



Ashburton District Council

AGENDA

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

Date: Thursday 15 March 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)

AGENDA

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9 March 2007

ACTIVITY REPORTS

5. **Activity Reports**

5.1 **General**

5.1.1 **2007 / 08 Budget**

The Services and Operations budget was considered at a workshop on Thursday 22 February. Changes to the budget are summarised below:

- **Roading**

The resealing budget was reduced by \$103,000 to reflect the change in the construction price index. This reduction will not impact on the work scope. The actual saving to Council after the subsidy has been removed will be \$48,000.

- **Baring Sq East**

The cyclic renewal budget was reduced by \$53,399. This work will be reprogrammed to coincide with wider development in the area.

- **Town Centre**

The cyclic renewal budget of \$767,648 was reduced to \$50,575. The \$25,575 cyclic renewal budget in 2006/07 will not be spent and will be carried over into 07/08 and become part of the \$50,575.

The \$50,575 will be used to carry out investigations and develop design concepts. The physical works aspects of the work (\$767,648) will be reprogrammed when this work is complete and to coincide with other work in the area.

- **Rakaia Cemetery**

\$5,150 was added to the cyclic renewal budget provision for fencing and tree removal.

- **Mill Creek Stormwater**

The operation and maintenance budget was increased from \$10,420 to \$20,000. The increase will provide funding for a higher level of maintenance in Mill Creek. Twenty five percent of the operating costs (including interest) will be funded from stockwater. This transfer equates to \$7,109.

- **Transwaste Dividend**

The Transwaste dividend will now appear in the solid waste management activity area (Ashburton resource recovery park).

5.1.2 **Financial Reports**

Financial reports for the period 1 July to 28 February 2007 are attached. **Pages 25-34**

5.1.3 **Development in the Ashburton District**

Submissions on the Plan Change and Notice of Requirement for the proposed industrial development to the north east of Ashburton have closed. Submissions received are being reviewed.

Council is regularly approached by developers regarding significant residential developments within the district. These developments in general are consistent with the development study.

5.1.4 Transportation Study

Further work on the Transportation Study has been approved and will incorporate further information developed regarding the proposed industrial area to the north east of Ashburton.

Modelling will include the following:

- add signals at West / East Streets
- add intersection improvements (longer verges) at Havelock / Moore Streets
- ban right turns at Kermode (but Dobson can connect)
- add Park / Moore Street signals
- add Park Street extension to Dobson Street
- add intersection improvements at Oak Grove with an access leg
- add signals at Lagmhor Road / Agnes Street
- Add second bridge
- Add Northpark grade separation
- Add priority changes along Company Road to the north east.

5.1.5 Proposed Natural Resources Regional Plan

Work on preparing evidence to support our submission to the proposed Natural Resources Regional Plan is underway.

A meeting was held with Selwyn District Council and representatives of Irrigation New Zealand to discuss areas of interest. At that meeting it was agreed that we convene a meeting of councils and other interested stakeholders to discuss areas of common interest and support as we all move forward through the formal hearing process.

Representatives from the following organisations have been invited to the meeting on 23 March, at Rolleston –

- all councils in the Canterbury region
- Irrigation New Zealand
- Federated Farmers
- Ashburton Community Water Trust
- Rangitata Diversion Race Management Ltd
- Central Plains Water Trust
- Hurunui Water Development Scheme

5.1.6 Police Traffic Crash Report

Discussions have been held with the Ashburton Police regarding the provision of crash reports.

We have been advised that because of privacy issues it will be necessary for Council to formally request the information in writing. This will be done shortly. Unfortunately we do not have the relevant information to include in this report.

5.1.7 Staff Resignation

Mrs Tammara McKernan has resigned from the position of Solid Waste Manager to take up a position at the Christchurch City Council. The Operations group wishes her well in her new position.

5.1.8 Solid Waste Manager

The position of Solid Waste Manager has been publicly advertised with applications closing on 21 March 2007.

5.1.9 Ocean Farm

Maintenance work on the fence to prevent motorbikes entering the property has been completed. Signage has also been put into place.

