



Ashburton District Council

AGENDA

A **MEETING** of the **SERVICES AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** will be held as follows:

Date: Thursday 7 June 2007

Time: 1.30 pm

Venue: Council Chamber
5 Baring Square West
Ashburton

B LESTER
Chief Executive

MEMBERS:

Cr B A Tasker (Chairman)
Cr D N Nelson
Cr N A Brown
Cr I J Burgess
Cr K L Holmes
Cr L J Leadley
Cr K W P Lowe
Cr P W Reveley
Mayor M B O'Malley (ex officio)

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1 June 2007

ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

FILE NO: 5/0/20
DATE: 7 June 2007
REPORT TO: Services & Operations
FROM: Water Services Manager
SUBJECT: Application for Water Connections – Barkers Road, Mt Hutt Station Road
Methven

5. APPLICATION FOR WATER CONNECTIONS – BARKERS ROAD, MT HUTT STATION ROAD, METHVEN

5.1 SUMMARY

We have received a request for five new water connections to serve a new subdivision on the outskirts of Methven Township. *Pages 27-28*

Usually requests of this nature are dealt with at officer level by applying current Council policy, however previous applications to connect to the Methven water supply have received extensive debate and it was considered necessary to seek a Committee decision on the application.

The purpose of this report is to seek Committee approval for the five new water connections as applied.

5.2 RECOMMENDATION

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">“1. That the water connections to the Methven water supply be approved;2. That a 50mm nominal bore rider-main be extended along Barkers Road to the right-of-way of the development to serve four lots;3. That a connection be provided from the existing main on Mt Hutt Station Road to serve the fifth lot;4. That all costs associated with design, construction, supervision and provision of as-built drawings be met by the developer; and5. That the rider-main be constructed to Council standards and upon satisfactory completion be vested in Council.” |
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5.3 BACKGROUND

A property developer on the outskirts of Methven Township has made an application to connect a recent subdivision to the Methven water supply. The developer has explored servicing the five lots through the Highbank Water Scheme but has been declined.

The applicant has confirmed (through his consultant) that servicing the lots from the Methven water supply is potentially feasible, albeit at a reduced level of service. Due to the remoteness of the site, and the increase in elevation from the township, the level of service is likely to be lower than that experienced in the township.

To overcome this, it is proposed that the supply be delivered to each property via a restricted (2000 litres/day) connection to an on-property ground tank. The future property owners shall be required to provide their own pressure pump system from the ground tank.

The location of the site is immediately to the north of the Nuffield Drive subdivision. The work will require an extension (approximately 380 metres long) from the existing reticulation along Barkers Road to the common ROW of the development. The extension pipework will be constructed to Council's engineering standards and vested. A further pipeline will be constructed in the ROW and connections provided to two rear lots; this section of pipework will remain in private ownership. Each property connection will include a restrictor and water meter.

The effect of the proposal on the wider scheme is expected to be negligible with the subject properties being the first to be affected during periods of high demand / low pressure and the last to benefit when normal pressures are restored; hence the requirement to be supplied via a ground tank and provide an independent on-property pressure system.

It is also considered that there has been an increase in level of service to the scheme from the trunk main duplication project (completed August 2005).

5.4 OPTIONS

The options for the Committee are as follows:

Option One – Decline the Application

The application has been processed to date using the current Council policy which allows for the connection to the scheme. The applicant has sought engineering advice (Jeff Booth Consulting Limited) and confirmed that the connections are feasible, albeit at the reduced level of service indicated. There is, therefore, no practical impediment to the connections proceeding.

If declined these properties would have to rely on alternative sources for water supply which may or may not be available. Those that were available may be of questionable quality and may not be particularly reliable.

Option Two – Approve Application as Private Reticulation

Under this option, the applicant would construct a pipeline of sufficient diameter (envisaged at 50mm internal diameter) from the existing reticulation to the private ROW; costs associated with construction would be met by the developer.

The pipeline would be regarded as a private line and ongoing maintenance or management of repairs should the pipe be damaged is the responsibility of the parties connected to the pipeline.

Option Three – Approve Application as Reticulation Extension

Under this option, the applicant would construct a pipeline of sufficient diameter (envisaged at 50mm internal diameter) from the existing reticulation to the private ROW; costs associated with construction would be met by the developer.

The completed pipeline would be vested in Council and ongoing maintenance will be carried out by Council as required.

The recommended option is **Option Three**. This is consistent with previous applications for connections to the Methven water supply in the surrounding area.

5.5 STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

The approval of the application for five water connections is consistent with requirements of the Health Act 1956, in particular:

23 General powers and duties of local authorities in respect of public health

Subject to the provisions of this Act, it shall be the duty of every local authority to [improve, promote, and protect] public health within its district...

5.6 CONSULTATION

This is an operational issue; and as such consultation would not normally be undertaken outside Council.

5.7 STRATEGIC LINKS

The approval of the application for five water connections is consistent with Outcomes and Strategic Objectives outlined in the LTCCP. In particular;

Outcome 1: A thriving and diverse local economy that provides the foundation for a quality lifestyle.

Strategic Objective c. A community with access to quality infrastructure (roading, water, footpaths, wastewater and storm water) that is efficient and reliable.

5.8 FINANCIAL

There are no financial implications arising from accepting the recommendations contained in this report. The five (future) property owners will become liable for development contributions for connection to the Methven water supply as building consents are lodged. This will equate to income of **\$5,760** excluding GST (5 x \$1,152).

