

SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

24 FEBRUARY 2016

AGENDA ITEM D7

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 has been in gestation for over a decade. The plan has been developed by the Wellington Regional Council with the support in more recent times of a widely based consultation committee (the Waiohine River Floodplain Management Plan Advisory Committee) 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 will hopefully be circulated prior to the meeting.

This 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 streams (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 (increased water depth), overall though, there will be improved flood management (reduced flood effects for smaller more regular events) 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.

Because of these residual risk issues and 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 changes to the current WCDP controls, however, whether this remains the case longer term, will depend on whether the FMP is adopted and what form it is finally in.

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.

4. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Waiohine River Floodplain Management Plan (to be circulated when received)

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