



Whakatāne-Tauranga Advisory Group

**Wednesday 4 October 2023
10:00am**

Bay of Plenty Regional Council
5 Quay Street
Whakatane

Whakatāne-Tauranga Rivers Scheme Advisory Group Meeting

Wednesday 4 October at 10am

Agenda

- 1 Welcome**
- 2 Apologies**
- 3 Notes of previous meeting held on 29 March 2023**
- 4 Long Term Plan and Rivers and Drainage Asset Management Plan proposed changes and budget**
- 5 Capital Works Programme Update**
- 6 Maintenance Works Programme Update**
- 7 Finance Report**
- 8 Safeguarding our Stopbanks Project Update**
- 9 Gravel Management Update**
- 10 General business**
- 11 Public forum**
- 12 Meeting closure**

Whakatane-Tauranga Rivers Scheme Advisory Group

Meeting notes

Commencing:	Wednesday, 29 March 2023, 10.00 am
Venue:	Putauaki Room, EastBay REAP
Chairperson:	Cr Toi Iti
Members:	Boots McNaught (Whakatāne Urban), Geoff Mercer (Whakatāne Urban), Scottie McLeod (Rangitāiki Plains), Brian Power (Rangitāiki Plains), Fraser McGougan (Middle Catchment Whakatāne River), Councillor Andrew Iles (WDC Councillor representative), Patrick McGarvey (Te Uru Taumata and Te Komiti o Runa)
BOPRC staff:	Kirsty Brown (Rivers and Drainage Assets Manager), Dan Batten (Rivers and Drainage Operations Manager), Mark Townsend (Engineering Manager), Bruce Crabbe (Principal Advisor), Geoff Stone (Area Engineer), Paula Chapman (Project Manager), Sharleen Augustus (Assets Management Coordinator), Laura Boucher (Comms Partner), Loris Hastie (Management Accountant)
Public:	Joe Metcalfe (WDC Transport Planner) and Richard Faire (WDC Tourism Product Development Advisor), Cr Wilson James (WDC Councillor, Rangitāiki General Ward)
Apologies:	Chris Ingle, Karlo Keogh (Finance Support Team Lead), Cr Toni Boynton (WDC Councillor representative), Cr Ken Shirley, Cr Malcolm Campbell, Bernie Clark (Middle Catchment Tauranga River), Jim Finlay (WDC), Glen Cooper (WDC).

1. Welcome

Chair opened the meeting and followed with around-the-table introductions.

2. Apologies

Apologies were noted as above. Patrick McGarvey advised he would be leaving the meeting early.

3. Previous Meeting Notes

3.1 Resolved

That the Whakatāne-Tauranga Rivers Scheme Advisory Group:

Confirms the notes from the previous meeting held 14 September 2022 are a true and correct record.

**Scottie McLeod/Brian Power
CARRIED**

3.2 Matters Arising:

- There were no matters arising from the previous meeting minutes.

4. Agenda items

4.1 Capital Works Programme Update

Presented by: Mark Townsend. Agenda report taken as read.

Key Points:

- Update on the Rivers Scheme Sustainability (RSS) Project for the Whakatane-Tauranga Rivers Scheme and the Project Future Proof Whakatāne – a programme of work to future proof the lower catchment to 2040.
- Quay Street – plans to install sheet piling to reduce seepage velocity and improve flood protection.
- Kakahoroa Drive – proposing to install sheet piling and raise the flood walls for enhanced flood protection. Consultants have created drawings for reference.
- Yacht club – relocating the road entrance to the west for improved access, with plans to raise the existing ramp.
- Collaborating with Ngāti Awa to enhance the aesthetics of the flood wall.

Key Points - Members:

- Options for Quay Street floodwall (including Perspex): Currently exploring various options but need to consider District Council requirements.
- Analysis of temporary barriers: further assessment required.
- Concerns for Waimana township and surrounding areas: Ongoing assessment and feasibility studies to address potential implications are being continuously developing through the RSS Project.
- Final concept design for Project Future Proof: Timing of availability questioned, with the importance of ensuring feasible concepts and establishing strong partnerships for successful implementation.
- Community resilience and climate change adaptation: Members emphasised the need for a collective effort, highlighting the need to identify risks and vulnerabilities in small settlements and develop mitigation strategies.
- Ensuring risk management: Highlighted the need for staff to prioritise forestry slash (industrial waste).

- Changing attitude towards nature-based solutions and to advocate for collective solutions.

4.2 Maintenance Works Programme Update

Presented by: Dan Batten, Geoff Stone and Bruce Crabbe.
Agenda report taken as read.

Key Points:

- Exceptionally wet period extending from June 2022 through to late February 2023. Refer to data on page 12 of the agenda report.
- Overview of key maintenance projects included repairing high priority defects, repairs to eight flood damage sites, native planting and release spraying, replacement of Waioho stoplogs; repair works on the Kopeo and Orini floodgates underway, and trialling of drone spraying for pampas on the Whakatāne and Tauranga Rivers.
- Currently collaborating with WDC and landowners to address private stormwater pipes crossing or through the stopbank at Henderson Street.
- Actively addressing defects discovered on Whakatāne River floodwalls including cracks on the Muriwai Drive wall. Currently seeking geotechnical input.
- Challenges relating to the dumping of rubbish. Had to engage specialised contractors to safely remove drug related waste and vehicles. Currently in discussions with WDC around installing CCTV.

Key Points - Members:

- Who is looking after the seepage problem? The Bylaws team are looking after this.
- Willows are sprayed and topped in some areas and we manage them but we have to be careful of what type of willow we use.
- Significant gravel has moved and has been taken off the banks, caused by nature.
- Landowners would like to extract gravel and would like there to be more transparency around gravel extraction and who gets the benefit of it. There is distrust with diggers coming to remove gravel, so we have to work on shifting the culture.
- How much rock armour do we have? – In certain areas it reinstates itself and we need to plan ahead for if an event happens too.

4.3 Safeguarding our Stopbanks (SOS) Project Update

Presented by: Paula Chapman. Agenda report was taken as read.

