

STAFF REPORT

TO: Chairman and Members, Engineering Services Committee
FROM: Jeff Cuthbertson, Utilities Manager
DATE: 3 June 2008
SUBJECT: UTILITIES MANAGEMENT REPORT

1 GENERAL

The maintenance contractor has continued to perform well during the last period and operational issues have been kept to a minimum. No significant rain events have occurred during the month of May.

A monthly Utilities contract meeting was held on 7 May.

Progress continues to improve the operational performance of the telemetry system with the installation of digital units at the highest priority water treatment sites. Work is also planned to relocate the telemetry base station and base radio units from the MWH office to the temperature-controlled server room at Council's Richmond office. This will improve not only the serviceability of the equipment, but also the security of Council's electronic network access.

2 WATER

2.1 General

Water schemes continued to operate without significant issues. The issues from telemetry faults in early April in the Dovedale scheme, in particular at Thorns Reservoir, have been resolved.

The following water supply operational issues have occurred over the period:

- break on 100mm main in Oxford Street, Richmond - repair was undertaken;
- mains break on 80mm Redwoods 1, caused issues maintaining reservoir levels and airlocks within the system reticulation and took some time to resolve
- damage to 40mm galvanised pipe across Wai-iti River bridge was repaired – the damage was the result of vandalism.

Leak detection and remedial work continues in Tapawera and Murchison. A number of leaks have been identified for urgent repair in Murchison, and the main replacement in Tapawera is due to commence.

Other work includes:

- Richmond Town Centre water main diversion – now largely complete;
- Richmond/Murchison water meter replacements – underway;
- Extension to main on Hampden Street Murchison is in progress (main to new sports and recreation centre).

2.2 Water Capital Projects

- **Brightwater Reservoir**

Installation of the pre-cast wall panel units has been completed, gaps in-filled and curing in preparation for post-tensioning. The main support beams and pilasters have been constructed and are ready for delivery to the site. The work is on track and expected to be completed within the proposed timeline.

- **Seaton Valley Main**

Ching Contracting Ltd have been issued with Practical Completion for the work under this contract. The project has been completed within programmed timelines and final costs have come in under the contract price. The feedback from affected landowners has also been very positive.

- **Motueka Watermain Renewal**

This contract predominantly includes watermain renewal work in Woodlands Avenue, Motueka. The contract closed early June and the work is expected to be awarded prior to the end of the month.

3 STORMWATER

3.1 General

Utilities networks were not impacted this month as there were no rainfall events of significance.

Routine stormwater maintenance was undertaken in accordance with the annual schedule. Scheduled monthly drain maintenance was completed by the mowing subcontractor.

Other stormwater works underway or due to commence include:

- Iwa Street, Mapua - stormwater pipework extension in conjunction with the roading upgrade project has commenced and is progressing well.

3.2 Stormwater Capital Projects

- **Croucher/D'Arcy/Bird/Elizabeth Streets, Richmond**

Design and documentation for this work is undergoing final amendment and the project is expected to be advertised for tender shortly. The proposed work consists of three portions: stormwater works scheduled for 2007/08, stormwater works scheduled for 2008/09 and wastewater works scheduled for 2008/09. It is proposed to award the works as one single contract, to be completed over two financial years.

Resource consents have been granted and landowner agreements are being concluded for this work. Agreements have been secured with the Church property and the remaining agreements with the Truck Depot are being progressed.

- **Seaton Valley Stream, Mapua**

The resource consent application for the stream works and outlet works was publicly notified on 5 April, with submissions closing on 5 May. Less than ten submissions were received, mostly positive. Discussions with adjacent landowners are continuing in parallel

with this application.

Additional subsurface investigations are currently in progress at each of the culvert and/or bridge locations, to refine detailed design and provide additional information for tenderers. Scheduling of the channel improvements will be finalised after further landowner negotiations.

- **Faulkners Bush, Wakefield**

Design work continues for some limited channel work in this area. Improvements to drainage works in the Treeton Place area have been scheduled in conjunction with roading staff.

