

### **AGENDA**

## Water Race Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, 15 September 2021

Time: 2:00pm

**Location: Carterton Events Centre** 

**50 Holloway Street** 

**Carterton** 

Chair B Deller

Deputy Chair R Cherry-Campbell

Mayor G Lang
Cr J Greathead

Member J Eastham

Member D Ellison

Member J McFadzean

Member N Wadham

## Notice is hereby given that a Water Race Committee Meeting of the Carterton District Council will be held in the Carterton Events Centre, 50 Holloway Street, Carterton on:

#### Wednesday, 15 September 2021 at 2:00pm

#### **Order Of Business**

| 1 | Karakia                            | ı Timatanga  | 5  |
|---|------------------------------------|--|----|
| 2 | Apolog                             | ies  | 5  |
| 3 | Conflicts of Interests Declaration |  |    |
| 4 | Public Forum                       |  |    |
| 5 | Confirn                            | nation of the Minutes  | 6  |
|   | 5.1                                | Minutes of the Water Race Committee Meeting held on 19 May 2021          | Ε  |
| 6 | Reports                            | S  | 9  |
|   | 6.1                                | Water Race Committee Election, Terms of Reference, and Interest Register | g  |
|   | 6.2                                | Three waters reform  | 16 |
|   | 6.3                                | Water Race   | 23 |
| 7 | Karakia                            | Whakamutunga   | 25 |

#### 1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Mai i te pae maunga, raro ki te tai

Mai i te awa tonga, raro ki te awa raki

Tēnei te hapori awhi ai e Taratahi.

Whano whano, haramai te toki

Haumi ē, hui ē, tāiki ē!

- 2 APOLOGIES
- 3 CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARATION
- 4 PUBLIC FORUM

MagiQ No. - 136062 Page 5

#### 5 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES



## 5.1 MINUTES OF THE WATER RACE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19 MAY 2021

#### 1. RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Minutes of the Water Race Committee Meeting held on 19 May 2021 are true and correct.

File Number: 136059

Author: Sheree Dewbery, Executive Assistant

Attachments: 1. Minutes of the Water Race Committee Meeting held on 19 May 2021

# MINUTES OF CARTERTON DISTRICT COUNCIL WATER RACE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE CARTERTON EVENTS CENTRE, 50 HOLLOWAY STREET, CARTERTON ON WEDNESDAY, 19 MAY 2021 AT 2:00PM

PRESENT: Chair Brian Deller, Cr Robyn Cherry-Campbell, Mayor Greg Lang, Cr Jill Greathead,

Jill Eastham, David Ellison, John Booth.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Cr Dale Williams, Dave Gittings (Infrastructure Services and Regulatory Manager),

Casey Spencer (Democratic Services Coordinator), Rachel Round (Consents, Compliance and Operations Manager), Tony Pritchard (Projects Engineer), Melvin Pike (Water Race Overseer) Cr Steve Cretney (Public Forum), Michael Hewison (Public

Forum)

#### 1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

The meeting was opened with a Karakia led by Chair Brian Deller.

#### 2 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received for John McFadzean and Neil Wadham.

John Booth / Cr Robyn Cherry-Campbell CARRIED

#### 3 CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARATION

There were no conflicts on interest.

#### 4 PUBLIC FORUM

Cr Steve Cretney addressed the Committee regarding the Waikakariki Stream maintenance.

Michael Hewison, Carterton resident, addressed the Committee regarding the water race newsletter.

#### 5 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

#### 5.1 MINUTES OF THE WATER RACE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 3 FEBRUARY 2021

#### **MOVED**

That the Minutes of the Water Race Committee Meeting held on 3 February 2021 are true and correct.

Cr Robyn Cherry-Campbell / John Booth

**CARRIED** 

MagiQ No. - 136062 Page 7

#### 6 **REPORTS**

#### 6.1 **WATER RACE**

#### **PURPOSE**

For the Water Race Committee to be informed and updated on the management of the Water Races for the period 28th January 2021 - 10th May 2021.

#### **MOVED**

That the Committee receives the report.

Cr Robyn Cherry-Campbell / Jill Eastham **CARRIED** 

#### 7 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

The meeting was closed with a Karakia led by Cr Robyn Cherry-Campbell.