Further weed spraying and ploughing has been carried out as part of the site development.

A trailer, truck mounted spray unit and other miscellaneous equipment has been purchased.

5.2 Roding

5.2.1 State Highway Work

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

- SH 1 thresholds: North of Ashburton including flush median and new speed controls (50/100 kph). Work includes new single entrance into the lay-by area from within the 50 kph zone.
- SH 1, East St / West St intersection upgrade at north end of Ashburton: Work has commenced and will be completed in April, including a new rail crossing complete with barrier arms. The upgrade of the East St / Seafield Rd intersection will be carried out as a Council project as part of this overall contract but funded from the ADC minor safety works account.
- SH 1 / SH 77 corner. Intersection improvements in Moore St to provide a left turn lane West St to Moore St which will require amendments to the street lights and traffic light cabling. The slip lane on Moore St entrance to Mitre 10, including footpath work is complete.
- SH 1, Archibald St, north of Manchester St to north of pedestrian crossing at shopping centre: 650m of area wide pavement treatment, including work on parking bays on west side of road. The water main renewal work is complete and road works have commenced.
- SH 1, Hinds south passing lanes: Work has started on this project. The contract will include upgrade of the intersection at Frisbys Rd near the north end of the passing bays. Due for completion in April.
- SH 77, Ashburton Methven Highway: Contract for work of overlaying of the existing road in the area of Rooneys Rd intersection has been awarded and work is due to commence shortly.

5.2.2 Fatal / Serious Accidents

On Saturday 3 March, a fatal accident and serious injury crash occurred on private land beyond the end of Barkers Road where this provides access via a privately owned road to Happy Valley area and the Highbank power station. This road is not part of the district network and as such it does not come under our control.

5.2.3 General Maintenance

There has been an increased number of abandoned cars requiring removal from public streets throughout the district, and to date we have spent over \$3,000 on this work. These costs are not recoverable as generally all methods of identification are removed. Vehicles where the owner can be identified are impounded and the owner contacted and advised that if they want to recover the vehicle than they have to meet costs incurred. The amount of costs recovered is low. This problem is gradually getting worse year by year.

Road conditions have dried out over the last month and this has made road grading more difficult, and some roads such as Ashburton River Rd are receiving special attention.

Maintenance metalling work will start again toward the end of this month when conditions are expected to be slightly damper.

5.2.4 Area Wide Pavement Treatment

Contracts for short sections of rural sealed road overlays, and some unsealed road rehabilitation are being prepared and will be tendered shortly with work planned to be completed by June 2007. The quantum of work in these areas can now be identified as the final cost of the resealing work can now be determined.

5.2.5 Major Drainage Control

- **C513: Professional Services for the Survey and Design of 2006/07 Kerb and Channel**

Opus International Consultants have largely completed design for this work and a physical works contract is currently being prepared.

Swales and soak holes have been constructed on the road edge around the Salmon Tales site in Rakaia to dispose of the stormwater run-off from the road area.

5.2.6 Reseals

- **Contract C512; Reseals and Pre-seal repairs 2006/07**

This contract is now complete, and generally the standard of work achieved has been in accordance with contract requirements.

5.2.7 Bridges

- **Bridge 116 – Rangitata River Arundel Bridge**

The contract to asphalt out joint depressions on this bridge has been awarded and the work will be carried out later this month. The second part to install new expansion joints will be tendered at the in March 2007 with work to be done in April/May.

- **Bridge 42 – Hinds River Hackthorne Road Bridge**

A resource consent for the construction of the replacement structure and approaches for this bridge has been lodged with ECan. ECan has requested that we relocate the bridge to the true left bank rather than leave this in the middle of the stream as it currently is placed. This will require relocation of the low flow stream, and some reshaping of the river bed in this area. The consultants are reviewing their design and we hope to be able to call tenders shortly. While this will delay the work by about a month, we still expect to complete this structure in the 2006/07 financial year.

The Hinds River bridge at Maronan Road had its handrails damaged when an over-width tractor was driven across. The tyre marks from this machine on the kerb blocks each side are clearly evident. The operator responsible left a pipe hand rail sticking out into the traffic-way. No effort was made to contact the Council about this damage which is totally irresponsible. The damaged handrail could have caused serious damage to a smaller vehicle using the bridge. Repairs have been completed.