If the recommended option is adopted Council will take over a maintenance liability (in perpetuity) on an additional section of pipeline (~380m of DN 50mm) on Barkers Road. This approach is considered preferable as Council is better positioned to maintain infrastructure located in public road reserves than private property owners. Note:- The section of pipeline in the ROW proper shall remain in private ownership.

A R GUTHRIE
Water Services Manager

ACTIVITY REPORTS

6. Activity Reports

6.1 General

6.1.1 2007 / 08 Budget

Consultation on the draft annual plan has been carried out. The hearing of submissions commenced on Tuesday 29 May.

6.1.2 Financial reports

Financial reports for the period 1 July 2006 to 30 April 2007 are attached. **Pages 29-36**
The parks and recreation financial report will be separately circulated.

6.1.3 Development in the Ashburton District

A pre-hearing meeting on the proposed north east Ashburton industrial development was held on 23 April. The primary focus was on issues / submissions relating to transport.

A letter providing information relating to issues of concern and mitigation measures was forwarded to all submitters.

A meeting has been held with a developer wishing to subdivide approximately 11.9ha into 110 lots in the Racecourse Road area. Further contact will be made with other land owners in the area to again seek their involvement in an integrated approach to developing the area between Belt Road and Farm Road. We will also continue working separately with the developer who has recently made contact.

6.1.4 Proposed Natural Resources Regional Plan

Hearings on Chapter 5, flow and level regimes, will be held in early to mid June. Evidence on matters raised will be prepared as part of our joint response to the proposed NRRP with other councils. We will also prepare stand alone evidence on the 30 additional requested changes to the Plan identified in our submission relating to flow and level regimes. The evidence will be presented on 15 June.

Work is continuing on progressing regional evidence on water augmentation / storage. Mayor O'Malley will present the overview evidence on behalf of the stakeholders working jointly on the issue (the Rolleston Group). A draft letter to the hearings panel has also been prepared to inform the panel that the Ashburton District Council, on behalf of a number of stakeholders will be requesting a time at the start of the hearing in which to present a broad introduction of water storage issues. This will provide the clear context in which the individual groups we are working with can present their own more specific evidence.

A date has not yet been advised for this evidence to be presented.

6.1.5 Staff

Mr David McLean commenced as Solid Waste Manager with the Operations department on Monday 21 May.

Mr Vladimir Svetlovsky has been appointed to the position of Asset Information Officer. Mr Svetlovsky is currently employed in the Information Systems department and will commence work in the Operations group on Monday 25 June. There are no 2007/ 08 budget implications arising from this appointment.

6.1.6 Structure review

As a result of the structure review process the Operations Group will now have responsibility for public conveniences and water development. Parks and recreation management functions will be transferred to the Community Services Group.

6.1.7 Transportation study

This will be the subject of a presentation by Transit NZ and Opus at the meeting.

6.1.8 Proposed new fire legislation

Council considered a report on the proposed new fire legislation on Thursday 31 May.

A meeting with key stakeholders will be held on Wednesday 13 June.

The submission will be considered by the Emergency Management Subcommittee on 21 June and considered for adoption by Council on 28 June.

6.2 Roding

6.2.1 State highway work 2006/ 07

The following work is underway on state highways in the district.

- SH 1 Thresholds: (north of Ashburton) minor street light work being completed along with other minor work.
- SH 1, East St/West St work is substantially completed.
- SH 1/SH 77 corner: this project has been delayed while underground cabling work is completed. Expected to be finished in next two months.
- SH 1, Archibald St, north of Manchester St to north of pedestrian crossing at shopping centre. Minor work being completed at present including footpaths. Completion will be early June.
- SH 1, Hinds south passing lanes and Frisbys Rd intersection. This project is due for completion in June.
- SH 77, Ashburton Methven Highway. Overlay along this highway each side of Rooneys Rd is complete.

6.2.2 Land Transport procedural audit

Land Transport NZ Ltd have advised that they will be carrying out a procedural audit of our subsidised roading activity in the period July to September. This audit will check out our process for competitive tendering procedures, subsidy claims and compliance generally with Land Transport requirements.

6.2.3 Crash report

The crash report, based on information provided by the NZ Police, is attached. **Pages 37-38**

A record of crashes in Ashburton District from January 2007 is also appended to the agenda. This is sourced from the Police crash information, and Land Transport NZ. The list is separated into State Highway and local road networks. Information is available to staff via Land Transport NZ Ltd, and the report will be updated for each meeting of the Committee.

Pages 39-44

6.2.4 General maintenance

Routine maintenance activity has concentrated on maintenance metalling of roads reported to the Committee at a previous meeting. Since the recent schedule of roads to be treated was established, some additional unsealed roads are showing signs of distress and will also require heavy duty metalling.

The current dry conditions are resulting in problems in maintaining unsealed roads, and a number of these have had to be regraded earlier than anticipated.

Tenders for the new road and footpath maintenance contract, No C524, have closed and these are currently being evaluated. A separate report to award the contract will be considered at an extraordinary meeting of Council on 7 June 2007.

6.2.5 Area wide pavement treatment

Contract C528 – unsealed roads area wide pavement treatment 06/07 has been awarded to GC Smith Contracting Ltd of Greymouth. Although this contractor has not undertaken work in the Ashburton district previously, he is well resourced and has a good appreciation of the scope and requirements of this contract.

The contractor has commenced work and is currently crushing aggregate for the Reynolds Road, Ashburton River Road and Blands Road sections in a Council pit on Thompsons Track, just east of Blands Road. The contractor has an agreement with ECan and will be relocating his crushing operation to use material from the Ashburton River North Branch near the north east end of Springfield Road West.

