

6. PURCHASE OF RESERVE – AWATEA STREAM



Officer responsible Water Services Manager	Author Property Services Officer, Bill Morgan LO-050-001-7
Corporate Plan Output: New Assets (waterways and wetlands 9.3.45)	

The purpose of this report is to consider the acquisition of a parcel of land adjoining Awatea Stream.

BACKGROUND

Awatea Stream flows between Gibson Drive and Wilmers Road and forms the north-eastern boundary to Warren Park. As part of its waterway enhancement programme the Water Services Unit has recently completed the enhancement of this stream along the Park's north-eastern boundary and, with the agreement of the private property owners, is extending the enhancement between the park boundary and Gibson Drive. The section of the stream running through the private residential properties has in some instances become a dumping ground for rubbish. In order to protect the stream and its environment, agreement has been reached with some of the owners to undertake an enhancement programme, whereby the stream bed and banks are to be fenced out of the residential properties, the stream tidied and planted with appropriate native species. In order to protect the work it is intended to secure conservation covenants or easements over the areas in question.

In the case of the property at 17 Oakley Crescent, because the additional land has become a burden to the owner she would prefer to sell the area to the Council in order that it would be attached to the adjoining reserve. The area concerned is depicted on the tabled plan S3181 and depicted as parcel "A" containing approximately 40m². The purchase of this area will provide access to the adjoining areas to be enhanced which would otherwise remain landlocked.

In order to determine the land's value the services of Ford Baker, registered public valuers, were engaged on the Council's behalf, the details of which are included in the public excluded section of this report. Agreement has been entered into with the owner to acquire the area concerned.

SOURCE OF FUNDS

The purchase will be funded from the Water Services Unit's Waterway and Enhancement Fund, with sufficient being available in the 2000/01 financial year.

Recommendation: That parcel "A" on S Plan 3181, containing approximately 40m² and being part of the land contained in Certificate of Title 161/307, be acquired by the Council as a recreation reserve, subject to the terms and conditions outlined in the public excluded section of this report.