5.2.8 Street Cleaning

Routine street cleaning is continuing on the specified cycles. The leaf cleaning period will be commencing shortly, and the contractor is preparing for this work.

The new maintenance contract will have a complete review of this section, aiming at the contractor having to provide services to maintain the cleanliness of roads at a specified level.

5.2.9 Traffic Services

Replacement of a significant number of signs and sign posts continues at a concerning rate as reported to last meeting. Signs are essential for road safety and for motorists' information, so we have little option but to replace or repair the sign depending on the degree of damage.

With the resealing of Oak Grove between Walnut Ave and Elizabeth St, we have been able to re-mark the full east side of Oak Gr (Walnut Ave to River Terrace) with a single lane and a new cycle lane for the full length. We are investigating use of colour strip at intersections to emphasise the presence of the cycle lane so that left-turning traffic does not cut off cyclists when turning. There will be an advertising campaign through our road safety work prepared shortly to warn drivers to be more aware of cyclists, at the same time reminding cyclists to wear reflective warning devices and to make sure they have lights when cycling at night.

5.2.10 Carriageway Lighting

There are no substantive issues as Electricity Ashburton continues to carry out regular and routine inspections and checks and attend to lamp maintenance requests.

Undergrounding work is continuing on Farm Rd and Harrison St, which will include and streetlight upgrading required.

5.2.11 Minor Safety Works

A schedule of unsealed intersection approaches to be upgraded and sealed has been completed which also includes fishtails carried out in earlier years. A copy of this schedule is attached. The work proposed for 2006/07 is identified on this schedule. **Page 35**

Inspection of a number of intersections with existing fishtails has been carried out and the optimum length of sealed fishtail required to remove the corrugations from the unsealed road surface is of the order of 100m. The schedule of work to be carried out in 2006/07 will provide fishtails of 100m completed length. Fishtails on roads junctioning to the state highways are considered part of Transit work, and discussions are underway with them on the sharing of costs of this work.

Design work for other minor safety works at Mayfield and Winchmore Dromore / SH 77 is underway.

Negotiations for land purchase at the Stranges Rd / Grahams Rd intersection have moved a step further with the landowner agreeing to make the land required available subject to reaching a satisfactory outcome on compensation etc. Design details are being completed and tenders will be called next week.

There will be some new street lights installed as part of the undergrounding work being carried out by Electricity Ashburton.

Work on upgrading the Bremners Rd / Seafield Rd intersection is being carried out by the Contractor building the new East St / West St intersection at the north end of town, and this will be funded from the minor safety works account.

5.2.12 Seal Extension

- **Contract C527: Seal Extension**

This contract for work on Winchmore-Dromore Rd, Henderson Rd and Rakaia Tce West has been awarded and work will commence shortly. The tender for this work is under budget.

5.2.13 New Kerb and Channel and Footpaths

- **Contract C523: Footpath Resurfacing 2006/07**

This contract was awarded to Fulton Hogan and work began prior to Christmas. To date, approximately 75% of the work has been completed.

5.2.14 Footpath Maintenance

Ongoing routine maintenance and cleaning of the urban footpaths is being carried out. This includes sweeping excess loose chip off paths where this is a problem.

5.2.15 Minor Township Maintenance Contracts

Normal operations are underway for these contracts which are under negotiation for renewal.

5.3 Water Supplies

5.3.1 Drinking Water Assistance Programme

In May 2005, the Government announced a fund totalling \$136.9 million to help improve drinking water supplies in New Zealand. The fund includes \$117.8M over ten years for a Capital Assistance Programme (CAP) and \$15.6M over seven years for a Technical Assistance Programme (TAP).

The Technical Assistance Programme will provide technical assistance to small water suppliers. Any supplier serving fewer than 5000 people can participate in the Technical Assistance Programme, and there is no charge. Council registered all eligible schemes (all schemes except Ashburton) in the Technical Assistance Programme in September last year.

