

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 10 MARCH 2015,
AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD,
GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.53 A.M.****PRESENT:**

A. Robb (Chairman), P. Ewen, A. Birchfield, P. McDonnell, T. Archer, S. Challenger, N. Clementson

IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), M. Meehan (Planning & Environmental Manager), J. Adams (Consents and Compliance Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

LATE ITEM**PROPOSED FRANZ JOSEF RATING DISTRICT**

Moved (Archer / Clementson) *that the late item be accepted.*

Carried

1. APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved (Archer / Birchfield) *that the minutes of the Council Meeting dated 5 February 2015, be confirmed as correct.*

Carried

Matters arising

Cr Clementson asked if there had been any feedback from Mr Allen regarding his presentation to Council. C. Ingle advised that the Chairman wrote to Mr Allen to thank him for his presentation.

Cr Birchfield asked M. Meehan if payment has been received from Grey District Council for the Red Jacks rating district. M. Meehan advised that Grey District Council is still working on this.

REPORTS:**4.1 ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT**

M. Meehan spoke to this report and advised minor work has been done in the Greymouth rating district. He advised that rock supplies in council quarries have not been used due to the good weather.

Moved (Ewen / Archer) *that this report be received.*

Carried

4.1.1 GREYMOUTH FLOODWALL JOINT AGREEMENT

C. Ingle spoke to this report and advised that there have been some changes to the Local Government Act and as a result some minor administrative changes have had to be made to the Greymouth Floodwall Joint Agreement and the Joint Hokitika Seawall Agreement. He advised that this Agreement will also be put before the Grey District Council for adoption.

Moved (Archer / Birchfield) *That Council adopts the new version of the Greymouth Floodwalls Joint Agreement, as attached.*

Carried

4.1.2 JOINT HOKITIKA SEAWALL AGREEMENT

C. Ingle spoke to this report and advised this agreement has the same updates as the Greymouth Floodwall Joint Agreement. He stated that this agreement also documents the transfer of the groynes to WRCR; and the foreshore from Sunset Point, to the seawall, is going to be a joint management responsibility between the two councils. C. Ingle advised that rating district funds may need to be used in the future to help protect this area along with a matching funding from the district council.

Moved (Clementson / Challenger) *That Council adopts the new version of the Hokitika Seawall Joint Agreement, as attached.*

Carried

LATE ITEM

PROPOSED FRANZ JOSEF RATING DISTRICT

C. Ingle advised that this report is as a result of the public opinion survey that M. Meehan has been doing with the community in Franz Josef. Councillors took time to read the report. M. Meehan advised that the north side of the river is being affected by the aggrading in the Waiho River. M. Meehan advised that emergency works were done near the 50 km corner at the end of last year to try to alleviate some of the affect in this area. He stated that NZTA then did some major emergency works in the river to build temporary gravel stopbanks on the north side along with diversion works upstream. This work cost around \$1M. M. Meehan advised that residents want something done about the river and they were very vocal about this at the annual meeting. M. Meehan advised that the Scenic Circle Hotel, the school and the camping ground could be badly affected should the river cut through. M. Meehan advised that options have been worked through with the other stakeholders and the engineers have now come up with a final alignment for a potential stopbank on the north side. Capital contributions for Electronet and NZTA have been investigated along with three rating classifications. M. Meehan explained the different classifications to the meeting. He stated that Scenic Circle Hotel would be paying the highest portion of the costs. M. Meehan advised that since the last Council meeting a potential solution has been worked out and contributions have been worked out. A survey was sent out to 109 affected ratepayers including NZTA and Electronet. The response rate was reasonably low at 29% (34 responses). Only two were from properties within the proposed A and B classifications, they were Westland District Council (WDC) and Electronet. M. Meehan advised that 66% of people agreed with the classifications, 71% of respondents wanted work to proceed. 24% wanted Council to look at other options with quite a few people providing comments and suggesting that money is sought from the Government or NZTA as they feel it is too much for the ratepayers to afford. 5% of people did not want to proceed with works at all. M. Meehan advised that when the rating district was set up, Scenic Circle did not want to join and there is a strong feeling in the community that the hotel has not been contributing for the last 20 years. M. Meehan attached Westland District Council's submission. M. Meehan advised that C. Ingle and J. Adams have met with Westland District Council; he stated there is a plan in place to deal with the oxidation ponds with money being put into their LTP (\$8-9M over three years) to relocate the ponds. J. Adams stated that there are longstanding compliance issues with the oxidation ponds. M. Meehan advised that WDC disagrees with the proposed classifications and they want WCRC to investigate other protection options. M.

Meehan feels that there are not enough responses to make any kind of decision on such a significant amount of expenditure. Responses have not been received from NZTA who Council is relying on being a key capital contribution, there has also been very low response from the most affected ratepayers. M. Meehan suggested that a public meeting is held and invite stakeholders to this and flesh out whether or not this is something that the regional council needs to deal with or leave it to NZTA and the properties that are affected.

M. Meehan stated that 88% of respondents indicated that they want the Southside properties removed from the rating district.

Extensive discussion took place with all councillors contributing. C. Ingle stated that he finds it surprising that the Scenic Circle Hotel did not respond to the survey. Cr Robb stated that the costs to the hotel and the value of their building needs to be considered and he feels that they would be thinking about this very seriously. M. Meehan stated their contribution would be around \$80,000 per year. M. Meehan stated that the people in the current rating district are protected. C. Ingle advised that the areas of concern are the 55 km corner, the hotel and the sewage ponds. He feels that this maybe why the response rate was as low as it is not the towns people's property at risk. Cr Challenger stated that the sewage ponds need to be moved. C. Ingle stated that timing needs to be considered as there are multiple issues. C. Ingle suggested that a meeting be arranged between himself, the Chairman, WDC's Mayor and CEO to discuss the wider Franz Josef issues. WDC need to work through issues with the alpine fault, they need to get their LTP out and decide whether or not to shift the sewage ponds. M. Meehan spoke of Bob Hall's report which was commissioned in 2011, one of the key findings of the report was that the sewage ponds had about five years before they would be wiped out. M. Meehan recalled taking Mr Hall to WDC to meet with NZTA, WDC and DoC and Mr Hall told everyone what would happen if something wasn't done and this was nearly five years ago. Cr Ewen suggested that discussions be initiated with Scenic Circle Hotel to ascertain what their intention is as they may well have a plan in place that Council is not aware of. M. Meehan advised that he has had a discussion with the General Manager of the hotel regarding the future of the hotel, and was informed that they are not looking at any kind of development due to consent requirements. Further discussion took place regarding WDC's waste water issues and compliance matters. It was agreed that the first recommendation would be held over until after WDC's Alpine Fault plan hearing, and after a meeting has been held with the Scenic Circle Hotel to ascertain what their plans are.

Moved (Archer / Challenger)

That Council notify the removal of the Southside properties from the Franz Josef Rating District in the Long Term Plan.

Carried

4.2 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT

R. Mallinson spoke to this report and advised that this report covers the six month results to the end of December. He reported that a small surplus of \$247,000 has been made. R. Mallinson gave a detailed account of his report and offered to answer questions from Councillors. R. Mallinson reported that the main investment portfolio for the seven month period has returned just under \$745,000 compared to a budgeted income for the whole year of around \$870,000.

Discussion took place on the amount of money court cases are costing council. The Chairman stated that these court cases are costing ratepayers a lot of money and in most instances Council has won the case. In some cases the filing fee has been waived by the court, which has been unhelpful. Extensive discussion took place.

R. Mallinson advised that Westpac is due to make their annual presentation to Council. It was agreed that this would be held after the April meeting.

Moved (Ewen / Archer) *that this report is received.*

Carried

Moved (Birchfield / Archer)

That Council writes a letter to the Minister of Justice advising him that Council is concerned about the high level of costs litigants are causing and the impact these costs are having on ratepayers and that these litigants are being assisted by Judges in some cases, which then increases the costs to ratepayers.

Carried

5.0 CHAIRMANS REPORT

The Chairman advised that Mr Lawrence Yule, President of Local Government NZ will be visiting on the 1st of April. Mr Yule will be presenting the Reputation Research carried out by Colmar Brunton. The Chairman requested that all Councillors make the effort to attend this meeting. The Chairman stated that the more Councils can build their reputations as a body, New Zealand wide, the more influence Councils will have on Government.

The Chairman reported that the main presenter at the recent RSG meeting was Hon Nick Smith. Hon Smith spoke about the progress to date with RMA reforms. The Chairman stated that a careful eye needs to be kept on the standardization of these changes and that Councils do not get landed with things that could cost Councils a lot of money.

Moved (Robb / Ewen) *That this report be received.*

Carried

6.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

C. Ingle spoke to his report and took it as read. C. Ingle advised that there is a considerable amount of work involved in the Long Term Plan process.

C. Ingle stated that there is quite a lot of work to go through at today's workshop which follows this meeting. He advised that a consultation document for the LTP needs to be developed after the workshop.

C. Ingle advised that the Local Government Act requires the Revenue and Financing Policy to be adopted prior to the rest of the LTP document. He drew attention to section of the policy where it says at least 30% of investment income be reinvested. C. Ingle advised that in a good year, council reinvests more than 50%. It was noted that the percentage is based on the budgeted figure which is budgeted on a 7% return but often council achieves higher than this. Cr Birchfield stated that Council has done well as it started out with \$7M and now has close to \$12M. C. Ingle drew attention to the compliance monitoring funding source on page 24, this has been changed slightly to 70 – 80% user charges and 20 – 30% general rate. This is another 10% towards user charges.

Cr Ewen and C. Ingle attended the Investment Logic Mapping training on 4 March, M. Meehan and planning staff also attended. C. Ingle advised that people from the district councils also attended. Matt Barnes from NZTA provided the training. He is an expert in defining where the issues are when it comes to investing money into projects. C. Ingle stated that this type of planning was used for the Regional Land Transport Plan to good effect. Cr Ewen stated that he found the training to be good value.

Moved (Archer / Challenger)

1. *That this report is received.*
2. *That Council approves the attached Revenue and Financing Policy.*

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

C. Ingle advised that the report relating to insurance which is in the confidential section of today's meeting can now be brought into this public section of the meeting.

RESULTS OF INSURANCE TENDER

R. Mallinson spoke to this report. He advised that a workshop was held at the end of last year to investigate potential shared service or joint purchasing possibilities for insurance. All

four West Coast councils attended this workshop which was facilitated by the Local Authority Shared Services (LASS) organisations in Manawatu, Bay of Plenty and Hawkes Bay regions. R. Mallinson advised that a syndicate of 25 councils went to the insurance market place together. The results were savings of just over \$450,000 for the four West Coast councils, with this council's share being less as we do not have as many buildings as the district councils. R. Mallinson reported that the overall savings for the 25 Councils amounted to \$3.4M. He stated that this was a very worthwhile outcome.

Cr Robb stated that this is a significant saving to the people of the West Coast who are this council's ratepayers. He stated that this is a prime example of Councils working together.

Moved (Archer / McDonnell) *That this report is received.*

The meeting closed at 12.14 p.m.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting – 14 April 2015
 Prepared by: Wayne Moen – Senior River Engineer & Paulette Birchfield – Engineering Officer
 Date: 1 April 2015
 Subject: **ENGINEERING OPERATIONS REPORT**

WORKS COMPLETED AND WORKS TENDERED FOR**Saltwater Creek – Emergency Maintenance Works**

This emergency maintenance work involving the excavating of the cut to release the backup of water around low-lying properties around Paroa School was completed by Westroads. At the time of the report a final invoice had not been received.

