

10. WAIMAKARIRI RIVER FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Officer responsible Director of Policy	Author Jonathan Fletcher, DDI 941-8548
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The purpose of this report is to propose that the Council agree to a joint working party with ECan on this issue.

The joint seminar on Wednesday 6 November 2002, between Environment Canterbury and the Christchurch City Council's Strategy and Finance Committee, included an item on Waimakariri River floodplain management issues. Laurie McCallum, Natural Resources Planning Manager for ECan, outlined the potential of the Waimakariri River to flood significant parts of Christchurch. He then outlined some of the planning and development issues relating to the management of the Waimakariri River and its floodplain. These included:

- Implementation of the withdrawn Waimakariri River Floodplain Management Regional Plan
- The flood variation to the Proposed Christchurch City Plan
- The Secondary Stopbank on the south bank of the Waimakariri
- Lake Isaac
- Shingle aggradation in the lower Waimakariri
- Non-Statutory Management Plan for the Waimakariri River
- Development between the existing primary stopbank and the secondary bank.

The discussion and questions by Councillors on these issues indicated a need for the two Councils to maintain closer contact and understanding in order to better achieve appropriate outcomes for the Waimakariri River and its floodplain. To this end it is recommended that a working party (unpaid) be set up between ECan and CCC to liaise on Waimakariri River and floodplain issues. Environment Canterbury has agreed to be responsible for servicing the Working Party. Terms of reference for such a working party could be as follows:

1. To liaise on issues related to the management of the Waimakariri River and its floodplain.
2. To ensure that planning and management for flood mitigation and control measures and floodplain management are co-ordinated and that the two Councils collaborate on mitigation and avoidance of flood damages for Christchurch.
3. To make recommendations on Waimakariri River and floodplain management issues to both Councils.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the Council support the formation of a Joint Waimakariri River and Floodplain Management Working Party comprising elected members from the Christchurch City Council and Environment Canterbury.
 2. That the Joint Council Working Party have the terms of reference as given above.
 3. That the Committee select the elected members to be the CCC representatives on the working party.
 4. That Councillors O'Rourke, Buck and Withers be appointed to the working party.