Key Points:

- Stage 2 is currently underway. Weather conditions have affected the project's timeline.
- Resolution of private stormwater arrangements – solutions are being explored in collaboration with WDC. There will be costs to the landowners involved.
- Where problematic trees on private land have been discovered most landowners have been accommodating in their removal.

- Stage 2B floodwall: due to weather delays, remediation will be carried out by two teams to speed up the physical works. Defects have been discovered on the floodwall and will be repaired.
- Communication efforts: monthly newsletters have been sent to residents, updates published in the Whakatāne Beacon and project webpage. Engaged with real estate agents and other groups to share information about the project. Contractors onsite are also distributing flyers.
- Stages 3 and 4 of the project involves the stopbank behind Riverside Drive. This work is schedule for 2023/24 and 2024/25.
- Feedback sought from the group members regarding the proposal to allocate capital funding for Stage 3 in the 2023/24 Annual Plan. The proposal can be found on page 16 of the agenda.

Discussion:

- Planting along property boundaries: Plans are in place to educate residents about the Flood Protection and Drainage Bylaws, with the goal of promoting awareness and understanding. Any problematic plantings and/or structures will be picked up during condition field inspections
- Fences have been installed back along the legal boundaries.
- Trees and stump removal: Rehabilitation is planned for areas near floodwalls and stopbanks. If necessary, filter drains may be installed. Council has been disposing of the green waste as part of the project.
- Property market considerations: Currently, people may avoid buying properties near stopbanks due to market conditions or concerns about potential flooding risks.
- Proposed funding options: Initially, project works were funded through the operations budget. However, as the project has progressed and the extent of the encroachments has been discovered, rehabilitation of the stopbank has been necessary therefore is more suitable to be included in the capital programme, in accordance with the Rivers and Drainage Asset Management Plan. This was supported by the advisory group members along with transferring previous expenditure into capital funding.

Items for staff to follow up:

- Explore the possibility of including SOS Project flyers with Council's rate invoices.

4.4 Cycleways on BOPRC Stopbanks in the Eastern Bay

Presented by: Kirsty Brown, Richard Faire (WDC). Report taken as read.

Key Points:

- Whakatane District Council has obtained Government funding for cycleway construction.
- Funding relates to three cycleways which are situated largely on BOPRC managed stopbanks.
- Staff are supportive in principle, recognising the primary purpose of the stopbank is flood protection.
- Next stage is engagement with hapū and the community.

Key Points - Members:

- Tāneatua to Whakatāne – the potential for a cycle track from Taneatua to Whakatāne should be considered in the future.
- Consultation to be completed within the next 3 to 4 months.
- There is currently no plans to utilise the old rail tracks.

4.5 Finance Report Update

Presented by: Kirsty Brown. Agenda report taken as read.

Key Points:

- Revenue and expenditure update for the 6 months ending 31 December 2022.
- Total operating revenue is \$39,000 higher than budget due to grazing licence fees and WDC's contribution towards the SOS Project.
- Total operation expenditure \$650,000 higher than budget.
- Total operating deficit of \$611,000.
- Total capital revenue \$445,000 higher due to final insurance pay out for the April 2017 flood event.
- Total capital expenditure was \$2.9M lower than budget.
- Total funds available in reserves as at 31 December 2022 was \$878,000.
- Internal loans had a closing balance as of 31 December 2022 of \$7.3M.
- Asset valuation as of 1 July 2022 of \$99M.

There were no matters arising.

4.6 Upcoming Long Term Plan, Rivers and Drainage Asset Management Plan and Infrastructure Strategy Review

Presented by: Kirsty Brown. Agenda report taken as read.

Key Points:

- Three yearly reviews of Council's Long Term Plan, Rivers and Drainage Asset Management Plan and Infrastructure Strategy due to commence.
- Central theme will be supporting communities to be more sustainable and resilient.
- Requires shift in thinking for ongoing and future flood and river erosion works to enable the river to behave more naturally.
- Sought feedback from members how they would like to contribute to proposed draft plans and budgets.

In Response to Questions:

- Staff are currently workshopping what “making room for the rivers” means for the Council, noting that each catchment, river, and river reach are different.

Items for staff to follow up:

- Extend 4 October 2023 meeting to include extra time for the draft LTP, Rivers and Drainage Asset Management Plan and Infrastructure Strategy discussion.
- Provide information regarding “making room for the rivers” at the September meeting.

4.7 Gravel Extraction Update

Presented by: Mark Townsend and Paula Chapman. Agenda report taken as read.

Key Points:

- Extraction directed towards locations where it is beneficial for river management.
- One allocation approved in December 2022 at Owhakatoro Bridge because of gravel build up at Bridge 105.
- No extractions on the Whakatane River have been approved since 2018, due to declining bed levels above Ohutu Bridge.

Discussion:

- CFL Ltd application to extract 20,000m³ per annum from defined locations on the Whakatāne River is currently on hold at the request of the applicant.

4.8 General Business

Presented by: Kirsty Brown and Laura Boucher. Agenda report taken as read.

Key Points:

- Expecting significant impact on the cost and availability of infrastructure insurance coverage following Auckland floods and Cyclone Gabrielle. This insurance covers the 40% local authority share of infrastructure restoration following a natural disaster.
- Careful monitoring and analysis of the insurance market and Council’s asset risk is required. Members will be kept informed.
- Open letter from the Eastern Bay advisory group members requesting Council commissions an extensive independent forest condition survey and pest animal inventory of Te Urewera and the adjoining Department of Conservation estate.

Key Points – Members:

- The circulation of the letter without consulting the landowner was seen as disrespectful. Te Uru Taumatua (TUT) has been actively trying to secure funding for pest control, but they have encountered difficulties due to a shortage of forest caretakers. It has been observed that the younger generation of Tūhoe no longer have an interest in living or working in the bush. TUT is actively searching for solutions and is greatly concerned about the presence of animal pests in Te Urewera.

- Staff recommended the members should engage directly with TUT and DOC to address these concerns. The possibility of conducting a satellite survey of the area was also discussed.

Items for staff to follow up:

- Explore the feasibility of conducting a satellite survey to gather more information about the upper catchment conditions.