Greymouth Rating District – Range Creek – Emergency Maintenance Works

This emergency maintenance work involving the placing of small rock in eroded sections on either side of the wingwalls at Range Creek, and placing of 30 tonne of rubble below and out from the under the concrete apron, was completed by GH Foster Contracting Ltd at a cost of \$2,040 (GST Exclusive).

Wanganui Rating District – Emergency Maintenance Works

This emergency maintenance work involving the replacing of slumped rockwork with 450 tonnes of rock was completed by Westland Contractors Ltd at a cost of \$6,075.36 (GST Exclusive).

FUTURE WORKS

- Taramakau Rating District
- Whataroa Rating District
- Vine Creek Rating District

Quarries

Quarry	Rock Available	Emergency Stockpile
Blackball	2,300	-
Camelback	5,534	2,000
Inchbonnie	8,000	-
Kiwi	7,717	-
Whataroa	1,808	2,500
Okuru	500	-

RECOMMENDATION

That the report is received

Michael Meehan
Planning and Environment Manager

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared For: Council Meeting – 14 April 2015
 Prepared By: Alyce Melrose – Regional Planner
 Date: 27 March 2015
 Subject: **West Coast Regional Council Flood Protection Bylaw**

Purpose

The purpose of this Report is to seek Council's approval to make the Flood Protection Management Bylaw (the Bylaw) operative.

Background

In the past few years, Council has found that some activities occurring on and near flood protection works have the potential to damage the structures it manages on behalf of the community. An example of this is vegetation growth on stop banks, which can cause damage as the roots grow into the stop bank, creating an access point for water to enter and impact on the integrity of the structure. The Bylaw was prepared to manage activities affecting flood protection works owned or controlled by the West Coast Regional Council.

Draft Bylaw

At the October 2014 Council Meeting, Council agreed to publicly notify the Draft Bylaw for submissions, which closed on 19 January 2015. Two submissions were received, one opposed to the Draft Bylaw and one supporting it, subject to minor amendments.

The submission received in opposition to the bylaw was withdrawn following consultation.

The other submission from Hamish Macbeth supported the Bylaw, but requested some minor wording changes, which are drafted as follows:

5.3 Defences against water

No person shall, without the prior authority of the Council

(k) Construct, or form through repeated use, a road, track or ford for the passage of vehicles, people or stock, on any defence against water.

Explanation: The intent of the Bylaw is to control direct forms of damage inflicted on the flood protection or flood control works owned or controlled by the Council. Indirect forms of damage resulting from flow modification or the operational conveyance of water by hydroelectricity infrastructure are not activities controlled by this Bylaw.

The change that Hamish Macbeth requested was to move the explanation from under condition (b) to under condition (k). This was accepted as the explanation applies to all conditions within Section 5.3.

6.2 Access

All fence crossings that would otherwise deny access to and along the drain margins *shall be maintained and made accessible* to all Council staff or contractors engaged by Council.

The change requested in Section 6.2 is underlined and in italics, the added wording provides clarification.

Hamish Macbeth has agreed to the draft changes above and does not wish to be heard.

Process from here

If Council agrees to the amendments shown above, the Draft Bylaw can be made operative. The Bylaw will need to be reviewed every five years to see if any changes need to be made.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That Council approve the drafted amendments to the Bylaw resulting from submissions, and*
- 2. That Council adopt the operative West Coast Regional Council Flood Protection Bylaw, and publicly notify its operative status as per Clause 157 of the Local Government Act 2002.*

Michael Meehan
Planning and Environmental Manager



West Coast Regional Council

Flood Protection Bylaw



Approved 14 April 2015

The common seal of the West Coast Regional Council was affixed in the presence of:

.....
A. Robb
Chairman

.....
C. Ingle
Chief Executive Officer

Operative 14 April 2015

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WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL FLOOD PROTECTION BYLAW

The West Coast Regional Council, pursuant to the powers contained in the Local Government Act 2002, makes the following Bylaw:

1.0 Title

This Bylaw shall be known as the West Coast Regional Council Flood Protection Bylaw.

2.0 Commencement

This Bylaw shall come into force on 14 April 2015

3.0 Purpose

The purpose of this Bylaw is to manage, regulate and protect the effective operation and integrity of flood protection works owned by or under the control of the West Coast Regional Council from damage or misuse.

Flood protection works can include drains, floodbanks, overflows, groynes, stopbanks, and any other defences against water.

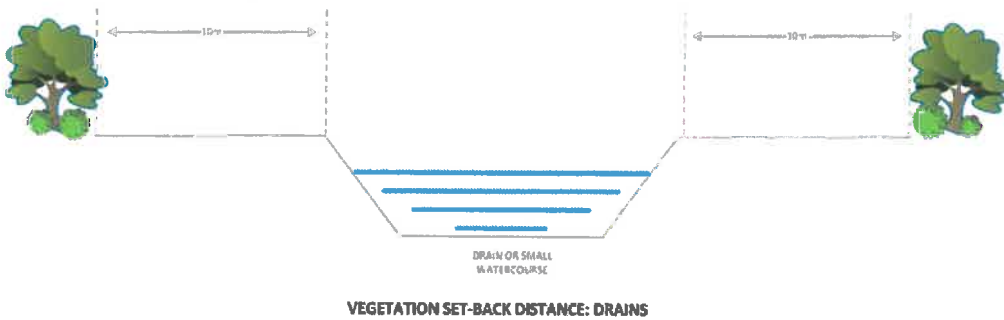
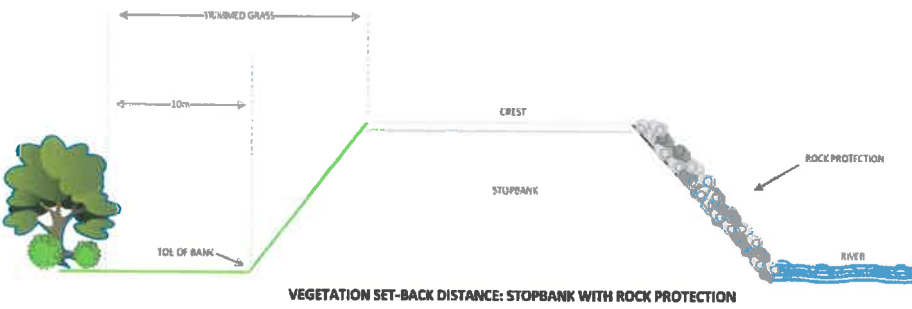
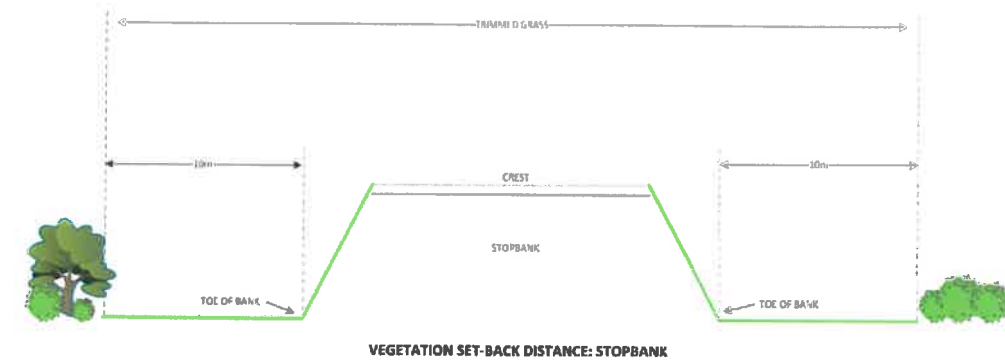
This Bylaw only controls activities that may affect the integrity or effective operation and maintenance of flood protection and flood control works.

4.0 Definitions

Authority	Means any permit or consent issued by the Council in respect of the requirements of this Bylaw.
Construct	Includes erect, alter, reconstruct, replace, extend, remove and demolish.
Council	Means: a) The West Coast Regional Council; and b) includes any person duly authorised by the Council to exercise any of the powers conferred upon the Council by this Bylaw.
Crossing	For the purposes of this Bylaw means any bridge, culvert, set of pipes or ford across a watercourse which provides passage for people, stock, vehicles or equipment.
Defence against water	Means any structure or equipment, including any dam, bund, weir, spillway, floodgate, bank, stopbank, retaining wall, rock protection structure, groyne, seawall, that is designed to have the effect of stopping, diverting, controlling, restricting or otherwise regulating the flow or spread of water, including floodwaters, in or out of a watercourse, for the purpose of flood mitigation and/or drainage. For the purposes of this Bylaw, means any defence against water that is owned or controlled by the West Coast Regional Council.
Drain	Means a channel, either artificially constructed or a modified watercourse, which is used to either lower the water table or divert water. For the purposes of this Bylaw, means any drain as specified in the Asset Management Plans (AMPs) on Councils website http://www.wcrc.govt.nz .
Earthworks	Means any activity that exposes, disturbs, places or deposits soil, other than routine cultivation of soil up to a depth of 300 millimetres in preparation for sowing grass or crops.
Equipment	Equipment means any equipment, devices or machinery associated with managing drains, or defences against water. For example floodgates, and water level recorders.
Excavation	Means the removal of material, which results in a hole or cavity, other than the boring or digging of holes up to 1.5 metres in depth and 300mm in diameter for immediate placement of posts or piles, or driving posts or piles.
Flood protection and flood control works	Includes defences against water, drains, and overflows.
Overflow	Means any overflows as shown in the Asset Management Plans (AMPs) on Councils website http://www.wcrc.govt.nz .
Toe of Stop-bank	Where the bottom of the stop-bank meets the natural ground level surface.
Stock	For the purposes of this Bylaw means any land grazing animal managed for recreational or agricultural purposes.
Structure	Means any building, crossing, equipment or other manmade facility and which is fixed to land; and includes but is not limited to, any fence, gate, line, raft, pipeline, cable, wire, rock, headwall, bridge or culvert, but excludes fishing nets placed temporarily within a watercourse.
Watercourse	For the purpose of this Bylaw, means all rivers, streams, overflows, drains and through which water flows permanently or intermittently, and in respect of which there are flood protection and flood control works.

4.1 Diagrams of Distance

The Diagrams below show how the setback distances are to be interpreted by the Proposed Bylaw.



5.0 Activities requiring bylaw authority

Note 1: Bylaw authority only applies to activities undertaken within the vicinity of flood protection and flood control works owned or controlled by the West Coast Regional Council, and where those activities have the potential to adversely affect the integrity or effective operation and maintenance of the flood protection and flood control works.

Note 2: Resource consent or further authorisation may also be required from the West Coast Regional Council, relevant territorial authority or the Department of Conservation to carry out these activities.