The Capital Assistance Programme will provide funding to community drinking water supplies that supply less than 5000 people and meet a set of predefined criteria. The criteria and application process has only recently been finalised by the Ministry of Health. Normally there will be two application periods each year; 1 July to 30 September; and 1 January to 31 March. However, due to the delay in confirming the application criteria – for the first year (2006/07) only one application period is available, ie 1 February 2007 to 31 May 2007.

For a community or local authority to be eligible for Capital Assistance Programme funding, its drinking-water supply must:

- be owned by a local authority
- be owned by a local residential community
- be owned by an incorporated society or other legal entity
- be operated on a not-for-profit basis
- provide drinking-water for a population of less than 5,000 people

For a community or local authority to be eligible for Capital Assistance Programme funding they will need to:

- demonstrate that they would have difficulty funding capital improvements themselves (through consideration of the deprivation index for the area supplied)

- be included on the Ministry of Health *Register of Community Drinking-water Supplies in New Zealand*
- be participating in the Technical Assistance Programme
- have prepared a PHRMP for their supply and had it approved by a drinking-water assessor
- demonstrate that their supply has been optimised
- have prepared a plan which demonstrates the ongoing sustainability of the supply

The application process for the 2006/07 year is set out below:

- Application will be received between 1 February and 31 May 2007.
- Once an application is received by the Drinking-water Assistance Programme Office (DWAPO), they will request a report from the TAP Facilitator.
- The TAP Facilitator's report needs to confirm that the supply is eligible for CAP funding (TAP participation, approved PHRMP, optimized and sustainable).
- The application and the TAP facilitator's report will be reviewed by the DWAPO who will make a recommendation to the Sanitary Works Technical Advisory Committee about whether the application should be funded.
- Applications will be ranked so that the most deserving will be funded first.
- The ranking will be calculated by giving a mark out of 10 for each of the following categories: the community's ability to pay; supply size; and public health risk.
- Those applications not receiving funding in any financial year will be automatically placed in the ranking for the next financial year.
- At this stage the MOH are planning a three month period to process and seek further clarification for applications.

As design on various Council water supply upgrades continues, it is proposed to explore the eligibility of each scheme for funding on a case by case basis.

5.3.2 Contract 507 – Water Pipeline Renewals 2006/07

The contractor commenced work on Trevors Road on 11 January. The new pipeline was tested on 16 February. All work was completed 22 February.

The water main replacement in Archibald Street commenced on 23 January, with the deployment of a temporary rider main. This approach was necessary due to the close proximity of the existing main to the proposed alignment of the new main and the risk of main break. The new (permanent) pipeline was tested on 13 February. All work was completed by 20 February 2007.

Work on the East Street and Havelock Street water main replacements commenced on 28 February and 2 March respectively. Work has been limited to site establishment and service location to date.

5.3.3 Contract 491 – Utility Pipeline Renewals 2005/06

Practical completion has been granted effective 9 January 2007. The latest site inspection was undertaken on 20 February. The result of this visit is a defects list that the contractor is currently working through.

5.3.4 Water Consumption

No restrictions are in place on any Council supplies at present. Consumption continues to be monitored carefully and except for a noticeable upward trend since the onset of warmer weather the schemes appear to meeting the demand without impact on levels of service¹.

¹ There have been no reports of low pressure on any schemes which traditionally can be an indicator of a scheme that is not meeting demand.

It is however disappointing to note that despite not imposing restrictions on the schemes this year; staff have observed a number of instances of poor watering practices, ie watering during heat of the day and watering footpaths and paved areas. As a consequence, it is proposed to commence an advertising campaign to remind consumers of best watering practice and the water conservation message in general.

A comparison of demand between 2005/06 and 2006/07 summers is provided for Ashburton, Methven and Rakaia. **Pages 36-38**

5.3.5 Public Health Risk Management Plan

This project involves the preparation of a public health risk management plan (PHRMP) for the Ashburton water supply. It is expected that the document will become a mandatory requirement under the drinking water legislation. Irrespective of the legislative requirement, the development of the plans for all supplies should be considered good practice.