Additional General Business items:

Kopeopeo Canal - Brian Power

- Sheetpiles have been causing constrictions, resulting in restricted water movement. Despite promises made to landowners along the canal, a rate reduction has not been implemented as expected. It was noted that there have been changes in the water dynamics, with higher water tables leading to higher base flows.
- It was suggested that further removal of the sheetpiles should be considered. Recently, the area experienced flooding for the first time, highlighting the urgency to address the issues in the canal.
- Noted the presence of dioxin in the upper drain, emphasising the need for remedial action in this specific section. One suggestion is to dig a trench adjacent to the contaminated area.
- The Whakatāne River level has been consistently high since June. If the marina were in place, it raises questions about accessibility to the other side of the river. Discussion continued with the Whakatāne marina proposal and the need for continuous dredging, with the sandbar near the yacht club serving as an indicator of the river's shifting channel. It is advised that thorough sounding checks be conducted during the marina development process.
- Lastly, there was a suggestion to explore the possibility of a contingency stopbank on private land near the Eastern Drain.

Items for staff follow up:

- Confirm why rates reduction for landowners has been implemented.
- Report back to the October meeting on plans for Kopeopeo Canal, including clarity on levels and historical data.

Making Room for the River

- The concept of "Making Room for the River" is being proposed as a potential future central government legislation.
- The implementation of this concept for the upper catchments involves identifying river management lines or corridors, allowing the river to shift and move within these designated areas.
- By creating more space for the river to flow naturally, the aim is to mitigate the risk of flooding and reduce the frequency and severity of flood-related damages.
- One of the key benefits of adopting this approach is the potential reduction in maintenance costs associated with traditional flood control methods.

- The focus of "Making Room for the River" is to strike a balance between activities in flood-prone areas and the need for natural river processes to continue without causing extensive harm.
- By allowing rivers to adapt and change their course, it promotes a more sustainable and resilient approach to managing flood risks and river ecosystems.
- Members would like to be educated regarding "Making Room for the River."

Comms Update

- Been updating BOPRC website by making it more accessible, Bylaw pages, flood defence overview, capital works going on and sending out mail outs and newsletters.

12.27 pm - the meeting closed.

Next meeting 4 October 2023

CONFIRMED

Councillor Toi Iti
Meeting Chairperson, Rangitaiki-Tarawera
Rivers Scheme Advisory Group

Action Sheet

Whakatane-Tauranga Rivers Scheme Advisory Group Meeting 29 March 2023

Action	Person Responsible	Completed	Comment
1. Could the Regional Council Quarterly rates invoices include flyers? Send Andrew Iles some flyers to see if these would be suitable to send out with the rates invoices.	Paula	Completed	https://objective.envbop.net/documents/A4343429/details Email sent to Andrew from Paula
2. Extend the 4 October meeting to allow discussion of the LTP, Asset Management Plan and Infrastructure Strategy.	Sharleen	Completed	4 October 2023 Meeting time has been extended to allow for discussion of the LTP and RAD AMP.
3. Confirm why rates reduction for landowners has not been implemented.	Bruce	Completed	Email dated 18 July 2023. Discovered rebate had only been applied to one of the scheme rates. The Rates team have now rectified this issue.
4. Report back to the October meeting on plans for Kopeopeo Canal, including clarity on levels and historical data.	Mark	Underway	Update to be provided at October 2023 meeting.
5. Room for the Rivers - Update members at the October meeting.	Mark/Kirsty	Underway	Update to be provided at the October 2023 meeting.

MEMORANDUM



To: Whakatāne-Tauranga Rivers Scheme
Advisory Group representatives

From: Hemi Barsdell
Assets Management Specialist

Date: 14 September 2023

File Ref: A4479899

Subject: Long Term Plan 2024-2034 and the Rivers and Drainage Assets Management Plan 2024-2074

The purpose of this memo is to provide information on the proposed draft budgets for the Long Term Plan 2024-2034 and the Rivers and Drainage Asset Management Plan 2024-2074. These budget figures are still in their initial stages and will be further refined following this meeting and will be presented at the March 2024 advisory group meeting.

Background

The Long Term Plan (LTP) is Council's key strategic document. It sets out Council's priorities for the next ten years, including what will be done, how much it will cost and how it will be funded.

The Rivers and Drainage Asset Management Plan (AMP) is a 50-year plan that provides information about the assets and how they are maintained and managed to provide levels of service. Information from the AMP feeds into the LTP.

Both plans are reviewed every three years alongside each other to make sure they are relevant and accurate.

Proposed Operations Expenditure

Operational expenditure is required for the day-to-day operation of the rivers and drainage schemes while maintaining the current levels of service.

Generally, projected operations budgets will continue to be comparative with previous years' budgets, but with annual increases proposed as follows:

- Asset defect remediation: \$70,000 contractor, \$20,000 materials.
- Flood Protection and Drainage Bylaws 2020 (education, pre-app advice, processing, compliance and monitoring): \$100,000 contractor.
- Urban stopbank mowing: \$27,500 contractor.
- Ecological offset or enhancement work: \$10,000 contractor.

Approved draft LTP 2024-2034 operations budgets are still in development and we will share detailed information at the upcoming meeting in March 2024. The following table however, gives an indication of some of the forecasted expenditure that is proposed in draft.

Whakatāne-Tauranga Rivers Scheme				
NATURAL ACCOUNT	LTP 2021-2031 YEAR 1	LTP 2021-2031 YEAR 1 x CPI	DRAFT LTP 2024-2034 YEAR 1	PROPOSED INCREASE
2330 – Electricity/Gas	\$51,120	\$60,322	\$60,322	\$0
2500 – Contract Work	\$552,798	\$652,301	\$854,730	\$202,429
2700 – Materials	\$121,477	\$143,343	\$144,507	\$1,164
Total maintenance costs (excludes overheads, salaries, depreciation, flood damage reserve and loan interest)	\$725,395	\$855,966	\$1,059,559	\$203,593

Capital Expenditure

Capital expenditure is the creation or replacement of assets; or works which improve or upgrade existing assets to meet level of service requirements.

The following table summarises the proposed capital expenditure for the Whakatāne-Tauranga Rivers Scheme for the period 2024-2074. Please note that detailed planning is conducted for the Long-Term Plan period 2024-2034 while costs become more indicative in the years beyond and are more subject to change.