5.1 Drains

No person shall, without the prior written authority of the Council -

- (a) Widen, deepen, infill, or otherwise alter any drain;
- (b) Dump or deposit anything:
 - i. into a drain; or
 - ii. within 10 metres from the toe of a stop-bank or any drain that may interfere with access for inspection or maintenance purposes;
- (c) Plant or allow to grow, any vegetation within 10 metres of a toe of the stop-bank or any drain that may interfere with access for maintenance or inspection purposes;
- (d) Plant or allow to grow any vegetation in any drain that may:
 - i. impede the flow of water; or
 - ii. interfere with access for maintenance or inspection purposes;
- (e) Construct or locate any structure;
 - i. in, over, through or under any drain; or
 - ii. on or within 10 metres from the toe of a stop-bank or any drain;
- (f) Remove, adjust or interfere with any structure, or equipment relied on for the operation of any drain;
- (g) Connect any pipe, channel or other flow conduit, to any drain;
- (h) Remove, damage, or allow stock to damage any drain, or the banks of those watercourses.

Explanation: Routine maintenance of structures in and beside drains that existed prior to this Bylaw becoming operative does not require authority under this Bylaw. Authority will however be required if the scale of the structure changes or it needs to be replaced or relocated.

5.2 Overflow

No person shall, without the prior written authority of the Council -

- (a) Widen, deepen, infill, divert or otherwise alter any overflow;
- (b) Place or allow to be placed in any overflow any material or object that could impede flood or drainage flows;
- (c) Plant or allow to grow any vegetation in any overflow that may:
 - i. impede the flow of water; or
 - ii. interfere with access for maintenance or inspection purposes;
- (d) Construct or locate any structure in, over, through or under any overflow.

Explanation: Fences in, over or through drains and overflows do not require authority if they are constructed and maintained at all times so that they do not impede the flow of water or block access for maintenance.

5.3 Defences against water

No person shall, without the prior authority of the Council -

- (a) Alter or otherwise interfere with any defence against water;
- (b) Damage or allow damage to occur to any defence against water;

- (c) Allow stock to damage or overgraze vegetation on any defence against water;
- (d) Plant or allow to grow any shrub, hedge, tree, or part thereof;
 - i. On any defence against water; or
 - ii. Within 10 metres of any defence against water;
- (e) Dump or deposit anything;
 - i. On any defence against water; or
 - ii. Within 10 metres of any defence against water;
- (f) Remove, adjust, or interfere with any equipment relied on for the operation of any defence against water;
- (g) Construct or locate any structure;
 - i. On, in, under, over or through any defence against water; or
 - ii. Within 10 metres of any defence against water;
- (h) Carry out any earthworks or excavation, including for construction of a drain or for building foundations:
 - i. Within 10 metres of any defence against water; or
 - ii. In, on or between the bank of any watercourse and any adjoining defence against water;
- (i) Construct any crossing in, over, through, along or under any defence against water;
- (j) Remove, damage, or allow stock to damage any fence, gate, sign, track, or ford that is owned or controlled by the Council in relation to any defence against water;
- (k) Construct, or form through repeated use, a road, track or ford for the passage of vehicles, people or stock, on any defence against water.

Explanation: The intent of the Bylaw is to control direct forms of damage inflicted on the flood protection or flood control works owned or controlled by the Council. Indirect forms of damage resulting from flow modification or the operational conveyance of water by hydroelectricity infrastructure are not activities controlled by this Bylaw.

5.4 Hydrological devices and equipment

No person shall, without the prior authority of the Council, remove, damage, or interfere with hydrological devices or other equipment, such as rain gauges and water level recorders.

5.5 Survey benchmarks

No person shall, without the prior authority of the Council, remove, damage, or interfere with survey benchmarks established to monitor river bed levels and defences against water.

Such damage will result in the damager being billed for the replacement of such a benchmark.

5.6 Unauthorised defences against water

No person shall, without the prior written authority of the Council, erect, or permit to be erected, any defence against water:

- (a) Between any defence against water; or
- (b) In, over, under or adjacent to any drain shown in the Asset Management Plans (AMPs) on Councils website: <http://www.wcrc.govt.nz>.
- (c) Within any overflow shown in the Asset Management Plans (AMPs) on Councils website: <http://www.wcrc.govt.nz>.

6.0 Activities required to be undertaken.

6.1 Crossings

Every owner and every occupier of land on which any drain crossing is situated, and for which there is an agreement with the owner or occupier that the crossing will be used by Council for drain maintenance or flood protection and flood control work access purposes shall keep that crossing maintained to a standard, agreed between the parties, as will allow the safe passage over the crossing by Council staff and contractors engaged by the Council, and their plant, machinery and vehicles.

6.2 Access

All fence crossings that would otherwise deny access to and along the drain margins shall be maintained and made accessible to all Council staff or contractors engaged by Council.

6.3 Obstructions

Every owner and occupier of land on which any Council drain is situated, or adjacent to any such drain or watercourse shall, if required by the Council, remove any tree, plant or other material or object that obstructs, or is considered by Council to be at high risk of falling and obstructing the free flow of water in that drain or watercourse.

7.0 Land Entry

7.1 Survey/ Inspection/ Obstruction

No person whether on private land or not, shall unreasonably obstruct or hinder any employee of the Council or any contractor engaged by the Council in the performance of anything which that employee or contractor of the Council is or may be required to do in the discharge of his/her duties, including inspections, maintenance, surveys and operating any drain clearing plant or machinery.

7.2 Maintenance of West Coast Regional Council defences against water by private individuals

Land owners and land occupiers who wish to avoid herbicide use for the maintenance of drains and defences against water adjacent to or through their properties may undertake the drain clearance themselves, or employ contractors to do so, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Prior written authority of the Council must be obtained.
- (b) Signs are to be erected by landowners or occupiers to clearly mark the areas where chemicals are not to be used. (This may be achieved using simple signs clearly marked 'Chemical Free Area'.)
- (c) The works are to be carried out to a standard specified by the Council. That standard may include a time period within which the works are required to be carried out.
- (d) If the works are not carried out to the prescribed standard, the Council may give notice of its intention to maintain the drain and, following the period of one week, may carry out the required maintenance using any method it deems efficient including the use of herbicides.

Explanation:

1. *In addition to any other form of notice given under clauses 7.1 to 7.2, Council will endeavour to speak directly to the landowner or occupier before entering land to discuss the reasons for entry and any matters for concern. In determining reasonable terms of entry in the circumstances, the Council will have regard to the interests and convenience of the persons who may be affected and the requirements of any business utilising the land.*
2. *Any owner or occupier of any land subject to this Bylaw, who suffers any damage from the exercise of any powers by Council under this Bylaw, may be entitled to compensation from the Council in accordance with section 190 of the Local Government Act 2002.*

8.0 Applying for an Authority

8.1 Authority

- (a) An application to the Council for authority under this Bylaw shall be made in writing using the attached Application Form and be accompanied by any fee as prescribed under clause 8.2(a).
- (b) When considering any application for an authority, the Council shall have regard to, but not be limited to, the following assessment criteria, in order to ensure the effective operation and integrity of the flood protection and flood control works:
 - Drainage and flood flow capacity
 - Stability/scour/erosion risk
 - On-going functionality
 - Access for inspection and maintenance purposes
 - Term of authority
- (c) Any condition imposed under any authority will be commensurate with the scale and nature of the activity proposed and for giving effect to the purpose of the Bylaw.
- (d) In the event of a Council decision to refuse an application for authority, the Council shall include in writing the reasons for that decision.
- (e) Every person to whom an authority is granted shall produce that authority for inspection on request by the Council.
- (f) Every authority granted under this Bylaw to an owner or occupier of any land, shall be binding on every subsequent owner or occupier of that land, unless it specifically states otherwise.
- (g) The Council shall keep a register of all authorities granted and refused.

8.2 Fees

- (a) The Council may, by using the special consultative procedure in Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002, prescribe any fee payable by any person who applies for an authority under this Bylaw.
- (b) The Council may in its absolute discretion refund, remit or waive the whole or part of such fee.

8.3 Deeming authority

- (a) Any existing resource consent or agreement granted by or made with the Council and issued prior to the Bylaw becoming operative; and
- (b) Any fully discretionary consent granted by Council after the date this Bylaw becomes operative; and authorising the carrying out of any activity listed in Section 1 of this Bylaw, shall be deemed to be an authority under this Bylaw to carry out such work for the term and on the conditions set out in the resource consent or agreement. This will include any right under that consent or agreement to replace or repair any structure or to undertake any routine maintenance.

9.0 Compliance and Enforcement

9.1 Revocation of authority

- (a) The Council may, in accordance with this clause, revoke any authority granted under this Bylaw if the holder of that authority contravenes or fails to comply with any condition of the authority.
- (b) The Council shall not revoke any such authority without giving to the holder a notice in writing which:
 - i. Sets out the respects in which the holder has contravened or has failed to comply with any condition of the authority; and
 - ii. If the breach or failure is capable of remedy, gives the holder a reasonable time within which to remedy it; and
 - iii. Warns the holder that the Council may revoke the authority if the holder does not either:
 - 1. Remedy the breach or failure within the time specified or within such further time as the Council may allow on application; or

2. Make, within a time to be specified in the notice, a written submission to the Council setting out reasons why the authority should not be revoked.
- (c) On receipt of a request by the holder for further time pursuant to clause 9.1(b)(iii)(1), or of a submission pursuant to clause 9.1(b)(iii)(2), the Council may at its sole discretion grant the further time sought or accept the submission made (as the case may be), or revoke the authority.

9.2 Offence

- (a) Every person commits an offence against this Bylaw who:
- i. Commits a breach of any of the provisions of this Bylaw.
 - ii. Causes or permits to be done anything in contravention of this Bylaw.
 - iii. Omits to do anything required by this Bylaw.
 - iv. Fails to comply with any condition of a permit, or written notice served under this Bylaw.
- (b) Every person who commits an offence against this Bylaw is liable to the penalties prescribed by section 242 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Explanation: To remove any confusion, this means every person or persons who commits an offence who wilfully or maliciously destroys, damages, stops, obstructs, or interferes with the works or property set out in this Bylaw is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$20,000 or three years imprisonment or both (sections S232 and S242 in the Local Government Act 2002).

9.3 Notice to remedy

The Council may, by written notice, require any mitigation or remediation considered necessary by Council, in relation to the contravention of any provision of this Bylaw, or the conditions of the relevant authority, in the time, and in the manner stated in the notice, at the cost of the owner.

9.4 Removal of works

- (a) The Council, or any officer or agent of the Council, may remove or alter any work or anything constructed after the date at which this Bylaw becomes operative, that is in contravention of any provision of this Bylaw or any conditions of any authority, and may recover the costs incurred by the Council in connection with the removal or alteration.
- (b) The undertaking of this action shall not relieve any person from liability to any penalty incurred by reason of the breach.

9.5 Objections process

- (a) Any owner or occupier of land subject to this Bylaw, within 14 days of receiving any decision or authority in relation to this Bylaw, may object in writing to the Council in regard to that decision or authority, and has the right to be heard in support of that objection.
- (b) The Council considering an objection under clause 9.5 (a) above, may uphold or amend or rescind the decision or authority, and in making its determination must have regard to:
- i. The evidence on which the decision or authority was based;
 - ii. The matters presented in support of the objection; and
 - iii. Any other relevant matters.
- (c) The Council must, as soon as practicable, give written notice to the owner or occupier of its determination, including the reasons for that determination.

APPLICATION FORM FOR AUTHORITY UNDER THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL FLOOD PROTECTION BYLAW

1. Applicant(s) details

Applicant(s) name(s): _____

Organisation name: _____
(if applicable)

Postal address: _____

_____ Post Code: _____

Phone number: Business _____ Private _____

Mobile _____ Fax _____

Email address: _____

2. Property to which this Bylaw authority relates

Property address: _____

3. Diagram and location of proposed works

Please provide a diagram in the box below, and details of where the works are proposed to occur (hand drawn is acceptable). Please provide photos of the site if you are able.