As part of the plan development, a workshop was held on 26-27 February with representation from Council, the utility maintenance contractor, Community & Public Health and Environment Canterbury. The workshop was facilitated by staff from Opus. The workshop was an essential part of identifying issues and potential risks on the water supply. It is expected that many issues raised in the Ashburton workshop will be similar for other supplies and the information gathered can be used in the development of plans for those supplies.

The next stage of this project is to complete the draft PHRMP which will include a quantified risk assessment. This document will then be provided to Council for review, and made available to the public for comment. At the conclusion of the consultation process the document will be finalised and submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval. This is envisaged to be completed by 30 June 2007.

5.3.6 Tinwald Borefield Development

This project forms part of the ongoing upgrade of the Ashburton water supply. The well drilling contractor is programmed to commence drilling in July. Design on the treatment building is almost complete. Discussions have been held with the Parks Manager and he is satisfied with the location of the bore and positioning of the proposed building.

The preliminary design has been developed to lessen the impact on the immediately adjacent neighbouring properties. Consultation with these landowners is programmed to begin in the week commencing 5 March. This will take the form initially of a letter and followed up with a visit by consultant staff.

5.3.7 Operation and Maintenance Manual

This project involves the preparation of an operation and maintenance (O&M) manual for the Ashburton water supply. This document will specify the operation of the water supply in general terms and the operation in detail of specific components on the scheme. It will also outline key maintenance requirements and frequencies.

Preparation of the manual has begun. Structured interviews with key staff were carried out in the week commencing 5 March. The document is programmed for completion by 31 May 2007.

5.3.8 Rakaia

- **Water Supply Upgrade**

At the 1 March meeting of Council a report recommending the use of two large steel reservoirs was approved. Design of the upgrade works will now proceed on this basis.

The design consultant was asked to confirm the eligibility of the Rakaia water supply upgrade project for funding through the Ministry of Health's Capital Assistance Programme. A preliminary assessment of eligibility is set out below:

Criteria (refer item under – general section)	Status
Demonstrate that they would have difficulty funding capital improvements themselves.	The deprivation index for Rakaia Township is believed to be 6.
Be included in the MOH's register of Community Drinking-water Supplies.	The Rakaia water supply is included on the register.
Participate in the Technical Assistance Programme (TAP).	Rakaia water supply was registered for the technical assistance programme in September 2005. Further "participation" in the programme is not expected to be onerous.
Have a Public Health Risk Management Plan (PHRMP) approved by a drinking water assessor.	The PHRMP is currently in preparation.
Demonstrate that their supply has been optimised.	The scheme is considered to be as fully optimised as it can be based on the limitations of the current source water and storage capacity.
Demonstrate that the supply is sustainable.	Given that it is a local authority water supply, it is expected that the sustainability test will be easily met.

Each application will be ranked according to need. The ranking will be calculated by giving a mark out of 10 for each of the following categories: the community's ability to pay; supply size; and public health risk. Our assessment of the Rakaia scheme's likely ranking mark is set out below:

1. Ability to pay: **6** (This is the deprivation index).
2. Population Size: **8** (Table 2 (pg 12) Criteria for Capital Assistance for Small Drinking Water Supplies).
3. Risk to Public Health: **9** (This is subject to some interpretation and may reduce to 7 (Table 3 (pg 12) Criteria for Capital Assistance for Small Drinking Water Supplies)).

The total ranking would therefore be between 21 and 23 out of a possible 30.

Based on a successful application up to 80% of the cost of capital works could be funded through the Capital Assistance Programme. Furthermore, successful applicants will be eligible for 100% funding for sampling or analysis of raw or treated water including assessment of secure ground water status. Note-: The funding is not retrospective e.g. the upgrade cannot be completed first and an application is made for funding later.

Council resolved at the 1 March meeting to defer progress on the upgrading works pending the outcome of an application for funding.

5.4 Wastewater

5.4.1 General

- **Contract 514 – Wastewater & Stormwater Pipeline Renewals 2006/07**

Work commenced on the Middle Road sewer replacement on 24 October. All pipelines have been tested. The majority of trench sealing has been completed. All work is expected to be complete on or about 9 March.