The Meeting closed at 2:33pm.

Date: .....

Minutes confirmed: .....

MagiQ No. - 136062 Page 8

#### 6 REPORTS



### 6.1 WATER RACE COMMITTEE ELECTION, TERMS OF REFERENCE, AND INTEREST REGISTER

#### 1. PURPOSE

For the Committee to note the results of the Water Race Committee election, and the terms of reference for the Committee.

To request the community representatives on the Committee consider the interests of themselves, and their spouse/partner, and complete the attached "Water Race Committee member's interests form" form.

#### 2. SIGNIFICANCE

The matters for decision in this report are not considered to be of significance under the Significance and Engagement Policy.

#### 3. BACKGROUND

As per the Water Race Committee's terms of reference, membership of the Water Race Committee comprises of three elected members, four community members elected by water race users, and additional co-opted members if required.

The term for the Water Race Committee expired 31 August 2021. An election was held during August 2021, with eight nominees for the positions. Voting closed on 30 August, and the results were announced the next day.

#### 4. **ELECTION RESULTS**

The four successful candidates elected to the Committee are:

- John McFadzean
- Neil Wadham
- David Ellison
- Jill Eastham

All were previously Committee members, and have been re-elected for the new term.

#### 5. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference for 2019–2022 for the Water Race Committee was agreed by Council on 20 November 2019. These are provided as **attachment 1**.

#### 6. MEMBER'S INTERESTS

To meet the requirements of your Code of Conduct and the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968, the Council maintains a register of members' interests, and the community elected members are asked to complete declaration by 24 September 2021.

The elected members of Council separately provide an annual declaration. This is a request to the community representative members of the Committee.

Below is some information about the declaration needed, and **attachment 2** is a form for you to complete for current interests that you or your spouse/partner may have.

#### Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct (section 9) requires disclosure of pecuniary and other interests:

Members shall, at least annually, make a declaration of interest. These declarations are recorded in a public Register of Interests maintained by the Council. The declaration must include information on the nature and extent of any interest, including:

- a) Any employment, trade or profession carried on by the member or the members' spouse/partner for profit or gain;
- b) Any company, trust, partnership etc for which the member or their spouse/partner is a director, business partner or trustee;
- c) A description of any land in which the member has a beneficial interest within the jurisdiction of the local authority; and
- d) A description of any land owned by the local authority in which the member or their spouse/partner is:
  - A tenant; or
  - The land is tenanted by a firm in which the member or spouse/partner
    is a business partner; a company of which the member or
    spouse/partner is a director; or a trust of which the member or
    spouse/partner is a trustee.
- e) Any other matters which the public might reasonably regard as likely to influence the member's actions during the course of their duties as a member (if the member is in any doubt on this, the member should seek guidance from the Chief Executive).

Please note, where a member's circumstances change they must ensure that the Register of Interests is updated as soon as practicable.

#### The Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act

The Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968 (the Act) controls the making of contracts worth more than \$25,000 in a financial year between members and the Council. It also prohibits members from participating in matters before the Council

in which they have a pecuniary interest, other than an interest in common with the public.

The Office of the Auditor General has issued guidance on these matters, and on managing general conflicts of interest. A copy of the guidance is at <a href="https://www.oag.govt.nz/2020/lamia">www.oag.govt.nz/2020/lamia</a>.

#### Non-pecuniary conflicts of interest

There are also non-pecuniary conflicts of interest. This is not limited to actual bias, but relates to the appearance or possibility of bias. The principle is that justice should not only be done, but be seen to be done. Whether or not a member believes they are unbiased is irrelevant. A member's focus should be on the nature of the conflicting interest or relationship, and the risk it could pose for the decision-making process.

The most common risks of non-pecuniary bias are where:

- a member's statements or conduct indicates that he has predetermined a decision before hearing all relevant information, ie the member has a 'closed mind'
- a member has a close relationship or involvement with an individual or organisation affected by the decision.

The consequences of enforcing the powers of the Act are more likely to occur if a conflict of interest is not declared by a member and then subsequently discovered. It is the members' responsibility to ensure that they are meeting the requirements under the Act and it is up to the individual member to exercise her own judgement as to whether or not she has a conflict of interest in any decision.