- **Reservoir Creek – Templemore Drive section**

Resource consent (for channel improvements in this area) has been granted. Tenders for the work, have closed and three conforming tenders have been received. Evaluation is underway and work is expected to commence in June.

- **Collins Road, Richmond**

Downer EDi Works have commenced this work and the installation is expected to be complete by the end of month.

- **Cornwall Place, Tata Beach**

The tender for the realignment and upgrade of existing stormwater pipework in Cornwall Place has closed and two conforming tenders were received. The tenders were evaluated and a preferred tenderer was obtained, however the resource consent to construct the intake is yet to be secured due to ongoing discussions with affected landowners. A positive outcome and tender award is expected by the end of month.

4 WASTEWATER

4.1 General

All treatment plants were routinely checked during the month and pump stations cleaned. With the absence of major rainfall operational issues were minimal.

The following wastewater operational issues occurred during this period:

- A break occurred in O'Shea Place, Wakefield; no overflow occurred
- A blockage occurred in High Street, Motueka; a minor overflow occurred but was contained and dealt with appropriately
- A blockage occurred in College Street, Motueka; no overflow occurred
- A burst on the 200mm main in Bullivant Drive, Rabbit Island, was contained and the main repaired. The Mapua main pump station was managed with effluent tankered away while pumps were isolated, to minimise the impact
- A burst occurred on the rising main off Clover Road, Hope; overflow was contained and pipe repaired

4.2 Capital works

- **Takaka Sewer and Pumpstation Upgrades**

The tender for this contract has been awarded to Ching Contracting. Work has commenced at the Waitapu Road pumpstation (new site) and at the Primary School

pumpstation sites. The contractor has found groundwater issues to be less substantial than expected and it is hoped the contract will be completed by October.

- **Wastewater Reticulation Renewals Projects**

The contract has been awarded to Fulton Hogan Ltd and is due to commence early June. Work is expected completed by the first week of August.

- **Tapawera Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade**

This contract has been awarded to Adcock & Donaldson Ltd and work is now underway. Resource consent has also now been granted and conditions confirmed.

5 ASSET MANAGEMENT

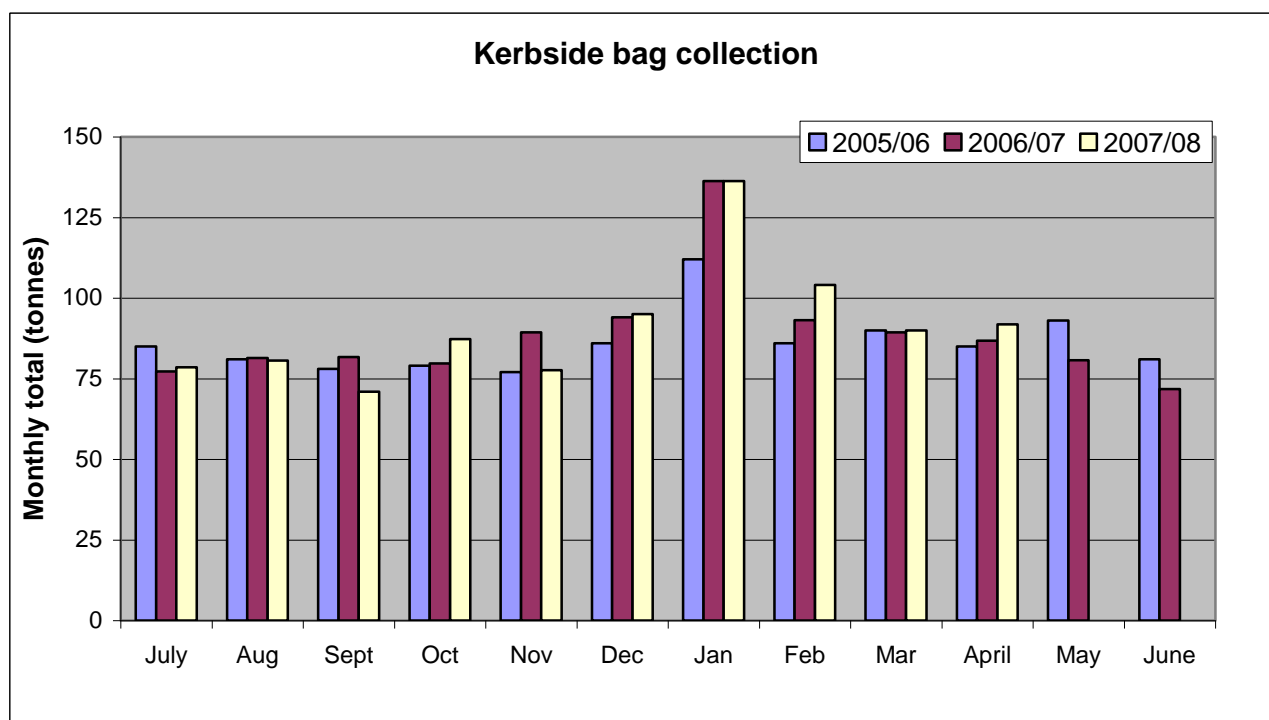
A tender was awarded in April for the internal inspection (CCTV video) of 11km of stormwater and wastewater sewers in Richmond and Motueka. These inspections will improve Council's knowledge of the condition and remaining life of underground assets, as well as identify areas in need of immediate repair. The work was expected to take eight weeks and is on target for completion by the end of this month.