Whakatāne-Tauranga Rivers Scheme			
Year	Capital works	Type	How much
Year 1 (2024-2025)	Whakatāne Urban Stopbanks Project Future Proof	Improvement	\$5,688,000
	Canal Stopbank Upgrades	Improvement	\$1,505,000
	Trident Stopbank Upgrade	Improvement	\$2,316,000
	Safeguarding Our Stopbanks Project	Improvement	\$900,000
	Structure renewals	Replacement	\$200,000
	Fish passage enhancement	Improvement	\$30,000
			Total: \$10,639,000
Year 2 (2025-2026)	Whakatāne Urban Stopbanks Project Future Proof	Improvement	\$4,056,000
	Safeguarding Our Stopbanks Project	Improvement	\$560,000
	Structure renewals	Improvement	\$200,000

Whakatāne-Tauranga Rivers Scheme			
	Fish passage enhancement	Improvement	\$30,000
			Total: \$4,846,000
Year 3 (2026-2027)	Whakatāne Urban Stopbanks Project Future Proof	Improvement	\$5,267,000
	Safeguarding Our Stopbanks	Improvement	\$325,000
	Structure renewals	Replacement	\$200,000
	Resource consent	New	\$26,000
	Fish passage enhancement	Improvement	\$30,000
			Total: \$5,848,000
Year 4 (2027-2028)	Structure renewals	Replacement	\$442,000
	Resource consent	New	\$52,000
Year 5 (2028-2029)	Structure renewals	Replacement	\$860,000
	Resource consent	New	\$130,000
Year 6 (2029-2030)	Capacity review - hydrology	Improvement	\$50,000
	Structure renewals	Replacement	\$205,000
Year 7 (2030-2031)	Capacity review - modelling	Improvement	\$100,000
Year 8 (2031-2032)	Capacity review - modelling	Improvement	\$100,000
Year 9 (2032-2033)	Capacity review - design	Improvement	\$100,000
Year 10 (2033-2034)	Stopbank Upgrades	Improvement	\$2,000,000
	Structure renewals	Replacement	\$50,000
		TOTAL 2024-2034	\$25,422,000
Years 11-20 (2034-2044)	Capacity reviews/ modelling and stopbank upgrades. Various replacements/renewals.	New, Improvements Replacements,	\$7,692,000
Years 21-30 (2044-2054)	Capacity reviews/ modelling and stopbank upgrades. Various replacements/renewals.	New, Improvements Replacements,	\$3,333,000
Years 31-40 (2054-2064)	Capacity reviews/ modelling and stopbank upgrades. Various replacements/renewals.	New, Improvements Replacements,	\$3,439,069
Years 41-50 (2064-2074)	Capacity reviews/ modelling and stopbank upgrades.	New, Improvements Replacements,	\$3,808,000

Whakatāne-Tauranga Rivers Scheme			
	Various replacements/renewals.		

Potential Future Financial Impacts

Proposed changes to BOPRC’s Regional Natural Resources Plan (RNRP) are being made to align with the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020. This alignment will include the incorporation of Te Mana o Te Wai as a central principle. Consequently, there may be significant requirements imposed on schemes concerning the quality of drainage discharges and scheme maintenance.

The proposed changes to the RNRP are currently being discussed with communities across the Bay of Plenty region. These changes will be officially announced for public input in 2024. It’s important to note that the outcome of this process could have substantial financial implications for scheme management and rate payers are encouraged to participate through consultation and submissions processes.

Furthermore, indications from Aon, the BOPLASS insurance brokers, is to expect a significant increase in the cost of infrastructure insurance due to recent national and international weather events. For the 2024-25 financial year, Aon have tentatively advised to budget for a 30% increase on the current year’s premium (\$280,962). The extent of this increase depends on global market conditions and insurers’ risk tolerance and will be confirmed later in 2023.

Room for the River

During past advisory group meetings, it has been highlighted that we are entering a period of change for river management. This entails evolving principles and best practices, along with reforms and policy changes by the central government. One such policy is Te Mana o Te Wai which places the well-being and health of our rivers at the forefront of freshwater management. It also encourages greater collaboration with iwi partners.

This shift in approach will particularly impact ongoing and future flood and erosion projects, both in rural and urban areas. The focus will be to enable river catchments to behave more naturally with less frequent interventions. This will change the way river works are managed in the future with a focus on adaptability, maximising natural river processes while working towards meeting flood protection levels of service. Potential future solutions might involve creating more space for the river and incorporating natural and nature-based flood risk management solutions.

The concept of ‘Room for Rivers’ is used globally to restore the natural flow path of rivers that have been confined to narrow corridors over time due mainly to human activities. This approach has been informing part of Council’s approach to river management for some time, as the historical effect of confining rivers is being exacerbated by climate change.

Council is proposing further trialling of the ‘Room for Rivers’ approach in the upper Whakatāne River area upstream of the Ohutu Road bridge. This approach is expected to play an increasingly pivotal role in future decision-making, especially regarding the direction of our Rivers and Drainage function.

Affordability is a key factor for both the Council and the community it serves, and it underpins the long-term implementation of the ‘Room for Rivers’ approach. For

instance, investing in the maintenance or repair of a riverbank in a remote area might not be cost-effective if it provides minimal benefits in managing erosion risks due to the river's confinement.

Currently staff are developing draft decision support tools for erosion management interventions that include Room for the River guidelines. Previous mapping by Gary Williams to define river management corridors (previously shared with the advisory group) is also being reviewed currently, and both the decision support tools and revised management corridors will be presented at the March 2024 advisory group meeting. Council will also be undertaking consultation with iwi and landowners to lead the development of this approach.

Room for the River will be reflected in revised levels of service in the Rivers and Drainage Asset Management Plan 2024-2074 which will be the subject of public consultation through the LTP 2024-2034 process.

Indicative LTP 2024-2034 timeline

- 4 October 2023 - Whakatāne-Tauranga Rivers Scheme Advisory Group meeting.
- December 2023 - Council's adoption of draft LTP activity plans, asset management plans and budgets for audit.
- January 2024 - Audit NZ review.
- March 2024 - full public consultation including public submissions.
- May/June 2024 - Council deliberations and adoption of Final LTP.
- 1 July 2024 - LTP becomes operational.