6.2.6 Major drainage control

Contract C532 – new and replacement kerb and channel 2006/07, has been awarded to Ashburton Contracting Ltd and work has commenced. New kerb and channel has been completed on Forest Drive in Methven and kerb and channel has been replaced on Kermode Street between Park Street and Moore Street and on Cass Street between South Street and The Terrace.

Tenders will be advertised shortly for a new swales contract covering those sections of road to be included in the 2007/08 sealing programme, where this work is required.

6.2.7 Reseals

The programme of work for 2007/08 has been finalised and a copy of this is attached to this report. This work will be tendered in July 2007.

Pages 46-

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6.2.8 Bridges

Contract C484 Rangitata River Bridge (Arundel Rakaia Gorge Road) deck joint repairs 2007 has been awarded to Works Infrastructure Ltd. Work is currently underway and approximately 75% of the joints have been completed.

Contract C526 Hackthorne Rd (Hinds River) Bridge Replacement has been awarded to Blakely Construction Ltd and the contractor is currently underway driving piles for the new bridge. A temporary detour is in place around the site of the new bridge on the north east side of the river bed.

6.2.9 Street cleaning

Routine street cleaning is continuing on the specified cycles. Additional cycles of leaf cleaning work during April and May have been carried out and is due to be scaled back as the volume of leaves decreases.

In addition to this, the contractor has been called to incidents where material has been deposited on roads after spilling from trucks. If the transport operator/s can be identified, costs to remove the material will be recovered.

6.2.10 Traffic services

There appears to have been further vandalism of signs with some regulatory signs such as “Give Way” and “Stop” signs deliberately run down and also some sign posts chopped down with an axe. This activity creates a significant hazard for road users and an increasing cost to Council. If the people responsible can be identified, costs will be recovered.

It is very frustrating that in spite of clearly advising the public through whatever medium we can of this ongoing and expensive problem, we have been largely unsuccessful in identifying who are the perpetrators.

Cycleway marking has been carried out on Walnut Ave (east) where traffic has been reduced to one lane in each direction with a cycleway marked in each direction over the full length from East Street to Chalmers Avenue, similar to the markings in Oak Grove.

This work requires traffic on Chalmers Avenue and left-turning onto Walnut Avenue, to “Give Way” to cycle traffic leaving the roundabout and heading north west on Walnut Avenue.

6.2.11 Carriageway lighting

Maintenance of the district’s street lights continues to be carried out by Electricity Ashburton who continue to carry out regular and routine inspections and checks and attend to lamp maintenance requests.

The pole for the trial solar streetlight at Dorie school will be installed shortly and the light mounted next week.

6.2.12 Minor safety works

Sealing of unsealed intersection approaches is underway as a minor safety work project. This work has been added as a contract variation to the Seal Extension Contract, C527.

The upgrading of the Bremners Road / Seafield Road intersection in conjunction with the new East Street / West Street intersection at the north end of town has been completed.

Contract C522 for the installation of new threshold signs in Tinwald, Ashburton, Chertsey and Mayfield has been awarded to Fulton Hogan Ltd and work is underway with site preparation at the threshold locations in Tinwald and Ashburton.

6.2.13 Seal extension

Work on Contract C527 for the seal extension of Winchmore Dromore Road, Henderson Road and Rakaia Terrace West is largely complete with only minor finishing work still to be done.

6.2.14 New cycleway

Work has started on the new cycleway extension from near the Turton memorial on East Street from where the recently constructed cycleway from the bridge stopped.

This cycleway will run through the green area up to the footpath near the East St / West St rail crossing. The cycleway will be fitted with bollards to stop motor vehicles using it as an access point to the green area.

6.2.15 New kerb & channel and footpaths

Work is underway on new kerb and channel and footpaths as per the annual plan in Methven, Rakaia, Ashburton, Mayfield and Hinds.

6.2.16 Footpath maintenance

Ongoing routine maintenance and cleaning of the urban footpaths is continuing. This includes additional cleaning of leaves from footpaths in the urban areas of Ashburton, Rakaia and Methven. A special clean of the brick pavers in Methven is currently being undertaken.

This contract is due to expire on 30 June 2007, and this work will now be incorporated in Contract C524 for roading maintenance, tenders for which are currently being evaluated. This work has been increased to include the routine cleaning of the East Street public toilets and the Tancred Street restrooms.

The contractor has been instructed to carry out brick paver cleaning in Methven.

6.2.17 Minor township maintenance contracts

Normal operations are underway for these contracts. As mentioned above, additional leaf cleaning has been attended to as required.

6.3 Water Supplies

6.3.1 Engineering approval of new subdivisions

Typically, when a resource consent is issued for a subdivision, depending on the nature and scale of the subdivision, there may be a condition imposed requiring the developer to submit plans and a specification with the operations department for separate engineering approval. The review has traditionally been carried out internally. But as the scale and frequency of the subdivisional developments has increased, this has become less sustainable and resulted in a number of issues arising; eg delays in processing, approval of substandard design, instances of liability exposure for Council.

As a result we have recently commenced outsourcing this work through our engineering service provider. This approach is expected to deliver a reduced processing time and ensure Council standards are met thereby reducing the risk of approval of poor (or substandard) engineering design.

Under the RMA, Council is permitted to charge all costs associated with processing and review of subdivision application so there is unlikely to be any significant budget implications to Council. The outsourcing of the engineering review process will result in increased costs for developers but it is expected to be offset by an improved service with shorter processing times.