5.4.2 Ashburton Wastewater System Upgrade

- **Contract 501 – Treatment Plant**

Site possession was 15 January. Site establishment and initial siting of the pumping station site is complete and some earthworks has been completed on the construction of the aeration pond. Work on the aeration pond has been affected by a modification to the pond design.

Groundwater levels under the aeration pond are higher than the invert of the pond creating construction and future maintenance issues. The pond design has been modified to raise the invert of the pond and offsetting the reduced capacity increasing the pond footprint.

Additional fill material will need to be imported to the Wilkins Road site to provide structural fill under the pumping station.

There are currently no significant financial or non financial issues relating to this contract.

- **Contract 502 – Transfer Pipeline**

Site possession was 15 January. Pipe laying is well underway with pipe laying progress as programmed. Work was delayed caused by a concern relating to pipe quality which was resolved. This has had a minor impact on the programme by approximately three days. This will not affect the programmed completion date.

Minor amendment to the alignment of the pipeline between manholes has been required to avoid a line of poplar trees. This will result in an increase in pipeline length of one pipe (2.4m).

There are no financial or non financial issues with respect to the contract.

- **Contract 503 – Land Disposal**

Site possession was 29 January. Progress on earthworks and pipe laying is to programme. The pricing for electrical works is currently the subject of negotiation. The situation is summarised below –

- Budget \$308,000
- Submitted price \$400,000
- The budget figure did not include an allowance for the contractor's mark-up (currently \$45,000) or an allowance for items tagged out of the electrical works (\$46,000), eg trenching, plinths etc.
- This variation is currently being evaluated.

Financial Summary

- **Contract 501 – Treatment Plant**

– Tendered sum	\$5,459,469
– Variations to date:	
Ductile pipe	\$-19,920.50
PLC alteration	\$-11,400.00
Raising pond invert	\$23,388.92
Import fill from Ocean Farm (est)	<u>\$35,000.00</u>
Total	\$27,068.42

- Current forecast expenditure \$5,486,537.54
- Forecast unfavourable variance \$27,068.42

- **Contract 502 – Transfer Pipeline**

- Tendered sum \$3,677,323
- Variations to date
 - working around unknown services \$1,000
- Current forecast expenditure \$3,678,323
- Forecast unfavourable variances \$1,000

- **Contract 503 – Land Disposal**

- Tendered sum \$4,465,712
- Tagged items budget allowance (*some costs included in the tendered sum above*)
 - Electrical work (estimated) \$309,000
 - Irrigation control \$180,000
 - Swale planting (anticipated) \$ 50,000
 - Total** **\$539,000**
- Contract budget \$4,695,156.53
- Variations to date
 - Electrical work \$400,000
 - Irrigation control \$190,000
 - Total** **\$590,000**
- Current contract forecast \$4,796,156.53
- Forecast unfavourable variance \$101,000

Total Forecast Expenditure on all Three Contracts

C501	\$5,486,537.54
C502	\$3,678,323.00
C503	<u>\$4,796,156.53</u>
Total	\$13,961,017.00

Total budget \$14,596,502.

This allows for an estimated \$500,000 committed to other work fees, farm development etc.

5.5 Stormwater

5.5.1 Contract 514 – Wastewater & Stormwater Pipeline Renewals 2006/07

Work commenced on the new Wills Street / William Street stormwater drain on 23 January. Testing of the pipeline was completed on 2 March, with manhole testing to follow. All works is expected to be complete on or about 9 March.

The Chalmers Avenue stormwater drain replacement has been delayed pending obtaining an Archaeological Authority to demolish the existing drain. An archaeological authority is required from the Historic Places Trust when anything associated with pre-1900 human activity is to be destroyed or modified. This applies to the brick arch stormwater drain in Chalmers Avenue.

An application was submitted to the Historic Places Trust in November 2006. The authority was granted on 16 February 2007. The authority has the following requirements (among others):

- Preparation of an archaeological management strategy (includes mapping of the drain, criteria for recording details of the drain and ongoing reporting).
- A length of 10m of the drain is to be retained.
- Representative sample of artefacts and/or building materials to be offered to the local museum.
- Allowance for archaeological work during construction if required.
- Ongoing reporting and a final report to the Historic Places Trust.