March 2024 Advisory Group meeting

A full and comprehensive budget with rating implications will be presented to the Advisory Group at the March 2024 meeting. Member feedback will influence Council deliberations prior to approval in June 2024.



Hemi Barsdell

Assets Management Specialist

Whakatāne-Tauranga Rivers Scheme

Capital Works Programme 2023-2024

The following table outlines the Whakatane-Tauranga Rivers Scheme capital work programme for 2023-2024.

Budget figures are from the Annual Plan 2023-2024 and do not include approved carry forwards from the previous financial year.

Whakatane-Tauranga Rivers Scheme Capital Budget for 2023-2024 is \$3,921,000 this is exclusive of carry forward funding.

Project name and background	Budget Annual Plan 2023-2024	Update	Milestones 2023-2024
<p>Project Future Proof - Whakatāne Town Centre flood defence upgrade</p> <p>Programme of work to ensure river scheme assets within Whakatāne town will continue to protect the community from flooding in coming decades. The work involves upgrades to stopbanks, floodwalls and stop-logs, and includes geotechnical seepage control measures.</p> <p>The current focus of the project is on upgrading floodwalls, and remediating seepage issues, within Whakatāne town centre (from the McAllister Street Pump Station to the Whakatāne iSite along Kakahoroa Drive.</p> <p>This work has attracted Central Government Climate Resilience Funding.</p> <p>For information and updates visit the Project Page or www.boprc.govt.nz/our-projects/whakatane-town-centre-flood-defence-upgrade</p>	<p>\$2,933,000</p> <p>Plus carry forward funding from 2023-24, Council to approve.</p> <p>Total proposed budget \$4,989,000</p>	<p>Detailed design is complete.</p> <p>Final hapū/iwi consultation underway, walk-shops planned over the coming few weeks.</p> <p>Tender for Kakahoroa East and West Stage One works planned for October.</p>	<p>Stage One</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction works commence December 2023. Works complete June 2024.
<p>Eastern Drain Stopbank Upgrade</p> <p>The Eastern Drain stopbanks have been identified as being a high risk of failure. Construction works are planned for 2023/24.</p>	<p>\$ nil</p> <p>Carry forward funding from 2023-24, Council to approve.</p>	<p>Modelling completed. Analysis and costing of options underway.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works complete June 2024.

Project name and background	Budget Annual Plan 2023-2024	Update	Milestones 2023-2024
	Total proposed budget is \$789,000.		
<p>Whakatāne Capacity Review – modelling</p> <p>The purpose of the capacity review is to assess current flood protection and determine whether upgrades are required to meet and maintain the agreed level of service.</p> <p>The focus in 2022/23 was on hydraulic modelling of the Whakatāne River and canals (Te Rahu, Waioho, Kopeopeo and Orini). Further modelling work and design work is planned for 2023/24 with construction recommended for 2024/25.</p>	<p>\$ 58,000</p> <p>Plus carry forward funding from 2023-24, Council to approve.</p>	<p>Modelling works underway expected completion December 2023.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modelling and design work completed June 2024.
<p>Trident High School Stopbank - Design</p> <p>Various sections of the stopbank beside Trident high school require upgrading. The work will include removal of tree roots and stumps on the road side.</p> <p>Investigation and design are planned for 2023/24 with construction provided for in 2024/25.</p>	<p>\$174,000</p>	<p>Project scoping work underway.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed design completed by June 2024 • Consultation with affected parties undertaken.
<p>Whakatāne-Tauranga Culvert Renewals</p> <p>Renewal of culverts in keeping with asset management planning. The work this year involves a number of locations in Poroporo and Tāneatua.</p>	<p>\$58,000</p>	<p>Project scoping work underway.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works complete June 2024.
<p>Safeguarding our Stopbanks</p> <p>The Safeguarding our Stopbanks work involves removing vegetation and structures on flood protection land, along with the repair and remediation of those flood protection assets.</p> <p>The work this year is focused on Stage 3 southern end of Riverside Drive.</p>	<p>\$698,000</p>	<p>Geotechnical investigations and planning work underway.</p> <p>Physical works scoping underway.</p> <p>Engagement and communication ongoing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works underway October 2023. • Works completed by June 2024.

Whakatāne-Tauranga Rivers Scheme

Maintenance Programme 2023-2024

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the Whakatāne-Tauranga Rivers Scheme maintenance work programme for 2023-2024

Maintenance programme

Maintenance works comprise of activities that ensure the drainage and river flood protection networks are operational and providing the agreed level of service. These activities are programmed through the Rivers and Drainage Asset Management Plan, considering asset lifecycles, maintenance, and inspection schedules. Maintenance programme budgets are set during the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan processes.

Scheme maintenance work includes:

- Pump Stations - operation, inspections, and maintenance (Kope-Orini, Fortunes and Te Rahu pump stations)
- Culverts and floodgates - inspections and maintenance
- Stopbanks - inspections, maintenance, repairs, pest control
- River maintenance - pest plant control, vegetation maintenance, gravel beach shaping and overflow depressions, and habitat enhancement
- Erosion control - rock refurbishment, edge planting, trenched willows, willow maintenance
- Annual flood damage repairs
- Repairs to defects identified through asset condition inspections and assessment

Key projects in 2023-2024:

- Safeguarding our Stopbanks Stage Two (20 properties from 48 Henderson Street to 80 Landing Road and 2-6 Mananui Crescent) – work includes remediation of structures, trees and vegetation on public land that could affect the integrity of community flood protection stopbanks and floodwalls.
- Repairing priority defects identified through asset condition assessments – three priority sites on the Whakatāne River currently identified.
- Repairs to 14 annual flood damage sites – eight on Whakatāne River and six on Tauranga River.
- Upgrade of the Kope-Orini floodgate opening gantry.
- Focus on pest plant control e.g. combating the proliferation of pampas in the river floodway.
- Gravel beach maintenance and overflow depressions to keep the gravel mobile and avoid constriction of the river floodway. Where possible using softer engineering options and applying a ‘room for the river’ corridor for decision making on repair priorities.
- Working collaboratively with iwi and hapū on maintenance work, flood repairs and enhancement projects.
- Orini Canal erosion repairs, upstream of the Kope-Orini floodgate. At one site edge planting with a sedge species (*Bolboschoenus*) is being trialed as an alternative to rock. The Kope-Orini floodgates are regularly held open to refresh water quality and control aquatic weed within the Orini and Kopeopeo waterways. The sedge species being trialed are salt-tolerant and will hopefully alleviate the need for rock edge protection works. Note the juvenile plants on the left side of the photo below.

