

OPEN BRIEFING 31 AUGUST 2022 – 4.00PM



HUTT CITY COUNCIL GROWTH STUDY

ATTENDEES

Elected Members: Mayor Barry, Deputy Mayor Lewis, Cr Briggs, Cr Brown, Cr Dyer, Cr Edwards, Cr Hislop, Cr Mitchell, Cr Shaw, Virginia Horrocks (from 4.27pm) (Eastbourne Community Board), Pam Hanna (Chair, Petone Community Board)

Staff: Jo Miller, Chief Executive, Andrea Blackshaw, Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities (via audio visual link), Kara Puketapu-Dentice, Director Economy and Development, Jarred Griffiths, Director Strategy and Engagement, Jenny Livschitz, Group Chief Financial Officer (part meeting), Caryn Ellis, Head of Chief Executive's Office (via audio visual link), Bruce Hodgins, Strategic Advisor, Jörn Scherzer, Head of Climate and Solid Waste (part meeting), Angela Gordon, Senior Policy Advisor (via audio visual link), Kiri Waldergrave, Head of Strategy and Planning, Marty de Boer, Principal Advisor, Strategy and Planning, Harman Singh, Advisor Strategic Planning and Business (via audio visual link), Kathryn Stannard, Head of Democratic Services (part meeting), Kate Glanville, Senior Democracy Advisor (via audio visual link), and Annie Doornebosch, Democracy Advisor

Presenters: Presenters: Colin Crampton, Chief Executive Wellington Water Limited (via audio visual link), Fraser Clark, Principal Advisor Strategy, Wellington Water Limited, Olena Chan, Manager, Growth and Development, Wellington Water Limited, Matthew Hall, Manager, Commercial, Business Improvement and Procurement, Wellington Water Limited

APOLOGIES

Elected Member apology: Cr Sutton

NON ATTENDANCE

Elected Members: Cr Barratt, Cr Milne

KEY OBJECTIVES OF THE BRIEFING

The purpose of the briefing is to provide an update to elected members on the Hutt City Three Waters Growth Study (2022), and priorities for investment over the next 30 years of growth.

The Chief Executive, WWL noted the presentation was the result of studies to determine Three Waters infrastructure needed to support predicted growth in Lower Hutt. He said WWL officers had provided advice to Council that there could be a 30% backlog of renewals.

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He said one third of the city's infrastructure could be reaching their life expectancy over the next 30 years. He noted as a result, Council decided to lift its investment in renewals and capital works within its LongTerm Plan (LTP) for 2021/2031. He said the presentation proposed a \$35M increase to investments and capacity. He noted Council had agreed that the LTP would also provide some low-level funding for water supply, improving water quality, and adapting to climate change. He noted this was essential to set the context of the presentation.

Slide 1: Cover

Slide 2: Regional strategic priorities for three waters

Slide 3: Existing ratepayers/existing infrastructure

Slide 4: Increased Investment in renewals. The impact is shown in dollar terms in the diagram on the right-hand side. This will not cover the required investment for renewals.

Slide 5: Purpose and Scope. Technical experts at WWL have produced reports and evidence after HCC agreed to this investment.

Slide 6: Growth Planning Framework. Provides an understanding of current status in growth planning. A more strategic approach is needed going forward to identify what level of infrastructure is required.

Slide 7: Growth Study Areas and Population. WWL officers worked the HCC to confirm these numbers.

Slide 8: Growth Assumptions

Slide 9: Target Levels of Service

Slide 10: Levels of Service and Growth. Shows how levels of service and growth link in with demand. When the level of service is above demand then there is surplus demand, if it is behind then there is a deficit. At present there is a deficit.

Slide 11: Proposed 3 Water Improvements

Slide 12: Waiwhetu – map showing 91 issue areas. Levels of service will be added to this.

Slide 13: Stormwater and Growth

Slide 14: Recommended Capacity Improvements. The proposed capacity upgrades within existing constraints. Exclusions noted at the bottom of the slide.

Slide 15: Three Waters Capacity Investment. The three Infrastructure Acceleration Fund (IAF) projects are currently under negotiation with Kāinga Ora. These will address stormwater capacity problems.

Slide 16: Exclusions. These were considered against capacity, levels of service, some emerging and community expectations.

Slide 17: Three Waters Upgrades Costs by Study Area and Population Forecast

Slide 18: Recommendations

Slide 19: HCC Approach. A presentation was provided to Council's Corporate Leadership Team. Officers have since considered how to prioritise this spending. This needs to benefit the city and consider the carbon footprint. Investment will not be able to be made across the whole city. Three priority areas have been identified as noted on the slide.

Slide 20: Further Work.

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION POINTS ON COUNCIL'S DRAFT SUBMISSION

The Manager, Growth and Development, WWL said staff would follow up climate change issues identified for Petone and Alicetown. She said the funding for IAF Projects identified on slide 15 would need to be rebalanced to 2024.

The Strategic Advisor, HCC said slide 15 noted the Three Waters Capacity Investment for 30 years. He said officers were working on what this cost would be for 10 years. He advised this would be reported to Council. He noted the full report on the Three Waters Growth Study would be released to members shortly. He said this would include the improvements' schedules. He noted the figures included on slide 17 were suggested amounts required for investment for the next 30 years. He said Council's Planning Team would be engaged as issues were worked through.

The Principal Advisor, Strategy, WWL noted monitoring water usage in small areas assisted WWL to characterise domestic water demand levels. He advised the increased projected water demand and associated leakage would increase the need for new water restrictions or new water sources. He said WWL had developed a model to help understand wastewater processes at Seaview. He noted work was needed to understand the assets age, environment, climate change, and aging of the outfall pipe at Seaview. He said that water services in the Wellington region were allocated across the region by Greater Wellington Regional Council, based on water usage. He advised the Te Tari Taiwhenua/Department of Internal Affairs had completed modelling on expected rates rises as a result of three waters reforms. He noted the Water Commission Industry for Scotland (WICS) had indicated this modelling seemed a little low. He said the affordability aspect of water reforms would be clearer early in 2023 once funding availability was known. He noted as part of this process an entity wide investments management plan would be developed. He advised expected costs would then be aggregated across regions. He said he would advise on the expected future renewals investment.

NEXT STEPS

- WWL staff will meet with Council's Planning Team to identify staging of growth.
- Officers will meet and assess what is essential for outlying areas to meet levels of service in the Investments Programme.
- Officers will present the Investments Programme to Councillors at briefings in November 2022. This will be presented to Council in December 2022 as part of an amendment to the LTP to give direction on how reported investment will be made.

Briefing materials:

Attachment 1 – Visual presentation on Hutt City Council Three Waters Growth Study.

The briefing closed at 5.00pm