Non-pecuniary (bias) conflicts of interest are difficult to foresee, and are therefore best declared at such time as they arise for discussion and consideration.

#### 7. CONSIDERATIONS

#### 7.1 Climate change

No climate change impacts.

#### 7.2 Tāngata whenua

There are no decision implications for tangata whenua.

#### 7.3 Financial impact

No financial impact.

#### 7.4 Community Engagement requirements

The results of the election have been published on the Council website.

#### 7.5 Risks

No other risks identified.

#### 8. RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee:

- 1. **Receives** the report.
- 2. **Notes** the results of the 2021 Water Race Committee election.

- 3. **Notes** the terms of reference for the Water Race Committee.
- 4. **Notes** the action by community representatives to consider the interests of themselves and their spouse/partner, complete the attached "Water Race Committee member's interests form", and return to the Corporate Services Manager by **24 September 2021.**

File Number: 135985

Author: Kelly Vatselias, Corporate Services Manager

Attachments: 1. Water Race Committee Terms of Reference 4

2. Water Race Committee member's interests form

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#### **Water Race Committee**

#### **Terms of Reference**

#### **Purpose**

To oversee the management of the Carrington and Taratahi water races and make recommendations to Council as required.

#### **Specific Responsibilities**

- 1. To oversee the operation of the Carrington and Taratahi Water Races.
- 2. To make decisions on applications to alter or use the water races.
- 3. To make recommendations to Council on:
  - a. the level of rates and charges for the Rural Water Service activity.
  - b. any changes to, or development of new bylaws in respect to the Carrington and Taratahi Water Races.
- 4. To develop policy in respect of the water races and recommend these to the Policy and Strategy Committee.

#### **Membership of Committee**

- Three elected members.
- Up to four community members elected by water race users.
- Additional co-opt additional member/s if required.

The Chairperson will be an elected member.

#### Quorum

Two elected members and two community members.

#### Frequency of Meetings

Quarterly.

Item 6.1 - Attachment 1 Page 13

#### **Water Race Committee Community Members**

#### **Register of Member's Interests**

for the period 15 September 2021 - 30 June 2024

Please declare any interest you or your spouse/partner<sup>i</sup> may have, as required by the Council's Code of Conduct. For guidance, refer to the Auditor-General's guidance document<sup>ii</sup>.

|  | T      | T       |
|--|--------|---------|
|  | Member | Partner |
| Company directorships and controlling interests <sup>iii</sup> | 1.     | 1.      |
|  | 2.     | 2.      |
|  | 3.     | 3.      |
|  | 4.     | 4.      |
| Other companies and business entities where a                  | 1.     | 1.      |
| pecuniary interest is held                                     | 2.     | 2.      |
|  | 3.     | 3.      |
|  | 4.     | 4.      |
| Employment (including self-employment)                         | 1.     | 1.      |
|  | 2.     | 2.      |
|  | 3.     | 3.      |
| Beneficial interests in, and trusteeships of, trusts           | 1.     | 1.      |
|  | 2.     | 2.      |
|  | 3.     | 3.      |
|  | 4.     | 4.      |
| Organisations and trusts that have, or are likely to seek,     | 1.     | 1.      |
| Council funding or leases                                      | 2.     | 2.      |
|  | 3.     | 3.      |
|  | 4.     | 4.      |
|  |        |         |

Item 6.1 - Attachment 2 Page 14

|   | Member: | Partner: |
|---|---------|----------|
| Interests in property in Carterton District, or             | 1.      | 1.       |
| tenanted land owned by<br>Council                           | 2.      | 2.       |
|   | 3.      | 3.       |
|   | 4.      | 4.       |
| Giftsiv   | 1.      | 1.       |
|   | 2.      | 2.       |
|   | 3.      | 3.       |
|   | 4.      | 4.       |
| Any other matters likely to be seen as influencing members' | 1.      | 1.       |
| actions   | 2.      | 2.       |
|   | 3.      | 3.       |
|   | 4.      | 4.       |

This statement is given in accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by Carterton District Council. The information contained in this statement is to the best of my knowledge complete and accurate as at the date signed. I confirm that I have included in this statement details of any interests held by me or my partner through trust or companies.