Maintenance programme budget 2023-2024

A budget summary table for the Whakatāne-Tauranga Rivers Scheme maintenance programme is shown below. The annual budget figures include operational costs only and exclude non-operational costs (e.g. debt servicing and infrastructural asset insurance).

Whakatāne-Tauranga Rivers Scheme Maintenance Programme Budget 2022-2023	
Annual Maintenance Budget	\$904,500
Annual Flood Damage Allowance	\$247,300
TOTAL	\$1,151,800

Bay of Plenty Regional Council - Toi Moana

Statement of revenue and expense: Whakatane-Tauranga Rivers Scheme

DRAFT

For the 12 months ending 30 June 2023

Line	Year to date		Variance			2023/24
	Budget	Actual	\$	Variance Indicator	Variance Comments	Budget
	\$000					\$000
1	Operating revenue by class					
2	General rates	208	208	0	Lower	284
3	Targeted rates	2,106	2,106	0	-	2,273
4	External interest income	33	18	(15)	Lower	9
5	Other revenue	65	567	502	Higher	69
6	Investment income	318	318	(0)	Lower	348
7	Total revenue	2,730	3,217	487	Higher	2,983
8	Operating expenditure by class					
9	Administration expenses	8	7	(1)	Lower	9
10	Other expenses	455	478	23	Higher	2,125
11	Consultancy fees	0	21	21	Higher	
12	Contract work	518	1,067	549	Higher	573
13	Depreciation and Amortisation	275	995	720	Higher	306
14	Subtotal - expenditure	1,256	2,568	1,312	Higher	3,013
15	Net overhead charges and recoveries	1,207	1,023	(184)	Lower	1,314
16	Total operating expenditure	2,463	3,591	1,128	Higher	4,327
17	Total operating surplus (deficit)	267	(374)	(641)		(1,344)
18	Capital revenue by class					
18	Capital funding	1,388	1,022	(366)	Lower	-
19	Total capital revenue	1,388	1,022	(366)	Lower	0
20	Total surplus (deficit)	1,655	648	(1,007)		(1,344)

Bay of Plenty Regional Council - Toi Moana

Statement of revenue and expense: Whakatane-Tauranga Rivers Scheme DRAFT

For the 12 months ending 30 June 2023

Line	Year to date		Variance			2023/24
	Budget	Actual	\$	Variance Indicator	Variance Comments	Budget
	\$000					
21 Capital expenditure by project						
22	Whakatane Tauranga Flood Damage Repairs	595	0	(595)	Lower	No work undertaken due to prolong rainfall events. Carried forward to be requested.
23	Whakatane Tauranga culvert renewals	48	0	(48)	Lower	58
24	Whakatane River (modelling)	55	14	(41)	Lower	
25	Whakatane River stopbanks (Stage 2)	6,184	531	(5,653)	Lower	Community consultation will be required before works commence. Underspend will be requested to be carried forward
26	Whakatane Tauranga canal modelling	55	11	(44)	Lower	2,933
27	Eastern Drain	794	14	(780)	Lower	58
28	Safeguard our Stopbanks	0	80	80	Higher	698
29	Trident stopbank design					174
30	Total capital expenditure	7,731	650	(7,081)		3,921

31 Reserves

	Opening Balance 01/07/2022	Movement	Closing Balance 30/06/2023	
	\$000	\$000	\$000	
32 Flood Damage Reserve	619	261	880	Funds available
33 Asset Replacement Reserve	(740)	(846)	(1,585)	No funds available - used to fund capital
34 Works Reserve	708	(263)	445	Funds available
35 Total Reserves	587	(848)	(261)	

36 Loans

	Opening Balance 01/07/2022	Movement	Closing Balance 30/06/2023
	\$000	\$000	\$000
37 Loan Balance	8,502	(835)	7,667

38 Asset Valuation

	Opening Balance 01/07/2021	Movement	Closing Balance 30/06/2022
	\$000	\$000	\$000
39 Asset valuation	102,412	(3,044)	99,368

MEETING REPORT



To: Whakatāne-Tauranga Rivers Scheme
Advisory Group - 4 October 2023
Meeting

Author: Paula Chapman
Project Manager

Date: 14 September 2023

Subject: Safeguarding our Stopbanks Update

1. Safeguarding Our Stopbanks Project - Background

The Safeguarding our Stopbanks project began in 2020/21. The purpose of the project is to maintain community safety by resolving situations where encroaching land use may have affected the integrity of flood protection assets.

Over time residents have established vegetation, landscaping and fencing on public land and in many cases onto the adjoining stopbank batter and crest. The encroachments on the Whakatāne River were identified as a risk to the stopbank as far back as 2007 and were highlighted in the 2019 Asset Performance Assessment work as high risk.

The work is needed to ensure community flood protection assets (stopbank and floodwall) can be maintained in the future and to remediate potentially defective areas caused by the encroachments.

2. Whakatāne River - Stage One

Stage 1 of the project on the Whakatāne River stopbank was completed in 2022. This involved 17 properties and encroachments on and into the stopbank on Whakatāne District Council land in the area 50 Henderson Street through to 9 Ferry Road.

3. Whakatāne River - Stage Two

Stage 2A of the project involved 10 properties in the area 48 Henderson Street through to 36 Henderson Street and 2-6 Mananui Crescent, Whakatāne.

This work was similar to that undertaken as part of Stage 1 involving stopbank remediation and was completed in 2023.

Stage 2B of the project involved the section of stopbank where the floodwall is present on top of the bank, 32 Henderson Street through to 109 Landing Road. This work was substantially completed in 2023.

There remains some minor finishing work here associated with the flood wall. Specifically, the installation of filter drains, floodwall defect repairs and minor top soil replenishment.

The stumps and roots of the trees located at the Whakatāne Rowing Club also require removal this summer.