6.3.2 2007 / 08 pipeline renewals

Work has commenced on the pipeline renewals projects included in the draft annual plan. This involves site survey and preliminary design.

This approach is considered low risk in that if the programme changes, ie if a project removed the survey data and engineering plans for that project will be filed for reuse when required. The additional costs incurred this year by bringing forward this phase of the work are being met from favourable variances in the asset renewal cost centres.

6.3.3 Contract 507 – water pipeline renewals 2006/07

Work on the East Street main is substantially complete and the only items outstanding are trench sweeping and reinstatement of road markings. Work on the Havelock Street water main replacement commenced on 2 March. Approximately 1560 metres of pipe has been installed to date. All work is expected to be completed early June.

Work on Carr and Spaxton Streets in Methven commenced 16 April. All pipe installation is complete. Outstanding works include trench sealing and topsoiling and grassing of berms. All work expected to be complete early June.

The Spaxton Street water main involved a connection to the existing trunk main in Forest Drive. Ordinarily this work would have necessitated a shutdown of the entire supply and as such was to be completed as night works. The contractor offered an alternative methodology utilising a service provided by subcontractor based in Dunedin.

The method involves tapping into the existing main while it is still in service and under pressure. This is routine practice for connecting smaller diameter service pipes. Our maintenance contractor has equipment to undertake this work for tapping mains for services up to 50mm diameter. The subcontractors employed for the Methven work have equipment that allows live tapping of larger pipes (limited only by the availability of the clamp fitting).

6.3.4 Monitoring manual and sampling programme

A **monitoring manual** has been prepared for each water supply to fully document the monitoring requirements for that supply. Each document is divided into six sections as set out below:

1. Introduction
2. Monitoring Approach
3. Monitoring Programme
4. Sampling
5. Transgression Response
6. Contact Information

The purpose of the manuals is to standardise the procedures taken across all water supplies and reduce the likelihood of non-compliances due to procedural errors. These errors can and do affect supply gradings and count against full compliance.

The **sampling programme** covers all supplies and details the sampling in terms of “what”, “where” and “when” for each supply. The sampling programme has traditionally been developed internally but due to the complexities of the DWSNZ this has resulted in instances of non-compliant sampling.

The sampling programme has been forwarded to Community & Public Health for approval by our Drinking Water Assessor (DWA).

6.3.5 Extraordinary water connections

An application has been made for new water connections to the Methven water supply. This application is the subject of a standalone report. If the application is approved it will result in servicing properties that are quite remote from the recognised water supply boundary.

This and recent applications in the area have highlighted the need for the policy on water connections to be updated. While it is desirable to allow connections to the public water supply wherever it is proven feasible, there may be some practical limits as to how far Council should allow its infrastructure to be extended.

It is proposed that a new policy be developed that encompasses all schemes within the district.

The policy would outline the “in area” and “out of area” application process, connection standard (ie minimum pipe sizing, investment of asset, restrictors or metering), and minimum information requirements for applying. It is envisaged that the policy would include maps which define:

- A “primary” boundary showing the limit of the normal serviced area
- A “secondary” boundary showing the limit to which Council would consider allowing connections ie within this zone Council may allow connections subject to conditions and beyond this boundary requests for connection would be declined.

A draft policy will be developed as time permits and presented to and finalised with the potable water subcommittee before formal adoption by Council.

6.3.6 Tinwald borefield development

The bore drilling consent has been granted. Bore drilling commenced on 28 May. No update on depth drilled was available at time of writing. The wider project has now reached a hold point while the bore drilling is completed. Further progress on ancillary works i.e. treatment building, associated pipework and trunk mains cannot be made until a suitable aquifer has been located.

6.3.7 Tankered water filling points

The design of the standard filling point facility has been completed. The installation of the first of these (as a pilot) has been negotiated with our maintenance contractor. It is to be installed on William Street between The Terrace and South Street. The site is expected to be commissioned by 30 June.

6.3.8 Network water meters

A new electromagnetic flow meter is programmed for installation in Havelock Street between West Street and the railway line (SIMIT). A meter chamber was installed a few years ago at the same time the water main in the area was replaced so the current project is limited to the supply and installation of the meter, a data-logger and associated cabling. The data-logger will send logged information back to the Council office at regular intervals via a cellular connection. It also has capability for real time alarms if required.

Similar data-loggers are to be commissioned on four existing network metering sites, eg East Street (near Ashburton River Bridge), Smallbone Drive, West Street / East Street link at Saunders Road, & Melcombe Street.

6.3.9 Rakaia water supply upgrade

Work is complete on the application for funding through the Ministry of Health's capital assistance programme (CAP). This work also involved the preparation of a public health risk management plan (PHRMP) for the scheme.

The PHRMP has been completed and lodged with Community and Public Health for approval. This is expected to be forthcoming by the end of May to allow subsequent lodgement of the CAP application.

The Rakaia resource consent application has been lodged. The existing resource consent covered abstraction from the two shallow bores. Due to the new bore abstracting from a different aquifer the existing consent could not reasonably be transferred. It was therefore necessary to apply for a new consent.

6.4 Wastewater

6.4.1 Contract 514 – wastewater & stormwater pipeline renewals 2006/07

Work commenced on the Middle Road and Creek Road sewer replacements on 24 October 2006 and 14 March 2007 respectively. All pipelines have been tested and trench sealing has been completed at both sites. All work has now been completed.

6.4.2 Wastewater treatment and disposal systems upgrade

6.4.2.1 Contract 501 – treatment plant

Construction of the pumping station, control room building and foundations for the generator and control room are ahead of programme.