Signature:

Date:

Item 6.1 - Attachment 2 Page 15



#### 6.2 THREE WATERS REFORM

#### 1. PURPOSE

For the committee to be informed of the three waters reform programme

#### 2. SIGNIFICANCE

The matters for decision in this report are not considered to be of significance under the Significance and Engagement Policy.

#### 3. BACKGROUND

The New Zealand Government has initiated a wide-ranging reform of the three waters sector which is ongoing in 2021 and intended for implementation 1 July 2024. Over the past two decades, there has been many Government and sector reports dealing with the wide range of issues surrounding the New Zealand three waters sector.

The current reform was triggered by the Havelock North water supply incident in 2016 where contaminated groundwater entered the water network and led to 5,000 people falling ill, 50 hospitalised and five consequential deaths.

The subsequent Government inquiry in 2017 observed that New Zealand had fallen well behind international best practice in the delivery of drinking water and made wide-ranging reform recommendations.

The Government received these recommendations and is acting on them in the current reform process.

In July 2020, the Government launched the Three Waters Reform Programme, a three-year programme to reform local government three waters service delivery arrangements.

At the same time, it announced a \$761 million funding package to provide post COVID-19 stimulus to maintain, improve three waters infrastructure, support a three-year programme of reform of local government water service delivery arrangements (reform programme), and support the establishment of Taumata Arowai, the new Waters Services Regulator.

In September 2020, the Council approved the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding to remain engaged in the reform process. It was a non-binding commitment to receive initial funding for specific shovel-ready projects and continue to be involved in the reform process.

The Council consequently received funding of \$1.84 million to be spent on approved water, wastewater and stormwater projects by March 2022.

The Council is on track to spend this funding.

In December 2020, DIA released a report conducted by the Water Industry Commission for Scotland (WICS), commissioned as part of the programme.

This Phase 1 Report provided an early indicative view on the size of New Zealand's three waters infrastructure deficit and the potential benefits of reform. Local government representatives expressed concerns over the validity of parts of this analysis, which led to a request for information from councils on their three waters assets and services.

In late December 2020, DIA issued a Request for Information (RFI) to all councils in the country. The RFI required the Council to provide specific data related to the three water activities. The data was submitted in early February 2020 and modelled and assessed by the Water Industry Commission of Scotland (WICS).

The subsequent report by WICS estimates that New Zealand will need to invest between \$120 billion to \$185 billion in our three waters infrastructure over the next 30 years to meet drinking water and environmental standards and provide for future population growth. Without reform, these costs will be shared unevenly among New Zealand households.

For rural communities, this equates to an increase of up to 13 times present costs, eight times higher for provincial areas and up to seven times higher for many metropolitan households. With reform, the cost of providing these critical services to our communities is likely to reduce substantially by between 45% to 49%. Reform will also improve transparency about, and accountability for, the delivery and costs of these services and uphold the Crown's Treaty of Waitangi obligations to iwi/Māori.

The Crown has outlined the following features to guide the design of the reform programme and operating structure.

- Maintaining local authority ownership of water services entities.
- Providing the necessary balance sheet separations from local authorities.
- Protecting against privatisation.
- An integrated regulatory system.
- Retaining influence of local authorities and mana whenua over strategic and performance expectations.

The Crown is seeking to enable greater strategic influence to exercise rangatiratanga over water services delivery, ensuring;

- Integration of iwi/Māori rights and interests within a wider system.
- Reflection of a holistic te ao Māori perspective.
- Supporting clear account and ensure roles, responsibilities, and accountability for the
- relationship with the Treaty partner.
- Improving outcomes at a local level to enable a step change improvement in delivery
- of water services for iwi/Māori.

The Crown has committed to ensuring no Council participating in water reform is in a materially worse position financially to continue to provide services to its community as a direct result of the reform.

#### 4. TAUMATA AROWAI

In March 2021, the Government established Taumata Arowai, a new water services regulator to administer and enforce a new drinking water, waste water and stormwater regulatory system.

