

## 22. CHRISTCHURCH WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT CONSENTS

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The purpose of this report is to inform Councillors of progress with applications for consents for the wastewater treatment plant.

### BACKGROUND

In December 2000 the Council passed a number of resolutions relating to a wastewater plan and consents for the treatment plant, and these are attached. Nine applications for consents were lodged with Environment Canterbury on 30 March 2001, but three of these, relating to applications to the City Council for land use changes, were later withdrawn on legal advice that they were not needed.

Submissions closed on 20 July. About 2,350 submissions were received, and at the time of writing this report little analysis had been done of these.

Note that in May 2001 the Council received a progress report, and resolved that

***“The Council note that the matter is now in a quasi-judicial statutory process and it would be inappropriate to express personal opinions or enter into public debate.”***

Other parts of the Council's December 2000 resolution, relating to research, monitoring, developing a long-term wastewater management plan and a sea lettuce strategy, is also progressing and will be reported to the Council separately.

### NEXT STEPS

The next step is for the consent hearings, and unless there is a need to research more information, these will start on 10 September before a team of commissioners engaged by Environment Canterbury. Tony Hearn QC will represent the Christchurch City Council and a team of staff and consultants will give evidence for the Council's case. Unless there is a further need to seek more information the commissioners could be expected to announce their decisions within a few weeks of the end of the hearings.

### Chairman's

**Recommendation:** That the report be received.