

Report of the ordinary meeting of the Operations Committee held in the Council Chambers, 29 Bowler Avenue, Gore on Tuesday 22 August 2017, at 4.33pm.

Present His Worship the Mayor (Mr Tracy Hicks, JP), Cr Davis (Chairperson), Crs Beale, Bolger, Davis, Gardyne, D Grant, Highsted, Phillips, Reid and Sharp.

In Attendance The Chief Executive (Mr Stephen Parry), Chief Financial Officer (Mr Luke Blackbeard), General Manager Infrastructure (Mr Ramesh Sharma), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), Transport Manager (Mr Peter Standring), Building Control Manager (Mr Russell Paterson), 3 Waters Asset Manager (Mr Matt Bayliss), 3 Waters Project Manager (Mr Sam Bunting), HR/Administration Manager (Susan Jones), Migrant Services Coordinator (Mrs Mihaela Erdelyi), Aquatic Services Manager (Ms Kim Peterson), Events and Promotions Coordinator (Ms Emma Carle) and the District Arts and Heritage Curator (Mr Jim Geddes).

Apologies Crs Dickson and the General Manager Regulatory and Planning apologised for absence and Cr P Grant for lateness.

Cr Davis called for any conflicts of interest. None were declared.

1. NO-DES PROJECT UPDATE (SC1864)

A memo had been received from the 3 Waters Project Manager providing an update on the “No-Des” truck operated by Detection Services that had been engaged to flush and clean the Gore and Mataura water supply network.

The estimated cost of the project was \$155,000 compared to the \$1.6 million proposed for the manganese and iron removal project. The truck started flushing in north Gore on 1 June. Mataura had been completed on 6 August. The project had been very successful with over 7,000,000m³ of water flushed through 101km of water network in Gore and Mataura and over 600 filter bags used.

While the project took slightly longer than expected, it was anticipated to finish within budget and with no reported health and safety incidents. The programme had seen a noticeable improvement in water quality supplied to customers. Staff would continue to monitor dirty water complaints and would also implement a condition assessment and testing regime to improve service delivery.

The Project Manager advised three test results had been received and huge amounts of iron had been removed through the process.

Cr D Grant congratulated the 3 Waters Project Manager and 3 Waters Asset Manager for their efforts in getting the No-Des truck to New Zealand and undertaking the flushing work which had been successful.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr D Grant, seconded by Cr Bolger, THAT the information be received.

2. SLUDGE REMOVAL PROJECT PROGRESS (SC1466)

An update report from the 3 Waters Project Manager on the progress being made by Hydra-care on the sludge removal in the Gore oxidation pond was considered by the Committee.

The first sludge test result on 27 July showed that the sludge had been dried to 99.3% solids. The result did not take into account that some of the organic matter in the sludge had been burnt off. The total volume of the sludge would be less than 4025 tonnes of dry sludge in the ponds as measured from the pond survey. The reduction in volume of sludge removed could not be easily verified by a lab test, but would be tracked on a chart. The screened test results indicated that heavy metals were still an issue. Staff were awaiting results from the toxicity characteristic leaching procedure.

A by-product of the secondary drying unit had been a significant amount of steam, with complaints about steam and odour complaints being received 1.8km from the site. Hydra-care was building a steam condensing unit inside a 40 foot container to rectify the issue. The unit was expected to be on site by 14 August.

The Project Manager said the sludge was not able to be dumped at the landfill at Otatara without being mixed, but staff had another option to be explored.

In response to Cr Davis, the final cost was likely to be around \$2.5 million with the budget at \$2.6 million.

In response to Cr D Grant, the Project Manager said there were significant cost implications dumping the sludge at the Kings Bend landfill.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Reid, seconded by Cr D Grant, THAT the report be received.

3. REPORT FROM 3 WATERS ASSET MANAGER

The Committee perused an operational report from the 3 Waters Asset Manager.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Gardyne, seconded by Cr Phillips, THAT the report be received.

4. STORMWATER WORKING PARTY OUTCOMES (SC1751)

A report had been received from the 3 Waters Asset Manager following the establishment of a Stormwater Working Party in February to evaluate and troubleshoot areas of Gore and Maitua that were affected with stormwater and/or wastewater run-off.

The key objective of the working party had been to identify low cost viable interim solutions to provide any relief possible to the worst affected areas. In general, all problem areas had been discussed and following assessment of the public health risk and risk to private property, the following areas were deemed the most critical:

- Koa/Ruia Street intersection (estimated cost \$5,000)
- 8 St Andrews Street (estimated cost \$15,000)
- 2 and 4 Mary Street (estimated cost (\$50,000)

Details of the proposed solutions for these areas had been provided.

Cr Beale said the working party had found site visits very beneficial in determining the best outcome. He thought the costs were moderate to alleviate the problems in the affected areas.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Beale, seconded by Cr Gardyne, THAT the report be received,

THAT the Council endorse the Stormwater Working Party's recommendation to implement interim solutions to provide some relief to the flooding issues in the Koa/Ruia Street, Mary Street and St Andrew Street areas,

AND THAT \$70,000 allocated to developing a Stormwater Quality Improvement Strategy be used to fund this work.

5. REPORT FROM THE TRANSPORT MANAGER

The Committee perused an operational report from the Transport Manager.

The Manager referred to comments in his report about the One Road Network (ORN) that enabled each local authority to compare performance with its peers across the country.

In response to Cr Davis, the Manager advised the Pyramid Bridge tender would include two options for a single lane and a double lane. The biggest drawback would be having to close the bridge for six months if it was decided to construct a new bridge on the same site.

Cr P Grant attended the meeting from 4.52pm

Cr Gardyne noted the Council was spending \$3,700/km on unsealed roads, compared to \$6,000 average amongst the peer group. He asked if the Council was allocating enough money to that activity.

The Manager said there was work being undertaken through a desktop exercise about the volume of metalling on unsealed roads compared to other authorities. He intended presenting a report to the Council in the future once the review had been completed.

In response to His Worship, the Manager thought his report could be available in time for the next Committee round.

Cr Highsted said the Council needed to be able to afford any change to the amount spent when considering the comparison to the peer group. He asked what the impact would be on the rural ratepayers if it was increased.

The Manager said the Council currently spent around \$260,000 per annum on metalling.

Cr D Grant asked if the Matura beautification work had been satisfactory.

The Manager advised it mostly was, but there was one area that had a weak spot which had caused on-going issues that were currently being remedied.

Cr P Grant referred to Wick Road and felt some of the residents did not do themselves any favours driving tractors on the road.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr D Grant, seconded by Cr Bolger, THAT the report be received.

The meeting concluded at 5.02pm