The consultant is presently preparing the archaeological management strategy. Once this has been prepared, the physical works can proceed. There may be concessions to be made during construction in order to meet the requirements of the archaeological management strategy and the archaeological authority. These concessions may result in further time delays and cost.

5.6 Stockwater

5.6.1 Water Race Applications / Closures

Since 1 July 2006, a total of 36 applications have been received. Two applications have been cancelled, one is on hold pending further information, and the balance has been approved. The length of race closed since 1 July is 58,979 metres.

5.6.2 RDR Shut-down

The Council has been advised by Rangitata Diversion Race Management Ltd (RDRML) of their intention to shut down the Rangitata Diversion Race from 25 April to 25 May 2007, to allow for improvements to be undertaken to their infrastructure. This shut-down will impact on Council's Klondyke intake.

When the RDR is in normal operation, the Council's Klondyke intake flows under gravity. Typical operational flows range between 120 & 150L/s. Throughout the period of the proposed shut-down, water will be supplied to the Klondyke intake via pumped means. RDRML have undertaken to supply 140 L/s continuous flow through the period.

A preliminary notice has been delivered to property occupiers in the affected area. This will be followed up with a letter to owners and occupiers outlining some strategies that may reduce the impact of potentially lower flows.

5.7 Solid Waste Management

5.7.1 Residual Waste Management at the Ashburton Resource Recovery Park

The operation of the residual waste management contract at the Ashburton resource recovery park is proceeding satisfactorily. 837.42 tonnes of material was received over the weighbridge at the resource recovery park during December. 984.62 tonnes of material was received over the weighbridge in January.

5.7.2 Green Waste and Construction and Demolition Waste Management at the Ashburton RRP

The green waste and demolition waste contract is operating satisfactorily. 618.75 cubic metres of green waste was shredded in January. In the period from 1 July 2006 to 31 December 2006, 4,805m³ was shredded compared to 2,762 m³ shredded in the period 1 July 2005 – 31 December 2005.

5.7.3 Refuse and Recycling Collection

The recycling and refuse collection contract is operating satisfactorily. In January 194.18 tonnes of refuse were collected from kerbside and 11 tonnes were collected from litter bins. 109 tonnes of recyclables were also collected.

5.7.4 Waste Minimisation

Recycling materials transported off-site in the month of January is shown on the attachment.

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5.7.5 Transport Waste to Christchurch

Transport and disposal of waste to Kate Valley volumes is shown.

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5.7.6 Management of Waste Processing Sites

- **Ashburton Resource Recovery Park**

The Ashburton resource recovery park is operating satisfactorily.

- **Methven Landfill and Drop-off Centre**

The Methven consultation document is not yet complete. A rough draft has been prepared and was distributed to the Methven Community Board on 5 March 2007. Cost estimates for land purchase and cost to ratepayer are still to be compiled. The consultation document will be finalised in the next reporting period. The programme for consultation has been delayed by approximately six weeks because of other work priorities.

Activity at the Methven landfill site for the month of January included 10 vehicle movements for drop-off of small quantities of green waste and 27 vehicle movements with trailer loads of green waste. No inert material was received at the site.

- **Rakaia Resource Recovery Park**

This contract is operating satisfactorily.

- **Agrecovery**

Agrecovery is a product stewardship programme for the sustainable recovery of triple rinsed agriculture and forestry sector plastic containers. It has been developed by a coalition of major grower groups, industry parties and local and central government to provide a solution to the problem of waste agrichemical containers.

The Agrecovery Programme will take triple-rinsed HDPE plastic agrichemical containers (60 litres / kilograms or smaller) from farmers/growers in New Zealand.

Agrecovery collection sites will be located at a set number of local authority transfer stations; 52 to begin with.

The programme commences in Ashburton on 7 April 2007 and will operate at the Ashburton resource recovery park on the first Saturday of every month between the hours of 10.00 am and 2.00 pm. Receipt and inspection of the containers will be carried out by an Agrecovery staff member.

