMP for the Waiohine River was circulated at the February Council meeting.

While this version has been modified in consequence of feedback from the WRFMPAC meeting on 4 March, the changes do not affect the overall intent of the document as previously circulated.

The WRFMPAC are meeting on 5 April to sign off the adjusted plan and a verbal update on that process will be provided to Council when this matter is considered.

As outlined in the presentation by WRC at the Infrastructure and Planning Workshop on 23 March 2016, the proposed FMP relates to the stretch of river above and immediately east of Greytown. It also involves a number of works on the Carterton side in smaller tributaries (Beef Creek, Mangatarere Stream).

Increased flood effects in the design event (when approaching a 1:100 year event) will be experienced on the Carterton side of the river (water depth) in consequence of the design options being proposed in the FMP.

Overall though, it is expected that there will be improved flood management (reduced flood effects for smaller more regular events) on that side of the river for the majority of the time.

For Greytown, flood protection will in essence equate to a 1:100 year event.

This represents a significant improvement over current protection levels. For some residents outside Greytown in a rural setting, a lower level of protection will be provided (1:50 Year event).

There are still residual risks that will need to be managed for Greytown, such as when a greater than design event occurs, or "failure" or "part failure" of the protection system and from other pre-existing sources of local stormwater.

Because of these residual risk issues, allied work around examining the WCDP's current flood management provisions has also been progressed alongside the FMP.

At this stage it is not proposed to make any substantial changes to the current WCDP controls. However, whether this remains the case in the longer term, will depend on whether the FMP is adopted, what form it is finally in and the timeframe for its implementation.

If not adopted in a suitable form and implemented, Council will be required to review the level of controls in the WCDP to meet Government policy expectations which could result in a substantially more onerous regulatory regime for Greytown.

3. Conclusion

The Wellington Regional Council is asking for Council to support the draft FMP for the Waiohine River release, for public consultation. This is a significant step forward to the resolution of the current flood risk to Greytown.

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