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting – 14 April 2015
 Prepared by: Robert Mallinson – Corporate Services Manager
 Date: 7 April 2015

1. Financial Report

FOR THE EIGHT MONTHS ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2015	ACTUAL	YEAR TO DATE BUDGET	ACTUAL % ANNUAL BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET
REVENUES				
General Rates	1,410,252	1,400,000	67%	2,100,000
Rates Penalties	24,217	40,000	40%	60,000
Investment Income	1,014,419	730,273	93%	1,095,409
Resource Management	702,673	847,267	57%	1,238,000
Regional Land Transport	60,374	59,067	68%	88,600
Emergency Management	197,716	144,000	92%	216,000
River, Drainage, Coastal Protection	904,267	1,024,491	59%	1,536,736
Regional % Share Controls	440,329	433,333	68%	650,000
Warm West Coast	39,416	0	0%	
VCS Business Unit	3,230,373	2,230,574	97%	3,345,861
Other	9,860			
	8,033,896	6,909,004		10,330,606
EXPENDITURE				
Governance	262,039	287,959	61%	431,939
Resource Management	2,221,767	1,940,653	76%	2,910,979
Regional land Transport	128,768	112,366	76%	168,549
Hydrology & Floodw arning Services	374,126	313,959	79%	470,938
Emergency Management	220,415	210,398	70%	315,597
River, Drainage, Coastal Protection	1,217,371	1,016,949	80%	1,525,423
Regional % Share Controls	506,638	457,714	74%	686,571
VCS Business Unit	2,896,588	1,863,907	104%	2,795,861
Other Investments	108,657	0		104,172
Warm West Coast	19,894	0		
	7,956,263	6,203,905		9,410,029
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	77,633	705,099		920,577

BREAKDOWN OF SURPLUS (-DEFICIT)	Variance Actual V Budgeted YTD	ACTUAL	BUDGET Year to date	ANNUAL BUDGET
Rating Districts	-64,249	109,546	173,795	260,693
Quarries	-177,764	-179,177	-1,413	-2,119
Regional % Share of AHB Programmes	-41,928	-66,309	-24,381	-36,571
Investment Income	284,146	1,014,419	730,273	1,095,409
VCS Business Unit	-32,882	333,785	366,667	550,000
General Rates Funded Activities	-515,514	-1,055,356	-539,842	-842,663
Warm West Coast	19,522	19,522	0	0
Other	-98,797	-98,797	0	-104,172
TOTAL	-627,466	77,633	705,099	920,577

Net Contributors to General Rates Funded Surplus (-Deficit)	Actual	Budet ytd	Annual Plan
<u>Net Variance Actual V YTD</u>			
Rates	1,410,252	1,400,000	2,100,000
Rates Penalties	-15,783	24,217	60,000
Representation	25,920	-262,039	-431,939
Resource Management	-425,708	-1,519,094	-1,672,979
Planning Activities	-15,095	-68,394	-79,949
River, Drainage, Coastal Protection	-78,632	-243,473	-247,261
Hydrology & Floodw arning	-60,167	-374,126	-470,938
Emergency Management	43,699	-22,699	-99,597
	-515,514	-1,055,356	-842,663

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION @ 28 FEBRUARY 2015

	@ 28/02/15
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>	
Cash	-500,601
Deposit - Westpac	7,291
Accounts Receivable - General	211,202
Accounts Receivable - Rates	-430,216
Prepayments	95,175
Sundry Receivables	646,323
GST Refund due	55,478
Stock - VCS	26,487
Stock - Rock	755,244
Stock - Office Supplies	22,116
Accrued Rates Revenue	706,171
	<hr/>
	1,594,670
<u>NON CURRENT ASSETS</u>	
Investments	11,288,430
Strategic Investments	887,028
Term Deposit - PRCC bond	50,000
MBIE & DOC Bonds	14,636
Investments-Catastrophe Fund	891,113
Warm West Coast Loans	758,238
Commercial Property Investment	1,352,561
Fixed Assets	4,856,542
Infrastructural Assets	54,061,958
	<hr/>
	74,160,505
TOTAL ASSETS	<hr/> 75,755,174 <hr/>
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>	
Bank Short Term Loan	200,000
Accounts Payable	537,340
GST	0
Deposits and Bonds	775,506
Sundry Payables	258,479
Accrued Annual Leave, Payroll	331,447
Other Revenue in Advance	0
Rates Revenue in Advance	0
	<hr/>
	2,102,772
<u>NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>	
Future Quarry restoration	70,000
Interest Rate Hedge Position	98,130
Lower Waiho	244,180
Greymouth Floodwall	1,827,370
Inchbonnie	7,888
Hokitika Seawall	1,412,500
Punakaiki Loan	40,287
Strategic Investments	1,279,244
Warm West Coast	755,000
Office Equipment Leases	28,893
	<hr/>
	5,763,492
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<hr/> 7,866,264 <hr/>
<u>EQUITY</u>	
Ratepayers Equity	19,177,222
Surplus transferred	77,633
Rating Districts Equity	1,597,631
Tb Special Rate Balance	226,336
Revaluation	35,299,357
Quarry Account	-11,751
Catastrophe Fund	779,482
Investment Growth Reserve	10,743,000
TOTAL EQUITY	<hr/> 67,888,910 <hr/>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<hr/> 75,755,174 <hr/>

2. Investment Income

Westpac Portfolios

February 2015	Catastrophe Fund	Major Portfolio	TOTAL
Opening balance 1 February 2015	\$ 831,595	\$ 11,369,435	\$ 12,201,030
Income February 2015	\$ 9,518	\$ 118,994	\$ 128,512
Deposit	\$ 50,000		
Withdrawal		-\$ 200,000	
Closing balance 28 February 2015	\$ 891,113	\$ 11,288,429	\$ 12,179,542
Total income year to date to 28 February	\$ 61,632	\$ 863,916	\$ 925,548

3. Comments

The surplus for the eight months to 28 February 2015 was \$77,000 and is in line with the trend of previous results reported.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received.

Robert Mallinson
Corporate Services Manager

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting – 14 April 2015
Prepared by: Chris Ingle
Date: 3 April 2015

Subject: Eight Month Review - 1 July 2014 – 28 February 2015

Attached is the Eight Month Review showing progress for the first eight months of financial year. This report shows achievements as measured against the levels of service and performance targets in the Annual Plan 2014 - 2015.

We are making good progress with a number of planning and other areas, with no particular concerns at this stage.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received.

Chris Ingle
Chief Executive

Governance Levels of Service and Performance Targets

Levels of Service	Measure	Performance Target	Progress/Achievement																								
	Number of public meetings held and individual Councillor attendance	Conduct eleven monthly meetings of Council and the Resource Management Committee, plus other scheduled meetings and scheduled workshops during the year with at least 80% attendance by all Councillors.	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Councillor</th> <th>attendance</th> <th>%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Robb</td> <td>7 out of 7</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Birchfield</td> <td>7 out of 7</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ewen</td> <td>7 out of 7</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Challenger</td> <td>7 out of 7</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>McDonnell</td> <td>6 out of 7</td> <td>86%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clementson</td> <td>6 out of 7</td> <td>86%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Archer</td> <td>7 out of 7</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Councillor	attendance	%	Robb	7 out of 7	100%	Birchfield	7 out of 7	100%	Ewen	7 out of 7	100%	Challenger	7 out of 7	100%	McDonnell	6 out of 7	86%	Clementson	6 out of 7	86%	Archer	7 out of 7	100%
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McDonnell	6 out of 7	86%																									
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Archer	7 out of 7	100%																									
Maintain a Council of elected representatives in accordance with statutory requirements and in a manner that promotes effective decision-making, transparency, and accountability to the West Coast regional community	Compliance with statutory timeframes	Prepare and notify the Council's Annual Plan Statement of Proposal by 31 May each year, and the Annual Report by 31 October, in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Local Government Act 2002.	<p>The audited Annual Report for the year to 30 June 2014 was adopted by Council at the Council meeting on 14 October 2014.</p> <p>The 2015-25 Long Term Plan process is well underway and the documents will be formally adopted and released for submissions in late April 2015.</p>																								
	Timing and number of newsletters, and internet website based information related to public consultation processes.	Publish an informative Council newsletter twice a year to be circulated to all ratepayers, with their rate demand, in March and September and ensure required information is posted on the Council website when Council invites submissions on a new or revised policy document.	<p>The first rates instalment which was sent out in October 2014 contained the usual newsletter. The recent rates instalment contained a summary of the proposed Regional Policy Statement.</p> <p>Council website continues to be updated whenever submissions are invited on a new or revised policy document.</p>																								
Continue to support the contribution our two West Coast Runanga make to Council's decision-making processes; and continue to seek contributions from other Maori	Attendance of Iwi appointees at Resource Management Committee meetings	Continue to invite attendance of Makaawhio and Ngati Waewae representatives as appointees to the Council's resource management committee, to enable Maori participation in resource management decision-making.	<p>Council has continued to invite both Makaawhio and Ngati Waewae representatives to attend all Resource Management Committee meetings. Attendance has been good.</p>																								

Resource Management Levels of Service and Performance Targets

Levels of Service	Measure	Performance Target	Progress/Achievement
To maintain or enhance water quality in the West Coast's rivers	Ammoniacal nitrogen, periphyton, clarity, turbidity and faecal coliforms are measured quarterly at 38 river sites. These parameters characterise the water quality of West Coast rivers and have been measured since 1996.	Improvement of these parameters, when compared with a baseline of 1996 data on water quality. All significant consented discharges ¹ are monitored at least annually, and all dairy sheds at least every second year depending on individual compliance record. All non-compliances publicly reported to the Resource Management Committee and responded to using Council's Enforcement Policy.	Periphyton (algal growth) improved at 90% of council monitored sites; faecal coliforms and ammoniacal nitrogen were either stable or showed improvement at 94% of council monitoring sites, while both turbidity and water clarity were either stable or improved at all sites. All significant discharges are on track to be inspected by June 30. 75% of Dairy farms with discharges have been inspected. All non-compliance has been publicly reported and 60 infringement notices were issued for the 8 months.
To maintain or enhance the water quality in Lake Brunner	The trophic state of Lake Brunner is measured by the Trophic Level Index (TLI) which combines clarity, nutrient and algal measures. The rolling 5-year mean is compared with a 2002-2006 baseline mean.	The annual (rolling 5-year mean) TLI of Lake Brunner is less than the 2002-2006 TLI baseline mean of 2.79.	As of Jan 2015 the rolling 5-year mean TLI of Lake Brunner was 2.81, slightly higher than the 2002-2006 TLI baseline mean of 2.79.
Complete current regional plans to operative stage, and review them to maintain their community acceptability.	Statutory requirements for review	Compliance with statutory requirements for the review of Council's plans and strategies.	All RMA Plans are currently operative. Reviews are underway with Regional Policy Statement, Coastal Plan and Air Plan.
Advocate for the West Coast interests when external environmental policymaking may affect the West Coast.	Number of submissions made and number of successful advocacy outcomes.	Submit on all central or local government discussion documents, draft strategies, policies or Bills that may impact on West Coast interests, within required timeframes.	Council has been involved with providing feedback on guidance material from the Ministry for the Environment regarding the Freshwater National Policy Statement.

