

STAFF REPORT

TO: Chairman and Members, Engineering Services Committee

FROM: Utilities Asset Manager, Jeff Cuthbertson

DATE: 7 February 2007

SUBJECT: UTILITIES MANAGEMENT REPORT

1 GENERAL

- Tender submissions for *Contract 688: Water Utilities Operations and Maintenance* closed on 24 January 2007. Two tenders were received out of the four short-listed tenderers, from Sicon and Works Infrastructure and these will now be evaluated.
- A few minor incidents occurred during the holiday period, reflecting the many improvements made to utility networks critical points particularly sewer networks, that traditionally have caused problems during the periods of peak demand, and also due to the cooler/wetter weather patterns placing less demand on water supplies.
- All data for the Richmond hydraulic modelling projects has been captured and processed and the initial outputs have been produced in January to form the basis of Stormwater and Wastewater models. CCTV contract work has also commenced.

2 WATER

2.1 General

The following failures occurred recently:

- Murchison high lift pump failed, no alarms were received. Review of telemetry parameters is underway.
- Old Coach Road Reservoir - Solar panels were stolen soon after replacement of a smashed panel, power is to be installed to the site.
- Upper Takaka Reservoir Fire – exposed lining was set alight, some disruption to normal supply followed with boil water notices required due to contamination in the reservoir, notice was lifted once supply tested clear.
- Main reservoir Kaiteriteri – pipework was damaged by vandals and graffiti painted on the reservoir. The damage was registered through the telemetry system before reservoir levels were significantly affected.
- Recurring leaks in the 200mm Mapua main near Greenacres golf course caused Mapua reservoirs to run critically low. This section of water main is due for replacement very soon.
- Leaks occurred on High and Thorp Streets 200mm mains in Motueka.
- An 88 Valley 125mm main burst near the intake, causing low levels in the Totara View Reservoirs. Difficulties with telemetry added to problems in regaining reservoir levels.

2.2 Waimea Well Replacement

Waimea Well number 7 has been successfully replaced. The original casing and screen had deteriorated due to age to a point where yield was significantly affected. The replacement well has excellent yield.

2.3 Brightwater Reservoir

Detailed design is almost complete for the Brightwater Reservoir. The documentation for building consent application is due for submission. The contract is to be tendered prior to June 2007 but construction is planned for the 2007/2008 financial year.

2.4 Dovedale Rural Water Supply

The scheme has not experienced its typical problems during the peak period which has been a pleasant relief. The season has not been as dry as last year and overall use has been less than expected. The lower intake has been activated for one day only however the draw off from the upper intake remains at its maximum possible level.

2.5 Mapua Trunk Main

The renewal of the section of main across the two estuary channels between Best and Rabbit Islands is due to go out to tender this month. The installation of the two connection junctions has been completed successfully by Works Infrastructure in preparation for the main contract.

3 STORMWATER

3.1 General

Regular maintenance continues on outlets to existing stormwater pipework at Paton's Rock. Floodgates at Mapua, Ruby Bay and Motueka were inspected and minor repair work carried out. Partial blockage of the pipe outlet occurred at Elizabeth Street, Collingwood due to wave surge debris.

Surveys for Seaton Valley drain and Mapua causeway are underway, and the proposed Martins Farm Road culvert upgrade, which had been placed on hold due to Department of Conservation and iwi issues, is now progressing.

3.2 Borck's Creek / Headingly Lane Channel

Agreement has been reached with the landowner for the next phase of Headingly Lane channel widening, and resource consent has been granted. The physical works contract is to be tendered this month.

4 WASTEWATER

4.1 General

An alternative site has been found for the upgraded Waitapu pumpstation and negotiations with the landowner continue to secure the appropriate size of land. This has also delayed the design phase for the project.

The following incidents have recently occurred:

- Aranui Rd pumpstation #2 was removed to replace bearings and seals.
- Delaneys pumpstation Pump #1 failed and was replaced with available spare pump.
- Blockage occurred at Glenaven Drive, Motueka due to excess fat and sand build up, no overflow occurred.
- The Mapua Leisure Park pumpstation required daily attendance over the holiday period due to excess tissue around multitrodes which affected pump controls, this improved as visitor numbers declined

4.2 Motupipi Street Sewermain Replacement

Four tenders were received, with Works Infrastructure as the successful tenderer. Work has commenced on site and is expected to be complete by end of April.