Once Taumata Arowai is fully functional, it will oversee and administer an expanded and strengthened drinking water regulatory system, new drinking water standards and oversee the environmental performance of wastewater and stormwater networks. This is expected to improve the sector's performance, and to put greater focus on infrastructure performance.

It is also expected to increase compliance and monitoring requirements.

#### 5. WATER SERVICE ENTITIES

On 30th June 2021 the Government announced its intention to shape the sector around four Water Service Entities (WSE). Carterton would belong to 'Entity C', along with 22 other Councils. The boundaries have been set with consideration of rohe/takiwā, water catchments, population, economic benefits and the needs and interests of local communities.



Under this model Councils would have no shareholding or financial interest. The WSE would be independent with a competency based Board of Directors. It is intended that the entities have the scale, capacity and capability to uplift the wider sector.

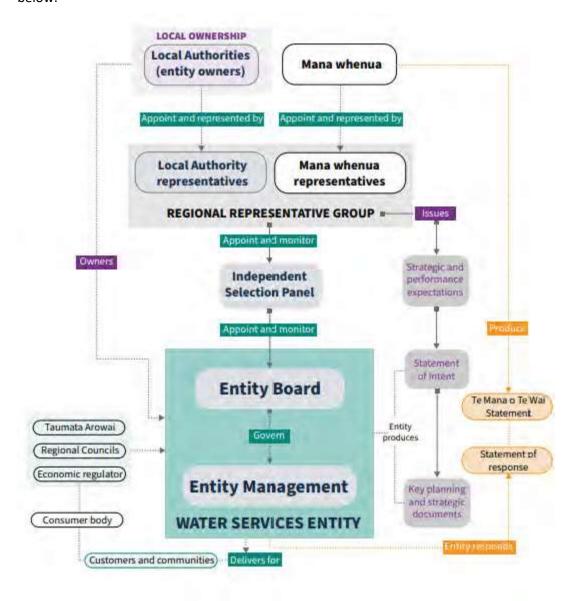
Under the existing model, where Council borrowing capacity is limited, the future rates increases required would be significant. The legislative changes that are currently underway signal a rise in compliance and monitoring and these costs alone will heavily impact rates without additional calculation of environmental betterment. The WSEs will have separate balance sheets to enable more substantial borrowing and lessen the burden on rates alone.

WICS has estimated efficiencies of 45% over a 30-year period, roughly 2% per annum achieved through improved and aggregated capability, procurement, governance, scale and economic regulation, ultimately delivering lower costs for communities.

The WICS analysis has been peer reviewed by Farrier Swier Consulting. Farrier Swier found that the WICS analysis gave reasonable estimates in terms of direction and order of magnitude. It is likely that efficiencies will not be delivered for several years. This is not unsurprising given the scale of change.

#### 6. GOVERNANCE OF THE ENTITIES

The Government also released proposed governance arrangements, as shown below.



Under this model, Councils will own (without shareholding or financial interest) the water entities on behalf of communities, and mana whenua will have a joint oversight role. The structure of entities and their establishing legislation will protect against future privatisation with assets remaining in the ownership of their local communities.

While Councils maintain ownership of the water entities, the type of entity, and the responsibilities associated with ownership are likely to be substantially different to traditional ownership models. The Government considers that Councils will be able to influence objectives and priorities of the new entities through this structure, and through land use planning mechanisms such as spatial plans. It is not yet clear how communities might directly influence strategy and resource prioritisation.

#### 7. FUNDING SUPPORT

On 15 July 2021, the Government announced a financial support package of \$2.5 billion to support the local government sector through the transition to the new water services delivery system and to position the sector for the future. There are two broad components to this support package

The "better off" component of the support package, which comprises \$2 billion, is allocated to territorial authorities based on a nationally consistent formula that takes into account population, relative deprivation and land area. This formula recognises the relative needs of local communities, the unique challenges facing local authorities in meeting those needs and differences across the country in the ability to pay for those needs.

An indicative amount of \$6,797,415 has been allocated from this "better off" funding should Carterton Council continue to be involved in the three waters reform programme. There are criteria on when and how this funding will be released.