¹ Significant Consented Discharge includes: any consented discharge from a municipal sewage scheme or landfill, any consented discharge from a working mine site, any consented discharge of dairy effluent to water, and any large scale industrial discharge (WMP, Kokiri).

Levels of Service	Measure	Performance Target	Progress/Achievement
To maintain or enhance the life supporting capacity and amenity value of the West Coast's rivers	Instream macroinvertebrate community health (SQMCI) scores are measured at 29 river sites. The values for each site are calculated using five year rolling means and comparing them to baseline means calculated from data from 05-09.	Macroinvertebrate health index2 (SQMCI) mean is higher, or no more than 20% lower, than the baseline mean.	27 of the 29 river sites met this standard.
	20 swimming sites are sampled, ten times per summer season (fortnightly) for E coli (moderate-high risk > 550) or Enterococci (moderate-high risk > 280).	Scheduled swimming sites do not exceed the moderate-high risk threshold more than once during the summer sampling season.	Three sites exceeded the moderate-high risk threshold more than once this summer: Seven Mile Creek @ SH6 Rapahoe, Hokitika Beach @ Hokitika and Buller River @ Marris Beach.
To protect human health from adverse impacts of poor groundwater quality.	28 Wells are monitored at least twice annually, 24 of which are used for human consumption. The guideline of 11.3mg/L of nitrate is used to protect human health, particularly for babies. The data from the year is averaged before comparing against the 11.3mg guideline.	In wells used for human consumption, nitrate levels remain below the health guideline of 11.3 mg/L.	27 of the 28 wells met the standard. The owner of the well that did not meet the standard was advised of this result.
To protect human health from any adverse impacts of poor air quality in Reefton.	Reefton's air is monitored in accordance with the National Environmental Standard (NES) for air quality by measuring PM ₁₀ (airborne particles smaller than ten micrometers, which affect human respiration). The threshold is a 24hr mean PM ₁₀ of 50 micrograms/m ³ .	NES Requirement: 24hr PM ₁₀ values do not exceed the NES threshold more than three times in one year, between 2016 & 2020; whereas after 2020 only 1 exceedance per year is allowed.	There have been no exceedances of the NES threshold so far in 2015.
Respond to all genuine incident complaints received by the Council and take enforcement action where needed.	Number of complaints received and number of enforcement actions resulting from these.	Operate a 24-hour complaints service, assess and respond to all genuine complaints within 24 hours where necessary.	246 environmental incidents have been responded to during the 8 months. Council has issued 51 abatement notices, 60 infringement notices and 48 formal

² This macroinvertebrate index uses comparative samples of aquatic invertebrates to evaluate water quality, based on the type and tolerances of invertebrates (bugs) found at that site and how those communities of invertebrates may change over time. Some bug species are pollution tolerant while others are pollution sensitive, so the mix of species tells us a lot about the water quality at the site.

Levels of Service	Measure	Performance Target	Progress/Achievement
Compliance with the consent processing timeframes in the RMA and mining legislation.	Compliance with discounting regulations and mining timeframes	Process all resource consent applications without incurring any cost to Council due to the RMA discounting regulations; and process at least 95% of mining work programmes ³ within 20 working days of receipt.	Council has incurred costs for 5 Consent applications during this period. 112 Work programmes have been received during the period and all have been processed within the twenty day time frame.
Respond to marine oil spills in coastal waters in accordance with the Tier 2 Oil Spill Response Plan and maintain readiness for spill response.	Timing of responses & number of trained staff	Respond within 4 hours to all spills, using Council or MNZ spill equipment to contain spills; plus ensure at least 25 staff are trained responders.	No spill responses occurred during the period. There are currently sufficient MNZ-trained staff members.

³ This target assumes the work programme is submitted with all necessary information provided.

Regional Transport Planning Levels of Service and Performance Targets

Levels of Service	Measure	Performance Target	Progress/Achievement
Maintain a Regional Land Transport Strategy that delivers Council's transport functions in compliance with relevant legislation and is acceptable to our West Coast community.	An Operative Regional Land Transport Strategy	Compliance with statutory requirements for the preparation, review and implementation of the Regional Transport Strategy and Programme.	The current Regional Land Transport Strategy expires on 30 June 2015. It is to be replaced by the new Regional Land Transport Plan which combines both the Strategy and the Regional Land Transport Programme. The Regional Land Transport Plan is to be approved by Council on 14 April 2015 and submitted to the NZ Transport Agency by 30 April 2015.
Continue to fund the Total Mobility Programme according to New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) requirements	User satisfaction, by 2 yearly survey	Implement the total mobility programme where taxi services exist, ensuring at least 90% of users rate the overall service and value for money as good, very good or excellent.	Funding of this service continues. User satisfaction surveys are undertaken in conjunction with information requirements determined by the NZ Transport Agency. These have been put on hold pending a review of the Total Mobility scheme and its reporting requirements. There have been no complaints made regarding the services provided over the past 8 months.

Civil Defence Emergency Management Levels of Service and Performance Targets

Level of Service	Measure	Performance Targets	Progress/Achievement
Maintain a Civil Defence Plan that delivers efficient and effective management of the region's civil defence functions in compliance with the legislation and is acceptable to West Coast community desires.	Civil Defence Plan always operative. Number of trained staff	Compliance with statutory requirements for the preparation, review and implementation of the Group CDEM Plan. Ensure at least 30 Council staff are trained as Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) personnel so that we have three shifts of EOC staff trained and exercised in case of a regional emergency.	The Civil Defence Plan is currently operative. It is due to be reviewed beginning of July 2015. Sufficient staff are EOC trained. An EOC foundation course was held for 15 staff and an EMIS refresher course is also being offered. The new CDEM structure has increased the training resource available.

Vector Control Service Business Unit Levels of Service and Performance Targets

Levels of Service	Measure	Performance Targets	Progress/Achievement
To produce a financial surplus (to offset general rate rises) by tendering for & delivering on vector control contracts, and develop an RMA contracting service to assist mining and dairy sector clients.	Achieve or exceed budgeted financial return	Tender for, and win, sufficient contracts to provide or exceed the annual budgeted return to Council.	On target to meet or exceed budgeted return.
To provide marine oil spill and terrestrial hazardous substance spill support, and biosecurity response services for the MNZ, MAF and the Regional Council.	Availability of trained staff	Have staff available as a response unit for marine and terrestrial pollution spill events as per the MOU dated 11 November 2005.	Seven staff trained. Four staff on National Response team.
	Availability of trained staff	Have 4 staff plus a vehicle available for biosecurity emergencies, as per the National Biosecurity Capability Network agreement 2011.	Achieved.

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting 14 April 2015
 Prepared by: Chris Ingle and Robert Mallinson
 Date: 2 April 2015
 Subject: **Draft Long Term Plan for 2015-2025**

Background

The Long Term Plan document is attached for Councillors information and discussion. The Plan builds on the March workshop with Councillors. It contains all supporting information required by the Local Government Act. Section 93G of the Local Government Act 2002 requires Council to formally adopt "the information" that:

- (a) Is relied on by the content of the consultation document;
- (b) Is necessary to enable the Auditor General to give reports;
- (c) Provides the basis for the preparation of the Long Term Plan.

Audit NZ advice to Council is not to formally adopt "the information" until the Special Meeting on 23 April 2015. This is because further matters may come to light during the audit that requires further amendments to the Long Term Plan.

The draft Long Term Plan includes a number of policies and assumptions constituting "the information" that Councillors will be asked to formally adopt at the special meeting on 23 April 2015 when the Consultative Document (accompanied by an audit report from Audit NZ) will be put to Councillors for their approval and adoption.

It will be useful for Councillors to be familiar with the detail of the draft LTP in advance of the Special Meeting on 23 April.

Content of the draft LTP

The draft LTP includes the following specific items, for discussion:

- The Financial Strategy (pages 8-11) has been modified on the basis of actual experience since 2012. In particular it is proposed to increase the borrowing limit per capita to a more realistic \$500, to accommodate possible large scale borrowing for Westport and other possible flood protection schemes. Other un-necessary restrictions on targeted rates are proposed to be dropped. The financial strategy caps general rate increases to the BERL local government "other" cost index over the life of the Long Term Plan.
- The 30 year Infrastructure Strategy – a new requirement (pages 12-14).
- The proposal for a new Regional Economic Development Agency –a new item part-funded by Council (page 21).
- Summaries of Council groups of activities, levels of services and performance targets (pages 23-54); noting that these are largely unchanged from the 2012 Long Term Plan.
- The proposal to remove properties on the south side of the Waiho River from the Franz Josef Rating District (pages 46).
- The proposal to establish a new E class of ratepayers to include in the Hokitika Seawall rating district (pages 47-51).
- Significant Forecasting Assumptions have been updated (page 56-57).
- Revenue and Financing Policy which Council adopted at the March meeting and Significance and Engagement Policy which was adopted at the December meeting.

- Funding Impact Statement. The detailed calculation of the actual rates levies for 2015/16 are not yet included in the LTP as my rates officer and myself are still checking the data downloaded from QV and which is reconciled back to the District Council rolls. These pages will be circulated prior to the 14 April ordinary meeting.

Changes to Council Fees and Charges

As discussed at the Councillor budget workshop last month, cost-recovery in our compliance work area is still below the 70% - 80% target level. There are council fees and charges that are proposed to be amended in the Long Term Plan, and this will also be highlighted in the Consultation Document. These proposed changes are highlighted in the document, pages 116-122.

In addition to those changes discussed at the workshop, it is proposed that the table of Deposit Fees for consent applications be amended. These figures have been adjusted to reflect the average actual cost of each class of consent. These deposit fees have not been adjusted for several years.

Overview of Council's long term strategic direction

Also of note, the Chairman's foreword and 'Highlights at a Glance' sections give an overview of Council overall direction, which Councillors need to be comfortable with (page 2-4).

Recommendation

That this report is received and Councillors note and discuss the contents of the draft Long Term Plan.

Robert Mallinson
Corporate Services Manager

Important Dates

- Special Council Meeting at 10.30am on 23 April, to adopt Consultation Document and Long Term Plan supporting documents.
- Submissions open from Friday 24 April to 1pm on Monday 25 May.
- Hearings Date 8 June, to hear submitters.
- Deliberations following 9 June ordinary Council meeting (if needed).
- Special Council meeting on Tuesday 23 June to adopt the finalised Long Term Plan.

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting 14 April 2015
Prepared by: Andrew Robb – Chairman
Date: 2 April 2015
Subject: **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Meetings Attended

- I met with Landcorp board members and executive team on the 11th of March. This meeting was a good chance to discuss Landcorp's role and input into the West Coast economy. Landcorp gave good feedback on land that they could potentially develop further in the future.
- I attended the Zone 5 & 6 meeting in Dunedin on the 26th and 27th of March. The SISA meeting was held on the 26th of March. This meeting covered the recent FAR review and matters that are likely to affect roading funding for South Island councils.
- I chaired the Regional Transport Committee (RTC) meeting on the 31st of March. The RTC committee approved the Regional Transport Plan and the Regional Public Transport Plan. The West Coast has been added to the Visitor Driver Signature Project, this will bring more funding for safety projects targeted to improve visitor driving experiences.
- I attended the LGNZ workshop on reputation and initiatives on 1 April.
- I will be attending a meeting with Westland District Mayor on 8 April.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received.

