

**6. CHRISTCHURCH WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT  
CAPACITY UPGRADE CHARGE - COST SHARE AREA**

RR 10587

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Corporate Plan Output: Liquid Waste	

The purpose of this report is to clarify the cost share area for the above charge, and to clearly indicate that it applies to areas that could connect to the Belfast and Templeton systems, but that it does not apply to areas in these townships that are served by the existing reticulation systems.

**BACKGROUND**

Councillors will recall that in May of this year, the City Services Committee passed the following resolution:

1. That under Section 283 of the Local Government Act the Council declare a Christchurch Wastewater Treatment Plant Capacity Upgrade Charge Cost Share area as shown on the attached plan.
2. That the Capacity Upgrade Charge of \$607.50 (\$540 plus GST) be applied to all new connections to the Christchurch Wastewater Treatment Plant either at subdivision or at time of building consent for each new dwelling unit or connection.
3. That the Capacity Upgrade Charge be applied from 1 May 1999.

This was ratified at a full Council meeting in July 1999.

The extent of the area subject to the capacity upgrade charge is shown on the attached plan. In addition, for areas where Selwyn District Council wastewater discharges into the City reticulation system the capacity upgrade charge is collected from the relevant new subdivisional development.

The cost share area set up under the scheme at present does not apply to the reticulated areas discharging into the Belfast Wastewater Treatment Plant or the Templeton Wastewater Treatment Plant. The reason for this is that there is little undeveloped land inside the existing urban areas of these two townships. It has been anticipated that existing subdivided land in these two treatment plant catchments could be catered for at these plants even though they are both approaching capacity.

## **BELFAST PLANT FUTURE**

The Belfast Plant is presently being upgraded to a limited extent to provide for some future growth and for significant discharge quality improvement. The consent sought for this is a short term consent (ten years) to coincide with the expiry of the Primary Producers Co-operative Society (PPCS) Discharge Consent to the Waimakariri River. At that time it is expected that PPCS will either pipe their treated effluent to Christchurch Wastewater Treatment Plant, in which case the Belfast Wastewater flow would also go to Christchurch Wastewater Treatment Plant in the same pipe, or PPCS will close down and a much smaller pipe will be installed to take just the Belfast domestic wastewater to town. The current upgrade of the Christchurch Wastewater Treatment Plant allows for both the industry flow from Belfast and the domestic flow from Belfast. Funding has been allowed on the ten year (\$1.5m in 2005/06, \$1.5m in 2006/07) programme for either a larger upgrade of the Belfast Plant or the installation of a pipeline to the Christchurch system.

## **FUTURE OF THE TEMPLETON PLANT**

Currently the Templeton Wastewater Treatment Plant takes flow from both the Templeton township, the prisons and Templeton Hospital area. Treatment is provided by oxidation ponds and the effluent is irrigated on to adjacent farmland owned by the Council. This plant is very close to its full capacity and development has been restricted in the area for this reason. The existing resource consent for the Templeton Plant expires in April 2001.

Funding has been provided in the 2000/01 year to divert this flow into the City system. This pipeline will also be used to take the flow from the Islington area not currently sewered in the two years following its installation.

## **GROWTH OUTSIDE THESE TOWNSHIPS**

There has been recent discussion about the possible development of large subdivisions just outside both of the currently reticulated areas of Belfast and Templeton. If these developments proceed they would initially be connected to the sewer system in the adjacent reticulated area, but would ultimately discharge to the Christchurch City system when both of the connections outlined above are made. Given that these areas will then be discharging to the main Christchurch Wastewater Treatment Plant, the Capacity Upgrade Charge will apply to these new subdivisions. Confirmation of this by the Council is sought, as the scale of plan showing the cost share area is small and could be interpreted to exclude the areas outside the existing reticulated areas of Belfast and Templeton. A larger scale plan (than that attached) of the existing Belfast and Templeton reticulated areas clearly show that the Capacity Upgrade Charge applies to all areas outside of these existing reticulated areas.

**Recommendation:** That the Council confirm that the Capacity Upgrade Charge applies to all new subdivisions inside the Christchurch City Council boundary (shown on the attached map approved by the Council on 23 July 1999) but excludes the areas of Belfast and Templeton that are already reticulated.

### **Deputy Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** That the above recommendation be adopted.