Councils will be required to demonstrate that the use of this funding supports the three waters service delivery reform objectives and other local wellbeing outcomes and aligns with the priorities of central and local government, through meeting some or all of the following criteria:

- enable housing development and growth, with a focus on brownfield and infill development opportunities where those are available; and
- support local place-making and improvements in community well-being.

The "no worse off" component of the support package is intended to address the costs and financial impacts on territorial authorities directly because of the three waters reform programme and associated transfer of assets, liabilities and revenues to new water services entities. It includes an allocation of up to \$250 million to support councils to meet unavoidable costs of stranded overheads, based on:

- One hundred and fifty million dollars allocated to councils (excluding Auckland, Christchurch and councils involved in Wellington Water) based on a per capita rate that is adjusted recognising that smaller councils face disproportionately greater potential stranded costs than larger councils
- Up to \$50 million allocated to the Auckland, Christchurch and Wellington Water councils excluded above based on a detailed assessment of two years of reasonable and unavoidable stranded costs directly resulting from the Water Transfer.
- Up to \$50 million able to be allocated to councils that have demonstrable, unavoidable and materially greater stranded costs than provided for by the per capita rate (the process for determining this will be developed by the Department of Internal Affairs working closely with Local Government New Zealand).

The remainder of the no worse off component will be used to address adverse impacts on the financial sustainability of territorial authorities. This will require a due diligence process that will need to be worked through in the coming months.

In addition to the support package, the Government expects to meet the reasonable costs associated with the transfer of assets, liabilities and revenue to new water services entities, including staff involvement in working with the

establishment entities and transition unit and provision for reasonable legal, accounting and audit costs. There is an allocation for these costs within the \$296 million tagged contingency announced as part of the 2021 Budget package for transition and implementation activities. This allocation is additional to the \$2.5 billion support package.

DIA is continuing to work with LGNZ and Taituarā (previously Society of Local Government Managers), including through the joint Steering Committee process, to develop the process for accessing the various components of the support package outlined above, including conditions that would be attached to any funding.

When announcing the second tranche of funding, the Government indicated that councils would have an opportunity to review the large amount of information, so that each council could provide feedback by 1 October 2021.

The Council is not expected to make any formal decisions regarding the reform through this engagement period. This is an opportunity for the sector to engage with, and provide feedback on, local impacts and possible variations to the proposed reform package outlined by the Government.

Following the engagement period, the Government will consider the feedback and suggestions provided by local authorities, in partnership with the joint steering committee. It will also consider the next steps, including the transition and implementation pathway and revised timing for decision-making, which could accommodate the time required for any community or public consultation.

LGNZ has confirmed that the Government will not be taking further decisions until after this engagement period.

The Government signalled earlier this year that council's 'opt-in' or 'opt-out' decision on the reforms would need to be made around November/December 2021. We understand this is still the intention. That being the case, unless there is a change to this timeline it is unlikely that councils will have the opportunity to consult with its communities. This is something that has been raised with the Government as a key issue.

In the coming months Council will need to reach a conclusion on 'opting in' or 'opting out', unless the government decides an all-in approach is to be applied.

Opting in would result in the transfer of all drinking water, wastewater and stormwater assets including all field operations from the Council to the new Water Service Entity 'C'. Indications are that any debt or financial reserves associated with the three waters will also be transferred. The details around how these are assessed and transferred is still to be determined.

#### 8. DISCUSSION

There remains substantial uncertainty around the impacts of reform. Specifically, the Government has not yet provided a clear outline of the process for decision making, and how public consultation will fit into that process. There is also uncertainty as to how assets, debt and revenue will transfer to the new entity, and the impact this might have on the Council balance sheet. The anticipated date of asset transfer is mid-2024.

The 30-year infrastructure strategy shows further investment requirements beyond 10 years (i.e LTP), which are likely to put additional pressure on three waters debt levels. CDCs current debt level is well situated to cope with the known requirements. Debt levels are very manageable with cash reserves meaning net debt to income is approximately 160%, well below the local government 250%

indicative cap. This indicates that three waters debt levels are unlikely to constrain Council as a whole in the medium term, however the shifting of three waters debt and assets to a separate three waters entity would effectively eliminate Council debt and future investment risk.