A staff member of the maintenance contractor (Downer EDi Works) is temporarily based in the Engineering Services Department as part the start-up phase of a medium-term data collection project. The staff member will assist Council staff in the collection of asset data over the next twelve months.

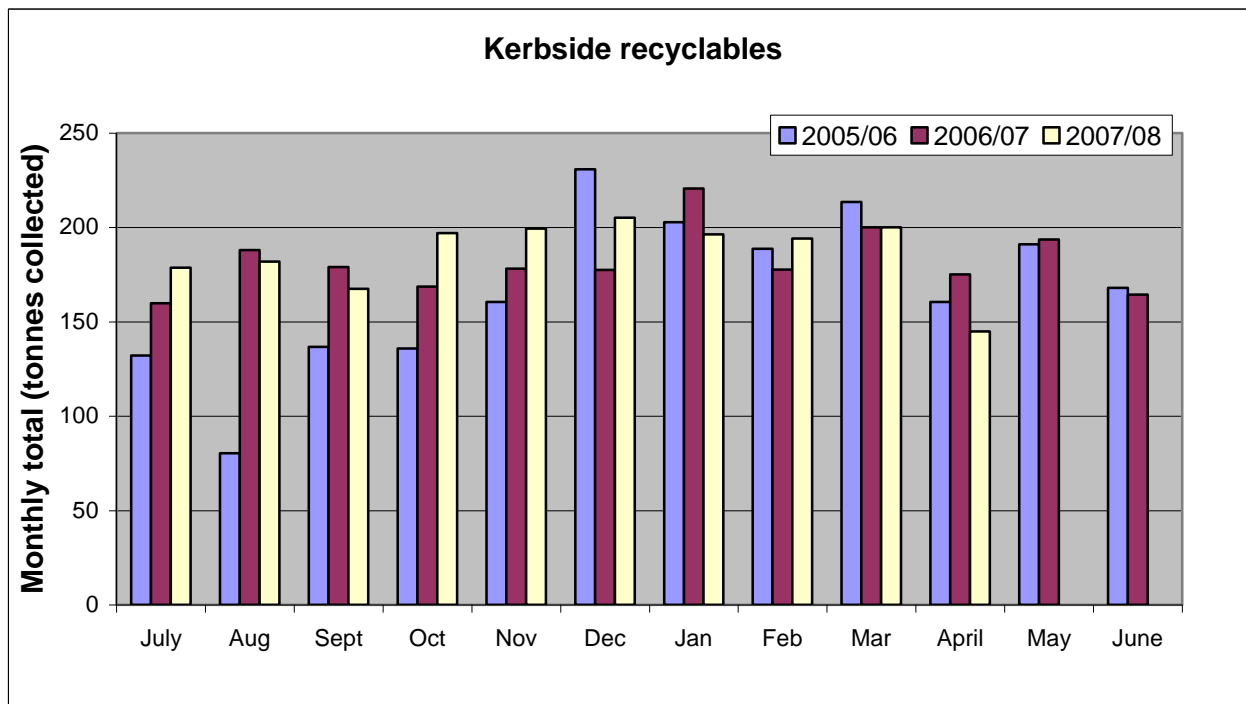
6 SOLID WASTE

6.1 Kerbside recycling and bag collection

Kerbside collection continued over the period with no significant issues. Official bag sales and collection rates have remained steady this year compared with previous years.