Construction of the aeration pond is approximate two weeks behind programme.

Issues raised in the reporting period

A variation was issued to improve the access road, the value of this work being \$17,000.

In the week ending 1 June 2007, we have been advised of six variations arising from changes to design detail, provision of work tagged out of the contract, work omitted from the tender information, or additional works. These are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| • Additional concrete slab around rotomat (omitted from tender drawings) | \$6,803.17 |
| • Rotomat and associated works (tagged from original tender) | \$14,021.00 |
| • Undercut of unsuitable from pump station | \$5,765.24 |
| • Relocation of manhole 1/1 and associated pipework | \$5,812.93 |
| • Modifications to pump station walkways | \$1,625.53 |
| • Testing of structural fill under control room and foundations | \$1,960.00 |

Financial

Current agreed variations have resulted in forecast expenditure being \$155,000 more than the accepted tender. Anticipated cost reductions of \$80,000 for the changed wetland liner details and \$20,000 for leaving redundant pipework in situ will reduce this forecast over-expenditure to \$55,000 more than the accepted tender sum.

6.4.2.2 Contract 502 – transfer pipeline

The following work has been completed.

- manhole 1 to manhole 4 1104m of 900mm dia
- manhole 4 to manhole 10 1443m of 750mm dia
- manhole 10 to manhole 24 3046m of 675mm dia

Total length of pipe layed to date 5593m

Total pipeline length 10,951.5m

The contractor has estimated that they are approximately one week behind programme.

Issue raised in the reporting period

There have been a number of utility services encountered during excavation which were not identified on the construction plans (mainly irrigation lines and Telecom cables). This has resulted in a claim for additional costs which are currently being evaluated. These are as follows:

- Irrigation mains holding up progress \$340.00
- Telephone cable on pipeline / trench alignment \$4,845.00

- Irrigation mains holding up progress \$637.00
- Removal of soft spots from trench reinstatement \$8,370.00
- Realignment of trench to avoid roadside channel \$2,069.00
- Credit – air testing versus water -\$4,500.00
- Irrigation mains holding up progress \$1,275.00
- Removal of soft spots from trench reinstatement \$4,927.50

Financial

With the variations above the forecast expenditure is \$18,000 above the tendered sum.

6.4.2.3 Contract 503 – land disposal

Land clearing and contouring is substantially complete.

Wheatstone drain has been diverted and the outlet channel is complete from Drain No 1 to the river outlet.

Irrigation installation work is progressing.

Foundations for the control room are complete however work on the control room walls is progressing more slowly than anticipated.

Issues raised in the reporting period

The filling of the now redundant Wheatstone drain has created some ponding drainage issues immediately east of Croys Road. A temporary de-watering trench will be excavated at an estimated cost of \$9,500. Modifications to the irrigation pipework and final de-watering may require an additional \$50,000.

Financial

With the variations identified to date the forecast expenditure will be \$163,125 above the tendered sum.

6.4.2.4 Project financial summary

A financial summary for Contracts 501, 502 and 503 is attached.

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6.4.2 Ashburton wastewater network model

Work is started on the development of a computer model for the Ashburton wastewater network. Some work has already been completed with the survey and levelling of manholes on the trunk sewer mains from the grit chamber on Trevors Road, along Trevors Road, Albert Street, back sewer (Albert to Bridge Streets), Kitchener Street, Brucefield Ave, King Street, Saunders Road, Creek Road, to Thomas Street.

The modelling undertaken to date has not been calibrated. This is reliant on obtaining accurate catchment data (ie wastewater flow measurements during dry and wet weather). Despite the lack of calibration, the initial modelling and analysis of the above trunk sewer has been very useful for the design work associated with the proposed North East Ashburton Business Park.

Further areas of the network are to be surveyed and levelled in the next few weeks. Work on a model for Methven is programmed to commence in the latter half of next financial year.

6.5 Stormwater

6.5.1 Stormwater from subdivision and developments

Recent publicity has raised the profile of issues surrounding stormwater disposal from new subdivisions and other developments. The issues have arisen first and foremost as a consequence of Environment Canterbury's proposed Natural Resources Regional Plan (NRRP). This contains a multitude of rules and regulations pertaining to how stormwater from developments is to be managed. The NRRP is currently going through a hearing process to deal with hundreds of submissions on the document (ie 660 submitters seek in excess of 43,000 individual changes to the document. The stormwater requirements under the NRRP may or may not change as a result of the submission and hearing process.

Council has many existing discharges from township networks. A few of these are formally consented with ECan, and the remainder continue to operate legally through the benefit of "existing use" rights. In general terms, any change to the volume or nature of a given discharge has the potential to compromise our existing use right, and thereby obligate Council to seek resource consent for the discharge involved.

For this reason, Council cannot automatically accept stormwater from new development without verifying that its own discharge rights will not be affected.

Eventually, it is intended to formalise Council's stormwater practices and all existing discharges within township through the development of a stormwater management plan. This will be an important document and will take a number of years to develop as part of a wider stormwater strategy. A stormwater management plan would have to be approved through ECan.

In the interim and absence of a stormwater management plan covering our urban areas, the default requirement being applied to subdividers / developers is to comply with the rules

contained in the NRRP on a case by case basis. Set out below is typical condition applied in regard to stormwater disposal.

The applicant is to provide written confirmation that the discharge(s) from the site into land or water is/are expressly allowed by a rule in a regional plan and any relevant proposed regional plan, regulations or a resource consent.

