

10. STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR WATER SUPPLY AND WASTEWATER

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The purpose of this report is to establish a means of obtaining Councillor input to the proposed Wastewater Strategic Management Plan during its preparation stages and prior to a draft being formally presented.

WASTEWATER STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT PLANS

Councillors may recall that the September 2001 meeting of the City Services Committee agreed to work proceeding on preparation of a formal Wastewater Strategic Management Plan, and also agreed to appoint a Councillor Subcommittee to work with staff on preparation of the Plan after the October 2001 elections.

The Chairman has now indicated that all members of the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee may wish to have the opportunity to have direct input into the Plan during its preparation. This being the case, a short series of Committee workshops (two or three), with informed external individuals (four or five) invited to attend and participate, would be an appropriate forum. The intention is that a range of issues and options will be presented at the first workshop. Discussion would provide feedback on the options and possibly allow further options to emerge. Staff would then work on the outcomes of the workshop, obtain input from the general public by way of two or three-person focus groups, and present a preliminary draft Wastewater Strategic Management Plan to a second workshop. From this, a final draft would be prepared and presented to this Committee and on to the full Council for wider public consultation and finally adoption. It is intended that the whole process will occur over a period of approximately six to eight months.

WATER SUPPLY STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT PLAN

While a number of the elements of a Christchurch Water Supply Strategic Management Plan have been before the Council in the past, a complete plan has yet to be prepared. The reason for this is that such a plan needs to be developed within the context of an overall Christchurch/West Melton Ground Water Management Plan. As Councillors will be aware, ECan has released the draft Water Chapters of their Natural Resources Regional Plan (NRRP). This document, when it becomes operative (presently intended to be this October), will provide the needed framework for the management of the Christchurch/West Melton Groundwater, and thus enable a Water Supply Strategic Management Plan to be prepared. Thus the intention is to commence work on this after the Wastewater Strategic Management Plan has been prepared and after the ECan proposed NRRP is released.

- Recommendation:**
1. That this Committee hold a small number of workshops during the preparation of the Wastewater Strategic Management Plan, and that selected community members be invited to attend and fully participate in these workshops as outlined in this report.
 2. That work on the Water Supply Strategic Management Plan commence after the ECan proposed NRRP plan is released, and after the completion of the Wastewater Strategic Management Plan.

Chairman's Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.