Kerbside recycling tonnages continue to steadily increase; annual totals up to March were tracking 4% above those of last year, there is an unexplained drop off in April.



6.2 Resource Recovery Centres

Operations at the five Resource Recovery Centres continued over the period with few issues.

- **Richmond**

This site continues to be particularly busy with seasonally adjusted tonnages tracking 22% above last year's totals.

Drainage improvements on the site are expected to be completed in June.

Council staff are continuing to work with the consultants and the site and transport contractors to optimise other site improvements to manage increased volumes of refuse and recycling.

- **Mariri**

Refuse quantities at this site have continued to track upwards, with tonnages currently 7% over previous year's rates.

Weighbridge installation works are underway as programmed with the weighbridge expected to be operational by the end of June. Installation of the weighbridge at this site should significantly improve recyclable handling, recovery rates and data management.

Recent works to improve drainage in the pit area have improved performance of the site in wet weather. Further investigation is being carried out to assess the effectiveness of the current wastewater disposal field and to highlight any improvements, if required.

- **Takaka**

Refuse quantities at this site are tracking 2% higher than last year. The recyclables storage shed and new glass crushing facilities are working well.

Remaining work programmed for this site is the improvement of water supplies, which is currently being priced.

- **Collingwood**

Refuse quantities at this site are tracking 2% lower than last year.

- **Murchison**

Site development works and construction of the transfer facility are currently underway.

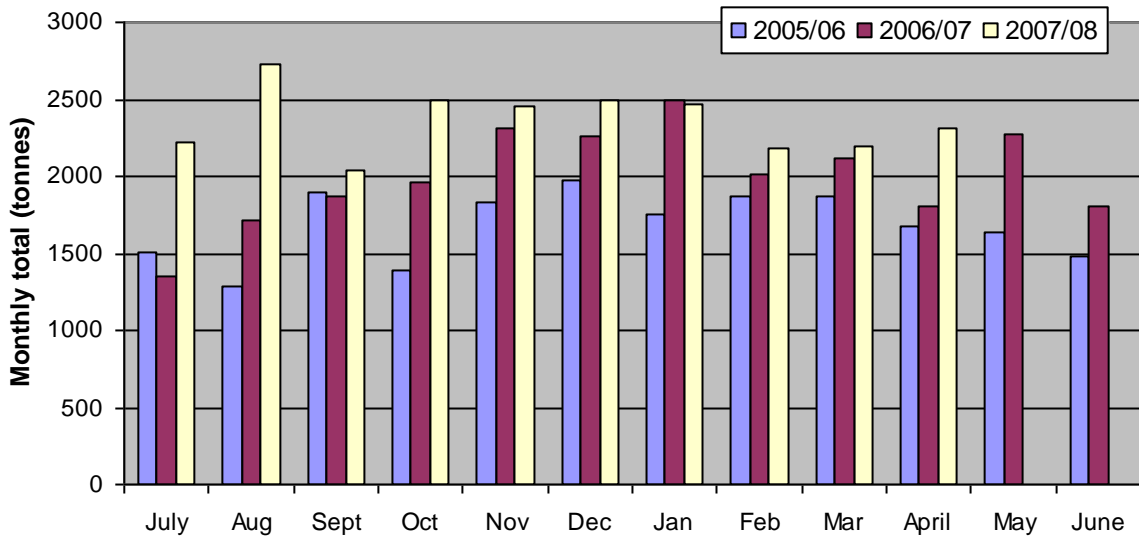
Landfill operations will continue at the site until the final contours are reached, this is in order to maximise the existing facility. An overlap is expected between the completion of the transfer facility and the final closure and capping of the existing cell.