Andrew Robb
Chairman

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Prepared for: Council Meeting 14 April 2015
Prepared by: Chris Ingle – Chief Executive
Date: 2 April 2015
Subject: **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**

Meetings Attended

- I attended a meeting at Grey District Council on 6 March to discuss the hospital rebuild, in my regional Civil Defence capacity.
- Met with Landcorp board members and executive team on 11 March at Moana,
- I met with colleagues from Taranaki Regional Council on 26 March.
- I attended a webinar on 31 March on opportunities for broadband in the region.
- I attended the LGNZ workshop on reputation and initiatives on 1 April.
- I am attending a meeting at Westland District Council regarding Franz Josef on 8 April.
- I will be chairing the Civil Defence Co-ordinating Executive Group meeting on 13 April.

Annual Leave

I am taking two days annual leave on the 9th and 10th of April.

Long Term Plan 2015 - 2025

Following the Council's annual budget workshop last month, staff have now been able to finalise the Long Term Plan which is being put to Council for discussion today. This Plan contains a financial strategy and 30 year Infrastructure Strategy which along with the highlights at a glance section outline the long term strategic direction of Council. Also important are the changes to the rating districts (Hokitika Seawall and Franz Josef) and the policies near the back of the document.

Long Term Plan Consultation Document

I attach the current version of the Long Term Plan Consultation Document. The Council cannot adopt this until we have approval from Audit New Zealand. Instead Council can receive the document as a draft at this stage and adopt it for consultation once we have audit approval.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That this report be received.*
- 2. That Council receives the Long Term Plan Consultation Document as a draft.*

Chris Ingle
Chief Executive

West Coast Regional Council

Draft Consultation Document

2015-2025 Long Term Plan

What is this Consultation Document?

The latest changes to the Local Government Act require all councils to prepare a Consultation Document that describes the key issues contained in their Long Term Plan, the key options for the community and the consequences of those choices (eg. how it could affect your rates). You are invited to make submissions on this document using the submission form on the back page. The Council's Long Term Plan contains the main supporting information to this document. See Council website www.werc.govt.nz for the Long Term Plan.

Message from the Chairman

I am pleased to present the Council's Long Term Plan for 2015 – 2025. This consultation document offers you the chance to tell Council what you think our priorities should be. The Council's priorities focus on 4 themes that we have assessed as being important:

1. Delivering on the Economic Plan for the region;
2. Continuing with regional collaboration projects;
3. Resource Management activities and how these are funded; and
4. Improving our Flood Protection schemes.

Council believes through feedback received over the last few years that our community wants us to show leadership in regional economic development. The Regional Council is therefore proposing to take a greater role in helping to develop our regional economy. The region's Mayors and Chairs forum are championing a new Economic Development Agency for the region, to be co-funded by Development West Coast and the councils for a three year trial period. A new regional manager position will be created (co-funded by WCRC and DWC), who will work closely with district council economic development staff and other agencies who already work in this space.

We want important regional industries such as tourism, farming, and mining to prosper; but importantly our economy must diversify over time, and the number of jobs needs to grow to sustain our regional communities.

Please play your part by reading this document and making a submission on our Long Term Plan proposals. The regional councillors need your input so that they can make informed decisions that are best for our region.

Council wants to be fair in the way that we fund our activities. We use general rates to fund activities that benefit everyone generally, and we use targeted rates to fund those activities that people benefit directly from (for example individual flood and river protection schemes). Rate increases will be small for the general rate. However there are larger increases proposed in some fees and charges (see page 5).

Various initiatives occurring at the national level have resulted in a requirement to conduct more intensive river and lake monitoring than council performs currently. We propose a shift from quarterly to monthly water monitoring at 46 river and lake sites. This costs more money, and we plan to introduce these changes gradually over the 5 year period 2015-2020. Costs may impact on general rate in years 2016-20 but council's intention is to attempt to use other funding sources to cover these cost increases, if possible.

We want to help to protect land by maintaining current flood and drainage schemes, and by developing and building new schemes - where the affected community can afford those. We also want to increase community understanding of other hazards they may face. Our new civil defence structure has a part to play to keep us all safe from hazards. We want to promote informed debates within the community on developing realistic responses to threats and risks – practical responses the community can afford. Westport faces flood risks from the Buller River and there will be discussions soon on how to address these.

Most of our core activities and services are proposed to continue unchanged over the next 10 years, and so we have not discussed them in detail in this consultation document.

Andrew Robb
Chairman

Theme 1: Delivering on the Region's Economic Plan

The West Coast Economic Development Plan was signed by the four Council leaders and Development West Coast (DWC) in mid 2014. The Plan was prepared following an Economic Summit in December 2013. The Plan includes 11 action areas (see www.wcrc.govt.nz for a copy).

The Plan's vision is that, in 2030 the West Coast is a busy, vibrant community, with a diverse economy underpinned by the three cornerstone sectors of Farming, Mining and Tourism. The region is politically unified and well organised, with a single vision and direction. There is a sustainable and independent future for our residents; who have embraced steady growth in employment, welcoming the changes that come with new businesses being encouraged to develop locally. West Coasters continue to treasure our unique natural and built heritage but simultaneously seek to stay near the forefront of modern living, communications, transport and technology trends. We welcome economic growth, diversity and innovation.

Aspirational Targets for 2030 include:

1. Job numbers region-wide grow 25% from 15,560 to 19,450 FTE's by 2030
2. Regional population figures increase 15% from 32,148 to 36,970 by 2030
3. Regional GDP increases by 35% from \$1.47 billion to \$1.98 billion by 2030
4. Exports as a percentage of GDP exceeds 40% by 2030 – in 2013 this was around 36%

The four Councils and DWC are committed to an open, collaborative approach where each organisation supports the others. We are not competing - we are collaborating, for the betterment of our region. We are guided by what is best for our regional community as a whole. This unity provides clarity, purpose and a mandate to achieve desired outcomes while also providing Government decision makers a clear picture of our region's goals.

New 2015 proposal – Forming of a Regional Economic Development Agency

The West Coast Regional Council Chairman and CEO attend all quarterly Mayors and Chairs forum meetings, as do the Mayors and CEOs of the three West Coast District Councils. This forum was originally formed by the Triennial Agreement (a Local Government Act requirement) but has since been extended to include Development West Coast's Chairman and CEO. This forum championed the recent Civil Defence Heads of Agreement which led to forming the integrated Civil Defence West Coast and creating the new Manager position. The forum is the champion for the Economic Development Plan for the West Coast.

The Mayors and Chairs are proposing to form a new Regional Economic Development Agency, independent of the Councils or Development West Coast. The new agency would at its core be responsible for implementing the 11 action points that are part of the 2014 Regional Economic Development Plan. The West Coast Regional Council and DWC have agreed to equally fund a new Regional Economic Development Manager. The three District Councils will provide staff in each of their districts, who will work with the new regional manager to achieve our Regional Economic Development Plan targets. The Regional Council's share of the cost of this agency/manager role is expected to be approximately \$150,000 per annum. This is proposed to be funded from general rates, due to the benefit across the entire region resulting from the agency's work.

Question: Do you agree that the West Coast Regional Council should part fund an economic development agency for the West Coast region?

Impact on general rates

This new investment does not result in any increase in the general rate because we have at the same time exited from funding the TB Free rate which has saved Council a similar amount of general rate funds.

This work is expected to benefit the whole West Coast, long term. It is therefore appropriate to fund it from general rates. There is no other funding mechanism available.

Theme 2: The New Way we Work – Collaboration amongst Councils

To best achieve our goals for the region it is much better to work together on some projects, particularly those matters that are identical across district boundaries. Each of the four councils has limited resources and by collaborating we can often make significant cost savings, or enhance levels of service for the same cost.

Instead of each Council doing things alone, the four West Coast Councils now ask one another whether each activity or function could be delivered at a regional level, using a collaborative approach. A good example of this is the civil defence service, which is now delivered as an integrated regional service, but still retains an officer working from each District Council office. By focusing on the delivery of selected services regionally, the Councils can achieve maximum efficiency without the costly exercise of reform. Many functions and services are better delivered at a local level, and these will remain as they are.

Another collaboration the four West Coast Councils have benefitted from is a joint insurance procurement process, which involved 23 Councils around New Zealand. This has saved West Coasters nearly \$0.5M per year in Council insurance costs across the region. The four Councils will be looking into further initiatives of this nature so we can reap additional savings on behalf of the ratepayer.

We also create partnerships with other regional councils on issues of common interest, which will improve our effectiveness. Existing partnerships include:

- IRIS (RMA software package developed by 6 regional councils collaboratively),
- Envirolink (Regional councils & unitary authorities collaborate to link CRI science research to end users)
- LAWA (Regional councils have organised a web-based display of science information on river and lake water quality, and coastal bathing beach data, nationally, with other datasets to be added.

Strategic Planning focus – West Coast Regional Policy Statement Review

The Regional Policy Statement (RPS) is under review and Council has spent a lot of time consulting with District Councils, Iwi, Department of Conservation, members of the community and various other agencies over how this statutory document should best reflect the views, and needs, of our community. The Council wants this strategic document to reflect a more mature understanding of the craft of environmental management, recognising the positive as well as the adverse impacts of new developments. The new RPS will recognise the need for growth in the region as well as the need for continuing improvements in environmental quality.

Question: Do you agree that the four West Coast Councils should collaborate on regional matters?

Impact on general rates

The Regional Policy Statement work has been built into the Council budgets and is a statutory requirement of Council. It is funded from general rates.

The Collaboration work comes under the democracy cost centre and is part of the work the elected members of council (particularly the Chairman) continue to perform. There is no rate increase resulting from this work, in fact the more success we have in this area the more savings should be made.

Theme 3 – Resource Management Activities and how we fund them

A new Council fee is proposed this year for resource consent file administration; while two existing fees are proposed to be adjusted: The permitted activity dairy farm monitoring inspections fee and the whitebait stand annual monitoring fee. An annual gravel extraction monitoring fee is proposed to be set next year, and Council wishes to seek gravel users views of the proposal below.

To date compliance monitoring has been paid for 60-70% by resource users through fees and charges, and 30-40% from general rates. We are proposing to increase the level of user charges payable, so that 70-80% of the costs are paid for by users and only 20-30% by general ratepayers (the same funding proportions as resource consent processing). To enable the additional revenue collection from user fees and charges the following is proposed:

- Monitoring of whitebait stands charge will rise from \$100 per year to \$150, as of July 2015¹;
- Permitted activity dairy farm inspections will rise from \$250 per year to \$300, as of July 2015²; and
- For consented gravel extraction activities a fixed annual compliance monitoring fee is to be set, effective 1 July 2016, based on the volume of gravel allowed to be taken by each current resource consent. The proposed gravel extraction take fee schedule is in the table below:

Volume of consented take (m ³)	Proposed annual monitoring fee
Less than 2,000	\$300
2,000 – 3,999	\$600
4,000 – 7,999	\$1,200
8,000 -15,000	\$2,200
Over 15,000	\$3,000

Table 1: Proposed gravel take monitoring charges as at July 2016

The cost of monitoring gravel takes in the West Coast region is \$80,000-100,000 per year, depending on the level of activity and the number of incidents and complaints we receive from members of the public. The general ratepayer currently funds the majority of this cost. Council believes that gravel users should contribute 70-80% of the cost. Councillors want to phase this new charge in over a two-year period. The proposed charges in the table above are open for consultation now, but will not be applied until July 2016. This gives gravel users time to seek amendments to their consents if their current consented allocation is higher than their actual or likely needs. The existing charging regime (actual time plus mileage) continues unchanged for the 2015/16 year.