The future investment risk is real and manifesting in the legislative changes such as the drinking water Regulator (Taumata Arowai), the Water Services Bill, the changes to the Drinking water standards and Environmental Regulation (Proposed Natural Resources Plan, National Policy Statement on Fresh Water Management, and the Natural and Built environment Act).

With the loss of three waters Councils will be left with a considerably high level of stranded overheads. Council would need to make a strong case for the 'no worse off' funding allocation while it re-structures.

#### 9. WATER RACES

It remains unclear how much of the water race system would fall under the stormwater classification of the three waters review. The water race makes use of highly modified natural streams and rivers and secondary flow paths and takes overland water during rain events. It may be that the WSE would not look to the water races as stormwater but alternatively, may see them as one of the few stormwater assets capable of generating revenue.

#### 10. CONSIDERATIONS

#### 10.1 Climate change

As an informational report there is no impact on climate change

#### 10.2 Tāngata whenua

The three waters review as a whole has and will attract considerable interest from Tangata Whenua

#### 10.3 Financial impact

As an informational report there is no impact on finances

#### 10.4 Community Engagement requirements

There is no community engagement requirement stemming from this report

#### 10.5 Risks

As an informational report there are no risks

#### 11. RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee:

Receives the report

File Number: 135997

Author: Dave Gittings, Infrastructure, Planning and Regulatory Manager

Attachments: Nil



#### 6.3 WATER RACE

#### 1. PURPOSE

For the Water Race Committee to be informed and updated on the management of the Water Races for the period 1 June 2021 to 31 August 2021.

#### 2. SIGNIFICANCE

The matters for decision in this report are not considered to be of significance under the Significance and Engagement Policy.

#### 3. BACKGROUND

The following Report is to inform the Water Race Committee of the management and maintenance of the Carrington and Taratahi water races, and to discuss any issues.

#### 4. DISCUSSION

Little cleaning has been carried out over the immediate past period due to very wet ground conditions. A considerable amount of weed blockages have had to be removed due to the heavy flows which was causing flooding. Water quality testing is up to date with the winter flows and in the next period we will be doing the low flow testing.

The control gates have been off-line which means they have not been collecting the data, some of this is been caused by low battery. Council have installed new batteries and larger solar panels, but power remains an issue. When there is not sufficient power to open or close the gates the telemetry equipment shuts down. This is an ongoing investigation as to why this is happening.

A large build-up of gravel in front of the Carrington intake cannot be removed completely due to continued trout spawning. A small channel has been dug behind the bank but until spawning has completed the total bank cannot be removed.

The table top weir at the Taratahi Intake has a small amount of damage to it over the winter but basically is still in good shape.

Council is involved in studying the value of different types of weed for cleaning and filtering of the waterways and the impact of rain has on weed growth. This is ongoing.

Council are having considerable problems with fencing. Greater wellington Regional Council are encouraging farmers to fence their water races by offering subsidised fencing and tree planting. The location of the fences and planting is going to make it difficult for mechanical maintenance. This has resulted in the need to cut fences and drive over new plantings to remediate flood damage and repair the fence once finished.

#### 5. CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 Climate change

None

5.2 Tāngata whenua

None

5.3 Financial impact

None

5.4 Community Engagement requirements

None

5.5 Risks

None

#### 6. RECOMMENDATION

That the Council/Committee:

**Receives** the report

File Number: 136060

Author: Rachel Round, Consents, Compliance and Operations Manager

Attachments: Nil

#### 7 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

MagiQ No. - 136062 Page 25

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Please ensure partners' interests are registered. It is not assumed they are the same as the member. You may indicate them as being the same by writing "Same", or indicate no interests by writing "None".

<sup>&</sup>quot;'Guidance for members of local authorities about the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968', Office of the Auditor-General (Wellington, 2020). See <a href="https://oag.parliament.nz/2020/lamia">https://oag.parliament.nz/2020/lamia</a>

iii A controlling interest is where more than 5 percent of the voting rights are controlled or held.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>iv</sup> All gifts received with an estimated value in New Zealand of more than \$100, including the donor of the gift. Includes hospitality and donations in cash or kind. Excludes donations to cover expenses in an electoral campaign, and excludes gifts from immediate family members.