- *Confirmation that the activity can be lawfully carried out without a resource consent (permitted or lawfully established existing activity) shall be in the form of a Certificate of Compliance issued under s139 of the RMA 1991.*
- *Confirmation of authorisation by resource consent shall be in the form of a discharge consent granted under section 15(1) of the RMA 1991.*
- *Confirmation that the requirement for discharge consent will not be enforced shall be in the form of a letter signed by the ECan: RMA Enforcement and Compliance Manager or his nominee.*

The outcome of taking the above approach has not prevented developments from proceeding, but it has resulted in additional work and some time delays for the developers and their agents. This is in terms of developing stormwater disposal solutions for their given development and obtaining the appropriate certificates or consents. Many consultants are now familiar with the NRRP and are working with the new requirements. It is important that subdividers / developers seek out the best advice at the earliest opportunity. Note: It is proposed to prepare an “Info Sheet” with appropriate information and advice for developers to guide them through the processes.

6.5.2 Ashburton urban stormwater strategy

Work has commenced on the *Ashburton Urban Stormwater Strategy* (AUSS). The AUSS will set out a strategy for sustainable stormwater management in the Ashburton urban area for the next 25 years in line with and taking into account the approved ADC Development Plan. Phase 1 of the AUSS is the *Ashburton Urban Stormwater Issues and Options Study* which is programmed for completion by 30 June 2007. It is expected that a stormwater management plan (as per the NRRP) will be a component or “by-product” of the AUSS.

6.5.3 Contract 514 – wastewater & stormwater pipeline renewals 2006/07

Work commenced on the Chalmers Avenue drain replacement on 26 March. All pipe work has been installed and testing was completed on 7 May. All trench sealing has been completed.

6.5.4 Mill Creek

• Bank stabilisation – upstream Belt Road

This project scope has been revised down from that tendered last year. The documentation has been revised on the new scope and prices sought from three contractors. Two of these declined to tender a price. The third tender is being evaluated at present.

A decision on awarding the contract (or otherwise) will be subject of an in committee report to the 28 June meeting of Council.

6.6 Stockwater

6.6.1 Water race applications / closures

Since 1 July 2006, a total of 47 applications have been received. One application has been cancelled, two are on hold pending further information, and the remainder have been approved. The length of race closed since 1 July is 83,339 metres.

6.6.2 RDR shut-down

The RDR was returned to service on 23 May 2007. Council's stockwater supply returned to normal flows around 4-5 days later. From a stockwater perspective, the shut-down and temporary pumped supply arrangements proceeded very well.

6.6.3 Acton Race irrigation survey

A survey is to be sent to all property owners on the Acton main race and its distributor races to establish the level of support for the using the Acton race to convey irrigation water. This idea is in its infancy at present and no firm proposals have been established or investigated.

The purpose of the survey is to establish if there was sufficient support in principal for this initiative and whether Council (or others) should consider investigating the feasibility of such a service.

6.7 Solid Waste Management

6.7.1 Residual waste management at the Ashburton resource recovery park

The operation of the residual waste management contract at the Ashburton RRP is proceeding satisfactorily. 618 tonnes of material was received over the weighbridge at the resource recovery park during April.

6.7.2 Green waste and construction and demolition waste management at Ashburton RRP

The green waste and demolition waste contract is operating satisfactorily. 573.75 cubic metres of green waste was shredded in April. In the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 April 6,725 cubic metres has been shredded compared to 4,274 cubic metres shredded in the period 1 July 2005 – 30 April 2006.

6.7.3 Refuse and recycling collection

The recycling and refuse collection contract is operating satisfactorily. Quantities collected to date are slightly greater than in previous years.

6.7.4 Waste minimisation

Recycling materials transported off-site in the month of April.

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6.7.5 Transport waste to Christchurch

Transport and disposal of waste to Kate Valley volumes.

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6.7.6 Ashburton resource recovery park

The Ashburton resource recovery park is operating satisfactorily. The operation of this has been taken over by Wastebusters Trust up to 30 June 2007, and this work is being performed satisfactorily. The new contract for 2007/08 has been awarded to Wastebusters Trust.

6.7.7 Methven landfill and drop-off centre

The Methven consultation document is not yet complete. A draft has been prepared and was provided to the Methven Community Board on 5 March 2007.

The consultation document will be finalised in the after further discussion with the Community Board, and will be sent out for consultation later in the new financial year.

To April, 128 tonnes of residual waste has been sent to Kate valley from Methven compared to 145 tonnes originally forecast for the full year.

Activity at the Methven landfill site in the reporting period continues to be low with only small amounts of green waste being dropped at the old landfill site. No inert material was received at the site.

6.7.6 Rakaia resource recovery park

This contract is operating satisfactorily. Quantities of waste materials being received at the land fill with 213 tonnes being transported to Kate Valley compared to 220 tonnes originally forecast for the full year.

6.7.7 Agrecovery

The Agrecovery Programme to take triple-rinsed HDPE plastic agrichemical containers (60 litres/kilograms or smaller) from farmers/growers in the Ashburton district is continuing. The drop off facility is available on the first Saturday of each month.

6.7.8 Domestic hazardous waste drop-off site

The site is expected to be completed early in June and this service will start later in that month.

6.8 Contracts Awarded

Contracts awarded since April 2007.