Question: Do you feel resource users should fund 70%-80% of the costs of managing resource use?

Other new Resource Management Activities

Other new or changing Resource Management activities include:

1. Setting a new administration fee for every resource consent file, of \$55 annually.
2. Increasing funding of resource science state of the environment monitoring activities gradually over the next five years so that we can move towards monthly sampling of our water quality monitoring sites (no new sites are proposed, just more frequent monitoring of existing sites).
3. A new staff member is expected to be needed in 2016 to assist with increasing workloads in the resource science area.

The annual administration fee for all resource consent files is to be set at \$55 per file, and will cover the ongoing costs of compiling and monitoring accounts, dealing with general enquiries, maintaining consents and compliance databases and other administration tasks.

¹ The whitebait monitoring fee has not been lifted since 2008.

² The permitted activity dairy farm inspection fee has not been lifted since 2012

The Regional Councils have been working for some time on standardising the approach to river and lake monitoring so that the results from each region are comparable on the new Land and Water Aotearoa website and results are more robust and defensible. Most regions monitor their sites monthly, whereas on the West Coast river and lake sampling has mostly been quarterly.

The proposal is to lift the frequency of sampling to monthly to be consistent with the other regional councils. The cost of this is around \$15,000 extra this coming year, and another \$10,000 in each of the following two years. There is also a cost of establishing gauging sites which is \$15,000 per year for the next five years.

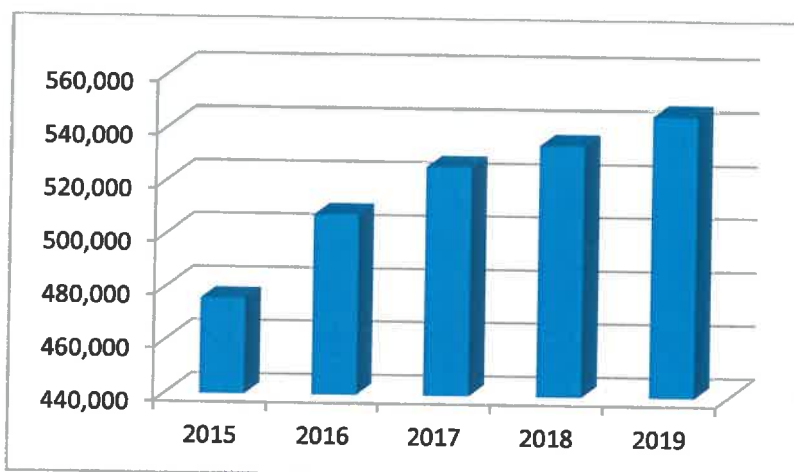


Figure 1: Increasing costs in Surface and Groundwater monitoring in coming 5 years.

Question: Do you agree that the region needs monthly lake and river monitoring data to match that collected in other parts of New Zealand?

Impact on general rates

State of the Environment monitoring costs has always been funded from general rate funds as there is no particular user that benefits. The only options are to not do the additional monitoring, to spread the costs out over a longer timeframe, or to attempt to charge consent holders a levy that makes a contribution towards the costs of state of the environment monitoring.

The proposed new compliance charges and the proposed consents administration fee allows the rising costs of resource management activities to be met by user fees and charges - rather than by lifting the general rate to meet these increasing costs.

Question: Should Council continue to fund state of the environment monitoring from general rate funding?

Theme 4: Improving our Flood Protection schemes

The Council has over 25 special rating districts for managing river and flood protection works. Additional protection works are a direct cost to the ratepayers of the relevant rating districts. The works are generally owned by the Council on behalf of the ratepayers within that rating district. Engineering staff undertake annual inspections and any required maintenance is funded by the rating district. New capital works are funded by short term loans, which are then repaid by the rating district.

There is often a funding gap when a new rating district is proposed to be formed, but there has not been any consultation yet on what works are required, and who should contribute to the costs of those works. Council is proposing to establish a new fund that funds rating district investigations, to fill this gap. This fund has been allocated \$30,000 per year, which may cover the cost of investigating a smaller scheme, but will only partly cover the costs of investigating a larger scheme.

Also, there are changes proposed to the Hokitika Seawall rating district. That rating district needs to establish a maintenance rate, and that rate now also needs to provide for the ongoing maintenance of the three groyne north of the seawall on Hokitika Beach. Page 47-51 of the Long Term Plan on the Council website describes this proposal in detail (see www.wcrc.govt.nz). The rating district may also be asked to contribute to works south of the seawall, between sunset point and the seawall. The proposed E class ratepayers who are affected by this proposal have been individually contacted and are invited to make submissions.

The Buller District Council and the West Coast Regional Council have formed a working group to look into options for protecting the town of Westport from Buller River flooding. The working group has not yet settled on a proposal to take to the community. Westport ratepayers will be invited to comment on a new Buller River protection scheme, in the coming months.

Franz Josef rating District wish to amend their rating district boundary to exclude properties on the south bank of the Waiho River. A recent postal survey of ratepayers in this area came back with 88% of residents supporting this proposal. The proposal will be ratified by Council once this Long Term Plan process is complete, subject to submissions being received and given due consideration. For more details, see page 46 of the Long Term Plan on the website at www.wcrc.govt.nz.

Impact on general rates

- Proposed changes to the rating district at Franz Josef will have no impact on general rates.
- The construction costs of any new Westport flood scheme will be met 100% by those affected ratepayers in the proposed new targeted rating area. Targeted consultation will occur with those affected people, prior to any decisions being made.
- The costs of the maintenance rate for the Hokitika Seawall are also to be met by the affected special ratepayer community. No general rate contribution will occur.
- The \$30,000 cost of the new rating district investigations fund is general rate funded and has been worked into the budgets. This represents around 1.5% of the general rate take.

Question: Should Council should continue rating for flood protection projects using targeted rates collected from those benefiting from the works?

Council's New 30 Year Infrastructure Strategy

Council's **30 Year Infrastructure Strategy** identifies how we will manage our infrastructure assets, identify significant issues around our flood protection and drainage schemes over the next 30 years through to 2045, and discuss how we will address those issues.

Over the last 10 years, Council spent nearly \$6 million on new capital items, and another \$7.5 million in operating expenditure maintaining existing flood protection, river control and land drainage assets. The major capital items included the construction costs of: the Punakaiki Seawall (2005); Inchbonnie scheme upgrade (2009); Greymouth Floodwall upgrade (2009); Franz Josef stopbanks (2011); Hokitika Seawall (2013).

Maintenance costs over the coming thirty year period are expected to track approximately the same upward trend as the first ten years, as in figure 2 below, assuming demand for new schemes remains steady.

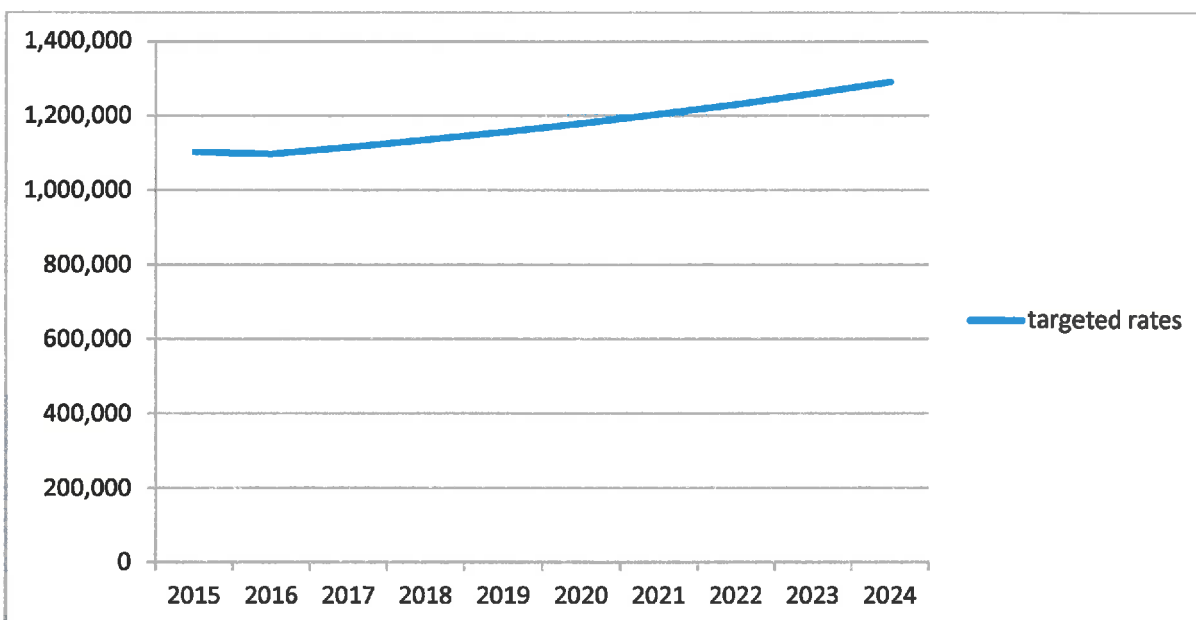


Figure 2: budgeted targeted rate contributions to flood protection schemes that Council is responsible for.

In terms of new capital items in the coming thirty years, this is almost a complete unknown at this stage. The Westport flood protection working group is currently developing a flood protection plan for the town. No detailed plans or costings are yet available for this project, however. The working group are currently refining the options available. Consultation with contributing ratepayers will occur once this information is available.

The only planned capital upgrade is the Greymouth floodwall stage 2 upgrade, which would bring the current floodwall height up to protect against a one in 150 year event. This was planned to occur once the current loans are paid off (in 2030). No detailed plans or costings have been completed for this project yet, and it would only proceed if it were supported by the majority of contributing ratepayers who return their postal opinion survey.

Note that if the Council meets the demand for significant new capital works over coming years, this will increase the targeted rates needed for maintenance correspondingly.

A full copy of our Infrastructure Strategy can be found on our website at www.wcrc.govt.nz.

Financial Information for West Coast Regional Council

Council recognises that our region has a small number of ratepayers, and remains focused on cost effective delivery of our functions. Council philosophy is 'user pays where possible' and cost recovery is a high priority. However, many costs can only be met from general funds such as the general rate.

The philosophy is that the general rate should increase at the rate of growth in the region. This generally results in a nil rate increase to existing ratepayers, but the total rate taken increases due to new rateable properties being created in the region (new subdivisions). This approach, while keeping the cost to each ratepayer approximately the same each year, ensures Council funding keeps up with growth in the region.

We have a wide range of activities, and the costs of the main activities for the current financial year, and the coming three years, are shown below. These costs include operating expenditure only.