This stage progressed much more slowly than anticipated due to consistently wet weather and damp ground conditions from October through to April. Overall, as with Stage 1 despite the significant change residents were very understanding of the purpose of the work and the team have had positive interactions with property owners.



Photo 1 - Stage 2A



Photo 2 Stage 2B

4. Whakatāne River – Stage Three

Stage 3 of the project involves the stopbank at the southern end of Riverside Drive being properties at 75 -113 Riverside Drive. This work is scheduled for this summer season October 2023 to April 2024. In this section there are a few over boundary structures. Geotechnical investigations are underway to inform the stopbank remediation work and will also determine if the identified over boundary structures can remain without impacting the integrity of the flood protection stopbanks.

Arborist assessment work is complete, some enablement works have begun, scoping and pricing is underway, communications and engagement is ongoing.

Generally, residents are aware of the land ownership and the need to remediate the stopbank asset to support community flood protection. Some residents have had private use of the public land for many years and are apprehensive about the change.

5. Whakatāne River – Four

Stage 4 of the project involves remaining Riverside Drive properties and this work is scheduled for the 2024/25 construction season.

6. Riverside Drive Residents Group

To help support the community and enable ongoing conversations between Regional Council and impacted residents, a Community Reference Group has been established. This group meets regularly for the purpose of sharing information from Regional Council and for local community representatives to have a voice. The concerns and interest of the group is wide ranging and involves information sharing and education beyond the Safeguarding our Stopbanks project.

7. Financials

	Estimate/budget	YTD (Aug 2023)
Stage 2	\$490,000	\$494,000
Stage 3	\$698,000	\$46,363

Stage 2 Costs

- Change to compaction methodology.
- Poor weather and ground conditions (spring, summer, and autumn period)
- Timing of work programme extended.

MEETING REPORT



To: Whakatāne-Tauranga Rivers Scheme
Advisory Group - 4 October 2023
Meeting

Author: Mark Townsend, Engineering Manager

Date: 14 September 2023

Subject: Gravel Management Update

1 Tauranga River Extractions 2019-2023

Year	Site	Allocation (m ³)	Extraction (m ³)
2019-20	Chase Takao	15,838	6,260
2020-21	Wardlaw's Reach 6	2,500	2,513
2021-22	Wardlaw's Reach 6	3,000	2,725
2021-22	Brown's Lower beach	7,500	6,716
2021-22	Brown's Upper beach	3,000	848
2021-22	Wardlaw's Lower Beach	3,000	0

The average gravel supply rate into the Tauranga River is estimated to be 20,000m³ per year. While this indicates extraction is generally sustainable, extraction is purposefully directed towards specific locations or reaches where it is considered to be beneficial to the river system.

There has been no extraction from the Tauranga River over the past 15 months.

2 Ōwhakatoro Stream 2022-2023

Year	Site	Allocation (m ³)	Extraction (m ³)
2022-23	Ōwhakatoro Bridge (RD 15.8 -15.9)	2,000	2,300

There was one extraction by Whakatāne District Council approved at Ōwhakatoro Stream this year. The purpose of the extraction was to remove the build-up of gravel at bridge 105.

3 Whakatāne River Extractions 2018-2023

There have been no extractions from the Whakatāne River since 2018. This is in keeping with previous decisions to limit extractions due to declining bed levels in the top section of the reach above Ohotū Bridge. When bed levels are too low, banks are high and must take the full force of the flow during a flood which means banks can erode and protection works are undermined.

The most recent Natural Environmental Regional Monitoring Network (NERMN) Report 2011-2018 published last year recommends the following:

“An annual extraction quantity of up to 30,000 m³/year be undertaken within the reach from Pekatahi Bridge to Ohotū Bridge (XS47), but extraction should be limited to locations where mean annual bed levels exceed the guideline envelope.

“Due to bed level degradation, extractions in the section of reach between Ohotū Bridge and Limeworks (XS47 to XS57) should be available only where works are for river management purposes and will generally be in conjunction with other river management operations.”

Land access issues have also influenced potential extractions with concerns from both iwi and hapū about extraction activity in the Whakatāne River.

More recent bed level surveys were undertaken over the last two years. Lower Whakatāne 2023 and upper Whakatāne and Tauranga Rivers 2021. The analysis of this information is yet to be included in the NERMN report but there are early signs of gravel build up in some locations.

MEMORANDUM



To: Whakatāne-Tauranga Rivers Scheme
Advisory Group

From: Kirsty Brown
Rivers and Drainage Assets Manager

Date: 15 September 2023

File Ref:

Subject: General Business Update

1 Terms of Reference Review and Membership Renewal

As previously advised, a review of the TOR for the four river schemes advisory groups has been conducted, to ensure the continued appropriateness of the advisory groups and to support Long Term Plan strategic impact areas. The review also addressed concerns raised by advisory group members, including barriers to meeting attendance.

The 2023 TOR was adopted at the 9 August Council meeting and include the following key enhancements. A complete copy of the 2023 TOR can be found in attachment 1:

- Guiding Principles

Four guiding principles have been included to support and guide the role of the advisory groups in line with Council's strategic impact areas. These relate to:

- Adapting to our changing climate.
- Working effectively with Māori to deliver outcomes for the region.
- Community participation
- Sympathy with natural processes.

- Reimbursement

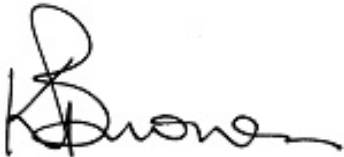
Members who need to travel or take time off work to attend meetings, may now request reimbursement for their time and travel costs. This clause aims to reduce barriers to attending meetings.

- Membership

Under the previous TOR, membership was restricted to a term of 3 + 3 years. A revision has been made to allow for longer membership terms for the purpose of retaining valuable knowledge and expertise. To be considered

for a further three-year term, existing members may re-apply under the public nomination process for re-selection.

As per the TOR, the second three-year term of ratepayer membership is set to conclude in October 2023. The Council selects ratepayer representatives through a public nomination process, which is scheduled to take place in November 2023. Current members who are interested in being considered for a third term will need to complete the public nomination process for re-selection.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Brown', with a stylized initial 'K'.