No.	Contract	Contractor	Date / Value \$	N ^o of Tenders / Range \$	Engineer's Estimate
C522	MSW: Ashburton, Mayfield and Chertsey Thresholds, 2006/07	Fulton Hogan Ltd	\$113,920.94 4/5/07	2 \$113,920.94 to \$116,320.66	\$114,500
C526	Hackthorne Road (Hinds Road) Bridge Replacement, Ashburton District 2007	Blakely Construction Ltd	\$82,103.60 3/5/07	4 \$82,103.60 to \$134,292.00	\$98,000
C528	AWPT: Unsealed Road Rehabilitation, Ashburton District 2007	GC Smith Contracting Ltd	\$899,348.44 11/5/07	6 \$899,348.44 to \$1,942,621.00	\$1,020,511
C532	New And Replacement Kerb And Channel, Ashburton District, 2006/2007	Ashburton Contracting Ltd	\$446,233.16 1/5/07	2 \$446,233.16 to \$461,566.84	\$444,700
DW AQ10	Ashburton Network Meters – Installation & configuration of	Ashburton Contracting Ltd	\$11,371.57 25/5/07	Negotiated	

	Data Loggers				
DW A10	Construction & installation of contractors filling point – William Street, Ashburton	Ashburton Contracting Ltd	\$10,125.80 22/5/07	Negotiated	

6.9 Parks and Recreation

6.9.1 Ashburton Domain

The Autumn planting of annual beds has been completed and some shrub borders have been re-mulched with bark chip. Additional daffodil bulbs have been planted in borders.

6.9.2 Township beautification and sports grounds

Street tree pruning is being done in Ashburton and Methven. All townships annual beds have been planted for the Spring display including several thousand daffodil bulbs which have been planted in West Street.

All the pensioner cottages lawns have been sprayed for broadleaf weeds.

Three new “Dog Duty Stations” have been installed at Devon Park, Mona Square and George Glassey Park.

The shrubberies along the East Street Green, Hillier Place Park and other neighbourhood parks have been re-mulched with bark chips and at the Tinwald Domain general tidying with weed eaters and spray has been carried out.

6.9.3 Rural reserve beautifications

Rural staff have been busy with mowing, tree pruning and spraying in their areas.

The threshold / bulge at Mt Somers has been planted with tussocks.

6.9.4 Cemeteries

The spraying of all cemeteries will be completed by the end of May.

Ashburton Cemetery

March 2006		March 2007	
Interments	7	Interments	7
Ashes	6	Ashes	4
April 2006		April 2007	
Interments	5	Interments	7
Ashes	3	Ashes	9
May 2006		May 2007 (to 25/05/07)	
Interments	6	Interments	4
Ashes	3	Ashes	3

6.10 Customer Service Request Reports

CRM reports for the year to date and the reporting period are attached.

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6.11 Emergency Management

6.11.1 Fire season status

The restricted fire season in the high country areas of the Rakaia, Ashburton and Rangitata gorges was lifted on 29 May. An open fire season is now in place.

The Department of Conservation still has a restricted fire season in place for that part of the Ashburton District for which they are the Rural Fire Authority.

6.11.2 Fire incidents

Sixteen incidents have been attended by rural fire parties from the time of the last Committee meeting and up to 31 May 2007, with a breakdown as follows:

Vegetation	9
Structure	1
Vehicle	3
False alarm	3

6.11.4 NRFA performance assessment of Ashburton Rural Fire Authority

We are still awaiting delivery of the associated report from the NRFA.

6.11.5 Health and safety

With a view to raising awareness of health and safety issues generally amongst our firefighting volunteers, all VRFF's have been sent copies of the Council's health and safety policy with a covering letter explaining their obligations as Council representatives at vegetation fires. Under the legislation they are deemed to be employees of Council and as such must adhere to Council's health and safety policy. A follow up presentation was made by a Council health and safety policy representative to the Willowby volunteers at their last training night and it is intended to repeat this presentation to all other VRFF's in due course as time permits.

6.11.5 Fire legislation training

The EMO attended a higher level course in Christchurch on "The Legislative Responsibilities of a Rural Fire Authority" from 23-25 May. This is a level five course on the NZQA framework and carries with it a related Unit Standard.

6.11.5 Civil Defence presentation

The EMO delivered a presentation to a group of 15 students from the YMCA on Civil Defence structure, preparedness and local hazards on 24 April.

6.11.5 Early childhood emergency plan

The EMO has recently assisted Childs Play Preschool with developing an emergency plan for their establishment.

6.12 Methven Community Board

A meeting of the Methven Community Board was held on 28 May 2007. No matters were referred to the Committee for decision:

6.13 Ashburton District Road Safety Co-ordinator's Report

6.13.1 Road safety action plan meeting

The Ashburton District Road Safety action plan has now been completed. The period covered by the Road Safety Action Plan is 1 May to 31 October 2007. All of the stakeholders took the opportunity to have input and make comment on the plan before it was finalised.

6.13.2 Driver reviver

Advertisements and a fatigue article were published in the community papers prior to Queens Birthday Weekend. A driver reviver stop is planned for Monday 4 June.

6.13.3 Winter driving

Winter driving features were completed for both community newspapers. These articles were the beginning of the winter driving campaign which will run from 14 May, until the end of August. Newspaper and radio advertising, radio competitions, windscreen cloths and ice scrapers are part of this ongoing promotion.

6.13.4 Youth crash consequences forum

A Youth crash consequences forum was held at Mt Hutt College on Thursday 17 May. The day went extremely well with 53 students participating. The event received a large amount of community support both from local people, the rugby club and services including Police, Fire, St John and Victim Support. The day commenced with a video portraying different country road crashes, which included a local Ashburton one. A mock crash followed with the emergency services attending the scene. The rest of the morning saw the students attend four separate workshops, Police breath testing, St John Ambulance, a scene showing notification of a victims mother and an open, informative talk from Roger Paterson, undertaker and a local Police Officer.