Activity	2014/15 \$000s	2015/16 \$000s	2016/17 \$000s	2017/18 \$000s
Democracy	432	423	453	432
Economic Development (new)	0	150	150	150
Resource Management Activities:				
- Policy Development	346	380	386	386
- Consent Processing	844	956	957	973
- Compliance Monitoring	849	865	934	954
- Environmental Incident responses	167	175	176	179
- State of the Environment Monitoring	422	475	508	526
- Pest Plant Management	171	117	119	121
Regional Transport Planning	169	167	170	174
Flood Warning and Hydrology	471	506	542	517
Flood Protection, Drainage and River Control	1,525	1,525	1,540	1,558
Civil Defence Emergency Management	316	253	257	260

Table 2: The Main Council Activities and their budgeted cost this year and for coming three years.

West Coast Regional Council Financial Strategy

The Council's financial strategy sets the direction for financial decision making, and guides how we will pay for our activities. Our primary sources of revenue are rates (general and targeted), fees and charges, investment income and VCS business unit income. We also receive grants from agencies such as NZ Transport Agency for our transport planning work, and Maritime NZ for Oil Spill readiness and response work.

A full copy of our Financial Strategy can be found on our website at www.wcrc.govt.nz and we welcome your comments on it. The document contains analysis of capital expenditure, rate caps, debt levels and debt caps.

Investment income and VCS

Council's investment income and returns from its VCS business unit are an important part of its financial strategy. Council intends to continue using the income from its investment fund, plus the returns from the VCS business unit, to help to minimise general rate increases.

In its **Revenue and Financing Policy**, the Council has decided at least 30% of the interest earned from the investment fund will be returned to the fund so that the fund continues to grow, benefiting future generations. The other change to this policy is to consents and compliance user charges (see bullets on p5). We welcome your feedback on the proposed policy.

General Rate funded activities

The main activities to be funded annually by general rates are shown below. The largest of these is Resource Management activities, at just over \$1.6M per year (a similar amount is paid by user charges). The other larger items include Flood Warning and Hydrology (\$506k), Democracy (\$423k) and Flood Protection (\$420k).

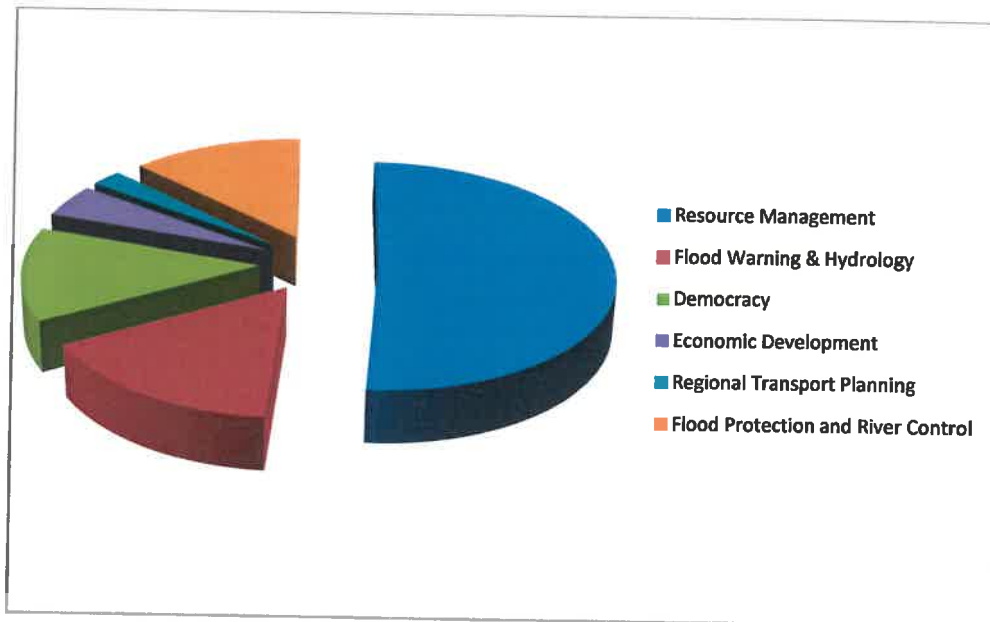


Figure 1: Relative funding for the main General Rate funded activities in the 2015/2016 year.

Targeted Rates

Targeted rates are used where there is a defined area of benefit or group of people that benefit from our work, for example, for our flood and drainage schemes. The new targeted rate proposed for this coming year involves those ratepayers on the outskirts of Hokitika contributing to the Hokitika Seawall rating district. These ratepayers will each be invited to make a submission on this consultation document to seek their views on this proposal. Pages 47-51 of the Long Term Plan outline the proposal in detail.

Total Income Sources

The returns from VCS are approximately 0.5M per year and Council’s annual investment returns amount to around \$1M. The general rate take is \$2.1M. If the VCS or investment income sources are not able to deliver as budgeted, the general rate may need to be increased to compensate. Other income sources are RMA fees and charges of around \$1.5M per year, and targeted flood and river control rates of just over \$1.1M per year. All the Council’s rates collected are shown in the figure 3 below:

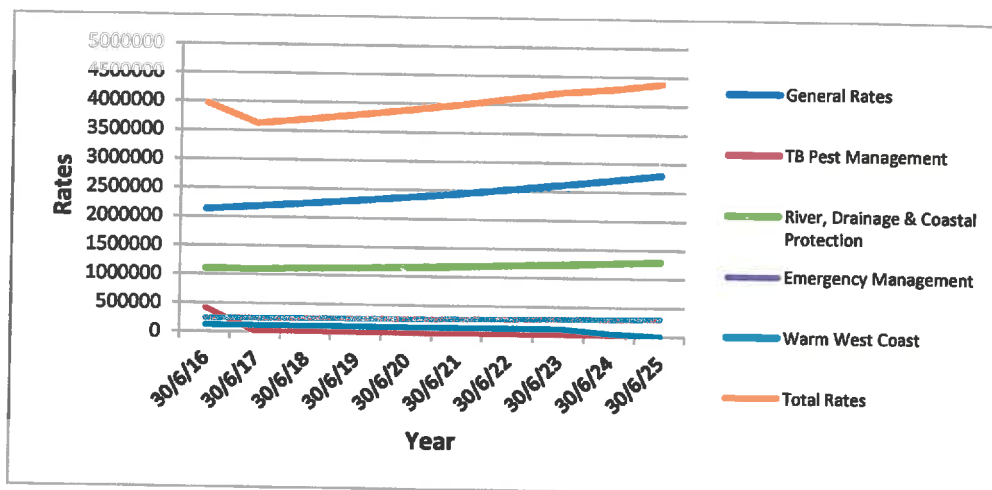


Figure 3: Expected changes in rate income over the ten year period of the Long Term Plan.

How much are your rates?

There are a number of flood and drainage schemes with targeted rates that apply depending on where you live. Given the number of different categories of targeted rates, it is not practical to provide samples in this document of the total rates payable for any given property in West Coast.

The following tables provide examples of some of the general rates payable for the 2015/16 year of the proposed Long Term Plan.

Insert table showing general and targeted rates per \$100,000 capital value for each district.

Council Borrowing and Debt Levels

Traditionally, Council has borrowed to finance flood protection schemes. This debt is all repaid from targeted rates set on those who benefit from that flood protection scheme. These are short term loans often paid back over a ten year period or similar. For example the Punakaiki seawall was built in 2005 and the local community will have repaid that debt in full next year.

Figure 4 below shows the debt forecasts for West Coast Regional Council over the ten year period.

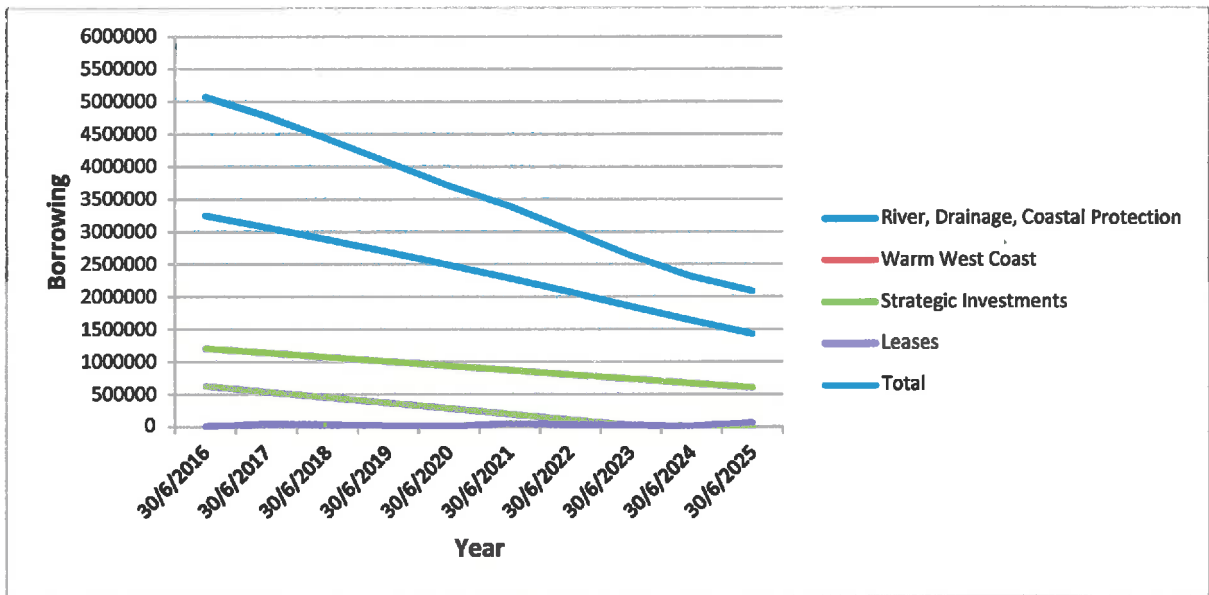


Figure 4: Debt forecasts for West Coast Regional Council over the ten year Long Term Plan period.

Audit opinion

Submission form

All of the supporting documents for this Long Term Plan Consultation Document are in the Long Term Plan, which is available on the Council's website at www.wcrc.govt.nz. A copy can be posted to you if you phone Council on 03 768 0466.

Name.....(include organisation if applicable)

Address (or email)..... Phone.....

I agree with:
My reasons are:
I do not agree with:
My reasons are:
Further comments:

Signed:

- Do you wish to speak at the hearing? Yes/No (please circle one).
- Your submission must arrive at the regional council **by 1pm on Monday 25 May**.

Please fax to 03 768 7133; or post to PO Box 66, Greymouth; or email us on info@wcrc.govt.nz (with 'Long Term Plan Submission' in subject line); or drop in at our office at 388 Main South Road, Paroa between 8am and 5pm weekdays.

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

To: Chairperson
West Coast Regional Council

I move that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely, -

Agenda Item No. 8.

- | | | |
|---------|-----|--|
| 49 – 50 | 8.1 | Confirmation of Confidential Minutes 10 March 2015 |
| | 8.2 | Overdue Debtors Report (to be tabled) |
| | 8.3 | Response to Presentation (if any) |
| | 8.4 | In Committee Items to be Released to Media |

Item No.	General Subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution.
8.			
8.1	Confirmation of Confidential Minutes 10 March 2015		Section 48(1)(a) and in particular Section 9 of 2nd Schedule Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.
8.2	Overdue Debtors Report		
8.3	Response to Presentation (if any)		
8.4	In Committee Items to be Released to Media		

I also move that:

- Chris Ingle
- Robert Mallinson
- Michael Meehan
- Jackie Adams

be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge on the subject. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matter to be discussed.

The Minutes Clerk also be permitted to remain at the meeting.