4.3 Richmond Trunk Sewer Main Stage II – Completion of ‘Portion C’

Works Infrastructure have successfully completed the second stage of the Richmond Trunk Sewer Main project on time and within budget. The sedimentation filtration system installed to process the groundwater pumped from the excavated trench and the trench shield system utilised were two significant factors contributing to the success of the work.

5 REFUSE

5.1 Kerbside collection

Kerbside collection of rubbish and recyclables continued over the traditional busy holiday period with a commendable performance by the Council contractor leading to no significant problems.

The refuse drop-off point at the Wairoa Gorge has been subject to on-going illegal dumping of rubbish. Investigations by Council compliance staff have yielded limited success in identifying and prosecuting offenders. In order to limit the need for this drop-off point, the kerbside collection route in this area has been extended to the Garden Valley and Lee Valley Roads on a trial basis. The cage will be removed in late February, following a suitable notice period to residents.

A daily kerbside refuse collection at Kaiteriteri commenced on 21 December 2006 and will continue through to 15 February 2007. Sample refuse bags and promotional material were distributed to each dwelling in the week immediately before Christmas. The daily collection, coupled with a proactive response from the contractor has led to reduced incidents of litter in this area.

Council were advised in late January that the supplier of Council's official rubbish bags, Chequer Packaging, has been placed in receivership. The company continues to trade and the Christchurch plant, where the bags are produced, continues to operate.

Council's existing arrangement with Chequer Packaging is that dispatch and invoicing of the bags is managed by Chequer. The net effect of the receivership is that a significant proportion of Council's bag sales revenue is at risk, due to the non-payment of outstanding

Council invoices by Chequer.

Council staff are working with Streetsmart to implement an alternative arrangement where dispatch and invoicing of bags may be managed directly by Streetsmart and/or by Council. Council will ensure that sufficient stocks of bags are available at all times to cover possible contingencies.

5.2 Resource Recovery Centres

Waste tonnages at Richmond are now generally tracking 70% above 2005/2006 monthly totals. Commencing late December, agreement was reached with the refuse haulage contractor to provide additional short term resources to service the Mariri RRC and in order for existing resources to service Richmond and Takaka RRC's.

Feedback from the general public and commercial customers has led to Council staff reviewing the winter opening hours of the Takaka RRC with the site operator.

A review of weekend activity at the site indicates that there is very little demand for the site to be open on Sunday mornings and early afternoons and that resources from this time would be better employed to provide extended opening hours during weekdays.

The following amended opening hours are proposed over a six-week trial period:

	Existing Winter Hours	Proposed Winter Hours
Monday, Wednesday, Friday	10.00am – 4.00pm	8.30am – 4.00pm
Saturday	9.00am – 4.00pm	9.00am – 4.00pm
Sunday	9.00am – 4.00pm	1.30pm – 4.00pm

5.3 Capital works

Conceptual design for the transfer station and landfill cell extension options at Murchison are largely complete and will be reviewed by staff in the week commencing 12 February.

The new kiosk for the Mariri site is due for delivery in the week commencing 12 February, with a date of installation due to be confirmed this week.

Design for the weighbridge and associated site improvements at the Richmond RRC site continues. Cost estimates for these works indicate the total cost of works may exceed the capital works budget for the Richmond site; this increase is likely to be offset by a reduction in capital works costs at the Mariri site.

6 TENDERS

Tenders awarded since the last meeting are:

No.	Contract name	No. of tenders received	Successful tenderer	Amount	Highest amount	TDC estimate	Budget for this item
673	CCTV Survey	4	Aqua Lance Consultancy Services	\$78,032	\$172,020	\$142,406	\$85,000
693	Motupipi Street Sewer Upgrade	3	Works Infrastructure	\$229,029	\$405,467	\$322,958	\$263,000
694	Ehau Subdivision Stormwater Improvements	2	Adcock & Donaldson	\$87,579	\$91,274	\$106,840	-

7 RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received.

Jeff Cuthbertson
Utilities Asset Manager