The Methven Search and Rescue provided an excellent lunch, which was followed by two speakers. The first was a local man involved in a road crash and Jess Stringer, the SADD coordinator for the Northern South Island. The College assisted with forum planning and the student supervision of two groups. Maureen Bishop and I supervised the other two groups of students.

Evaluations completed by the students gave very worthwhile comments and will assist in the planning of future forums.

Planning for the Ashburton youth crash consequences and School ball has commenced. The Ashburton College forum will be on Tuesday, 12 June. The Ashburton College Ball is on the 22 June.

6.13.5 Wheels Week

A mock crash was held during Wheels Week. The emergency services performed a community display of their services following the "crash". Front page publicity was gained from The Guardian with articles and photos published by the two community papers.

Once again, without the emergency services, local business and four college students these events would not be possible.

6.13.6 Canterbury Active Transport Forum

I attended the second Canterbury Active Transport forum in Christchurch on 15 May. The Terms of Reference for this group have now been endorsed. The Group's aim is "to advance Active transport goals in Canterbury". The goals are in line with the "Getting there – on foot by cycle 2005 Strategy" and encourage community environments and transport systems that support walking and cycling, more people choosing to walk and cycle more often and improved safety for pedestrians and cyclists. The membership of this group comes from a wide cross section of the community including councils, government agencies, non government organisations and walking and cycling stakeholders.

6.13.7 Ashburton College road safety project

I attended the College at the request of a teacher wishing to introduce a road safety project into the curriculum. The students are working on a number of different forms of advertising media to promote road safety.

R ROUSE
Operations Manager

RECYCLING MATERIALS TRANSPORTED OFF-SITE IN THE MONTH OF APRIL

Month	Cardbd (tonne)	Paper (t)	Metal cans (t)	Alum cans (t)	Batt. (kg)	Recycl metals (t)	Plastic Film (t)	PET plastics (t)	HDPE plastic (t)	Glass (t)	Re- usables (t)	Waste oil (litres)
Tot 02/3	616.50	500.90	44.38	9.821	2,990	4.992		39.178	22.208	302.38	66.53	7,420
Tot 03/ 4	743.74	624.67	48.42	12.63	1,745	19.129		39.293	28.485	416.80	174.74	
Tot 04/05	395.459	601.708	65.478	10.939	181.9	96.993		9.716	29.381	475.46 6	181.906	3,600
Tot 05/06	544.614	848.9	77.248	13.011	7,280	28.253	45.033	49.81	33.641	490.32 9	482.369	6,691
Jul 06	38.6	68.07	1.18	1.054		3.103		7.09	13.42	35.22	44.469	
Aug 06	58.28	66.66	2.44	1.127	1,160	2.931				35.04	45.93	2,700
Sep 06	69.82	63.64	4.38	0.821	1,420	1.136	7.892	5.161	5.141	16.84	46.08	
Oct 06	55.66	65.68		1.095	2,060	8.35				35.38	66.04	
Nov 06	43.82	82.18	11.16	1.023	1,600	1.149		6.143	15.307	49.87	40.96	
Dec 06	56.567	84.703	4.174	.948		.306	24.613		3.38	33.36	69.99	2,550
Jan 07	75.88	74.74	4.579	2.133	3.4	11.3				69.28	89.699	
Feb 07	52.46	55.92	1.84	1,094	0	9.22	5.72	6.86	0	70.7	69.10	0
Mar 07	53.3	75.94	7.00	507	0	8.52	0.00	0.00	0	51.94	52.31	0
Apr 07	50.98	77.76	6.13	772	0	15.05	2.31	0	14.54	75.46	47.31	0
Tot 06/07 to date	555.367	715.293	42.883	10.574	6.243	61.065	40.535	25.254	51.788	473.09	571.888	5,250

Tonnage for April 2007 is 290.31 tonnes compared to 179.54 tonnes in April 2006

Note: products are only weighed when transported off-site.

Note: an additional 3.76 tonnes of glass was processed and stored on site in April 2007.

Note: Mixed plastic volumes received and baled at the resource recovery park since 1 July 06:

– July	1,359kg	– December	2,608kg
– August	2,561kg	– January	2,257kg
– September	2,031kg	– February	2,289 kg
– October	2,190kg	– March	2,635 kg
– November	2,785kg	– April	1,379 kg

Total 22,094 kg

Residual Waste Volumes – Kate Valley

Month	Transported 06/07	Transported 05/06	Transported 04/05	Transported 03/04	Transported 02/03	Transported 01/02
July	611	616	528	532	502	507
August	680	665	538	536	434	541
September	605	581	615	600	499	480
October	652	586	618	637	522	568
November	696	649	701	606	529	678
December	696	716	722	693	628	656
January	713	619	670	621	554	781
February	610	627	602	640	558	589
March	718	668	670	675	554	573
April	618	562	668	595	579	566
May		690	677	582	565	567
June		558	600	525	499	486
Annual Total	6,599	7,537	7609	7,242	6,423	6,992

Budget for contracts	\$861,500	8,000 tonnes
Contract to April 2007 (transport and disposal)	\$720,688	6,598 tonnes
Projected expenditure and tonnages 30 June 2007	\$863,780	7,910 tonnes

NOTE: Transport and disposal costs are \$1.36 per tonne higher than budgeted.