Kirsty Brown
Rivers and Drainage Assets Manager

Rivers Scheme Advisory Group Terms of Reference 2023

For Kaituna Catchment Control Scheme, Waioeka-Otara Rivers Scheme, Whakatāne-Tauranga (formerly Waimana) Rivers Scheme, and Rangitāiki-Tarawera Rivers Scheme.

1.0 Purpose of the River Scheme Advisory Groups

- To connect regularly with those communities that benefit from and contribute to the work the Regional Council delivers to maintain and improve our river schemes.
- To enable discussion on the Regional Council's rivers and drainage work programmes and levels of service; and
- To discuss how we might adjust current practices, where necessary, to support sustainable river scheme management.

2.0 Guiding Principles

The following principles will guide the work of the Advisory Groups:

• Adapting to our changing climate

The Bay of Plenty's climate is changing, and these changes will continue for the foreseeable future. Adaptation is essential to ensure our River Schemes remain sustainable in the long term. The work of the Advisory Groups helps to manage the effects of a changing climate.

• Working effectively with Māori to deliver outcomes for the region

Implementing the principles of the Te Tiriti o Waitangi (Treaty of Waitangi) collaboration and partnership will guide the work of the Advisory Groups. The Council has an opportunity to work effectively with Māori by establishing appropriate Māori participation through Advisory Groups. Hearing Māori perspectives and the inclusion of cultural values (such as Mātauranga Māori) will ensure river management and flood protection solutions remain consistent with community expectations. Diversity within the River Advisory Groups is encouraged and supported as it reflects the diversity in our wider community.

• Community Participation

Members will assist with the sharing of scheme information to ratepayers and residents and promote opportunities for participation and collaboration.

- **Sympathy with Natural processes**

Evolving best practice in river engineering and management in New Zealand is being shaped by the “Making Room for the River” philosophy. This approach tends to a more natural and less engineered/confined river system, to improve overall river and ecological health.

3.0 Scope of activity

The role of the Advisory Group is as follows:

- To be a local contact on rivers and drainage issues.
- To share information to and from river scheme communities, stakeholders and tangata whenua.
- To act as a voice for the community to inform the planning and delivery of scheme works.
- Provide community views and input into key Rivers and Drainage management plans and strategies.
- Provide a feedback forum for Council on Rivers and Drainage proposals, projects and changes.
- To make recommendations on scheme management and operations including:
 - Capital and maintenance work
 - Proposed annual work programmes and budgets
 - Floodplain Management Strategies, and
 - Integrated and collaborative management opportunities.

4.0 Status

Local input and advice from Advisory Groups is essential for effective scheme management and is highly regarded by Council. While the Advisory Group has no statutory basis or delegated functions of Council it can make recommendations on Council matters.

5.0 Membership

The number and structure of members is intended to achieve a broad representation of the community covering the geographical extent of the Scheme, tangata whenua and various rating categories. The Council may appoint additional members to best meet the needs of the scheme. *(Each scheme-specific ToR will have its Membership Schedule inserted here from the Membership Schedule below).*

6.0 Appointment and term of service

The standard term of appointment is three years with a maximum term of six years, without needing to reapply for the second term. All members, apart from Regional Council elected members, wishing to be considered for a third term are required to complete the public nomination process for re-selection*.

Group membership consists of tangata whenua, territorial authorities, and targeted rate payers. Ratepayer representatives must be a targeted ratepayer in the Scheme to be eligible for nomination.

Ratepayer representatives are determined by the Council following a public or consultation process.

Council may appoint members representing special interests within the Scheme.

Members who are elected members are appointed for the local government triennium cycle however if re-elected will be reappointed where available for a further three-year term to ensure continuity.

An elected member of the Regional Council will be the Chairperson.

Members who are unable to complete their three-year term or misses more than three consecutive meetings without apology may be replaced by either Council or the authority they represented. Members may resign their position at any time, by written notice.

Interested parties and members of the public, who are not appointed to the group have the right to attend. They may participate if invited to by the Chair or during the public forum section of the meeting.

7.0 Meeting frequency and operation

There will generally be two meetings held per year in March and September called by the Chairperson or delegate.

Meeting agendas will be compiled by managers and staff who will also service the meeting.

Council will assist with personal expenses incurred in meeting attendance, in keeping with Council's Expenses and Allowances Policy. Claims in this regard are voluntary.

8.0 Conflict of interest

Members are required to bring to the attention of the Chairperson any conflict of interest or potential conflict they may have with any item on the agenda.

If a member is deemed to have a real or perceived conflict of interest in a matter that is being considered at a meeting, he/she will be excused from discussions and deliberations on the issue where a conflict of interest exists OR must not be present for consideration of that matter.

9.0 Confidentiality

During the course of the business of the Advisory Group, a member will, from time to time, be privy to confidential information. Any confidential information is protected and should not be disclosed until a resolution of the Advisory Group to release the information has been made.

10.0 Communication and reporting

The line of communication between Council and the Advisory Group will generally be through the Regional Council General Manager and the Advisory Group Chairperson.

Issues or recommendations arising from Advisory Group meetings will either be addressed by Scheme Managers or referred to the Council.

Information updates to Members will be circulated by email.

Information updates to scheme ratepayers will be made available via media releases, information posted on the Council web site and/or by email.

Rangitāiki Drainage Scheme [insert only in Rangitāiki-Tarawera and Whakatāne-Tauranga TORs]

The Rangitāiki Drainage Scheme that is managed by BOPRC has a significantly smaller operational area and annual budget than the four major river schemes. For efficiency reasons the significant matters of interest relating to the Rangitāiki Drainage Scheme will be discussed and considered through the Whakatāne-Tauranga and Rangitāiki-Tarawera Rivers Scheme Advisory Group meetings. Matters specifically relating to the Rangitāiki Drainage Scheme will be discussed with “Rangitāiki Plains” representatives of the Whakatāne-Tauranga and Rangitāiki-Tarawera Rivers Scheme Advisory Groups.

11.0 Terms of Reference review

The Council may review this Terms of Reference at any time if it considers circumstances or its community collaboration processes have changed. Prior consultation with the Advisory Group members will occur if a review is being considered.