6.3 Eves Valley Landfill

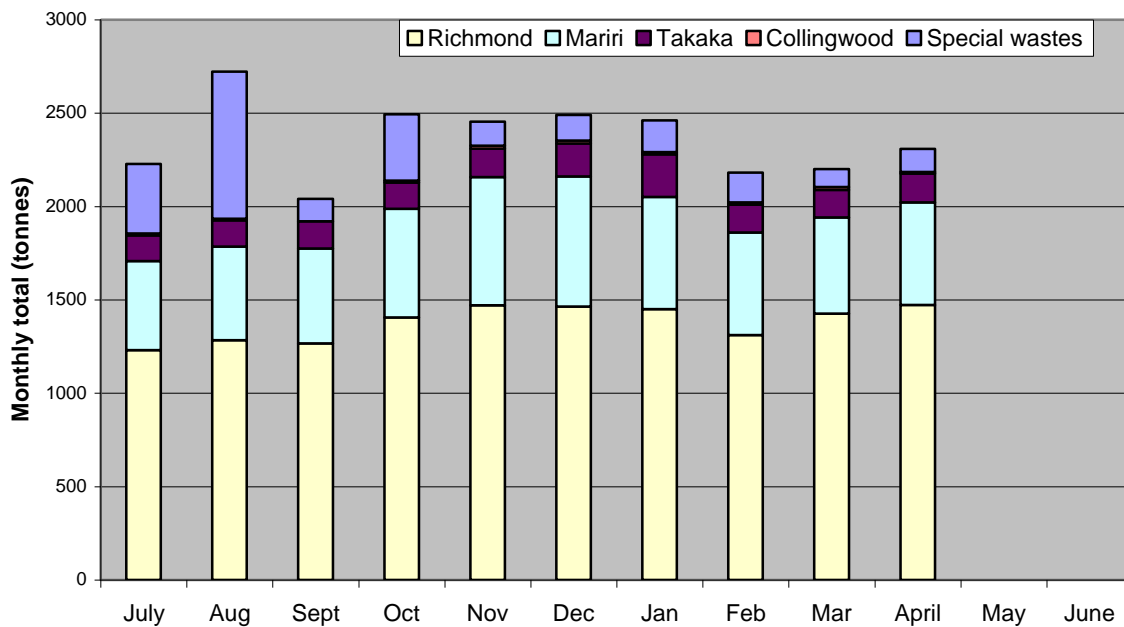
Refuse volumes to Eves Valley have increased 18% this year, with a total quantity of 28,000 tonnes projected for the 2007/2008 financial year. The main source of this increase is additional special waste (+50%) and waste from the Richmond RRC (+20%). Contrary to past years, the total monthly tonnage has tended to not decrease following the holiday season.

Rehabilitation of the access road was completed in May with a two-coat 3/5 chip seal placed on the repair areas only. A full reseal will be required in the next 2 years.

Eves Valley Tonnages



Eves Valley Tonnages: Breakdown



6.4 Waste Education and Waste Minimisation

Activities in the period have included investigation of Council participation in the nationally-coordinated "e-Day" on 4th October. A suitable venue for this event has been agreed in cooperation with Nelson City Council and it is proposed to participate using existing waste minimisation budgets.

Waste Minimisation (Solids) Bill and Waste Management Plan

The Local Government Select Committee reported back to the house on 4 April with amendments to the Waste Minimisation (Solids) Bill. The bill has been renamed the Waste Minimisation Bill and, as reported previously, has been subject to significant submissions and amendments. The select committee delivered a unanimous report and it appears likely to be passed into law this term.

Important aspects of the revised bill identified to date include:

- the introduction of a waste levy on 1 July 2009 (at \$11.25 per tonne incl. GST);
- provision for 50% of levy funds to be provided to local government;
- direction of the remaining levy funds to a contestable fund;
- amended requirements on local government for Waste Management and Minimisation Plans.

Key aspects of the bill will be discussed at an upcoming workshop of waste professionals and staff will report on these as they become available.

7 RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received.

Jeff Cuthbertson
Utilities Asset Manager