All collected HDPE plastic will be shredded and reprocessed and supplied to an approved processor to use as a raw material. Potential applications include:

- Drainage pipes and fittings
- Culvert pipe
- Cable cover
- Plastic sheeting
- Lighting and fence posts

• **Domestic Hazardous Waste Drop-off Site**

There have been some delays with opening this site at the Ashburton resource recovery park. Sealing the area prior to locating the storage containers has been delayed. Training staff to receive and handle this material is being arranged through Environment Canterbury. At this stage we have been advised that four staff from this area will be able to participate in the first training programme. A date has not yet been set for the training to be carried out.

• **Office of the Auditor General – Audit**

A draft report has been received on a case study exercise carried out in September 2006 by the Office of the Auditor General. The case study undertook to identify how Ashburton District Council was implementing its Zero Waste Policy.

The draft report was favourable, while recognising that waste was continuing to increase in the district. Staff are preparing comments on the draft report. A detailed report will be provided to the Committee once the final report has been received.

5.8 Contracts Awarded

No.	Contract	Contractor	Date / Value \$	N° of Tenders / Range \$	Engineer's Estimate
C527	Seal Extension - Winchmore Dromore Road, Hendersons Road & Rakaia Terrace, Ashburton District 2006/07	ACL	\$336,481.33 6/03/2007	<u>2</u> <u>\$336,481.33</u> to <u>\$439,176.48</u>	\$437,274

5.9 Parks and Recreation

5.9.1 Ashburton Domain

Again, the Domain has been well used, with hot the days bringing people in to use the paddling pool and picnicking. There have been a number of major public events such as the Circus, Concert in the Park, Pipe Band Competition, representative cricket matches, College athletics and sports days.

Pansies, viola, myosotis, calendula, iceland poppies and stock have been pricked out ready for autumn planting (spring bedding displays).

5.9.2 Township Beautification and Sports Grounds

Pruning of protected trees and trees in the Tinwald Domain has been carried out.

West Street car park shrubbery along the railway fence line has been trimmed as well as the carpet roses and ivy in road berms. The water tanker is being well used for the watering of trees.

In Methven township all road berms and shrubberies have been re-mulched with bark.

5.9.3 Rural Reserve Beautifications

With the hot Nor'west days brings the burning off of the grass areas so rural staff have been busy catching up on their spray run.

5.9.4 Staff

Brendon Frame resigned from his position as Team Leader on 11 January to travel overseas and was replaced by Catherine McCormick. Catherine has since resigned (on 7 March) to take up a new position as Assistant to the Livestock Co-ordinator at Rural Transport.

5.9.5 Cemeteries

The lawns at the Mt Somers and Alfred Forest cemeteries have been sprayed for broadleaf weeds and seedling broom and gorse. All the cemeteries have been given another general spray.

Watering of trees still continues from water tanks.

Ashburton Cemetery

January 2006		January 2007	
Interments	7	Interments	12
Ashes	7	Ashes	6
February 2006		February 2007	
Interments	6	Interments	7
Ashes	2	Ashes	4
March 2006		March 2007 (to 5/3/07)	
Interments	7	Interments	4
Ashes	6	Ashes	3

5.10 Customer Service Request Reports

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

Pages 41-43

5.11 Emergency Management

5.11.1 Fire Season Status

A Restricted Fire Season was declared for that part of Ashburton district for which the Ashburton District Council is the rural fire authority on Wednesday 7 March, and will remain in force until further notice. The recent hot weather has resulted in rapid drying of the vegetation fuels throughout the district with a subsequent increase of the fire danger level.

The Department of Conservation has declared a Prohibited Fire Season in the Mackenzie Basin and the Ashburton Lakes area back to the Main Divide. With respect to Ashburton District this area is defined as all lands administered by the Department of Conservation that are State areas in the area west of a line from the Rakaia River, up Glenrock Stream to Turtons Saddle, thence a direct line to Mount Taylor, Mount Barrosa and to the Rangitata River at Boundary Stream, and also includes the 1km fire safety margin around all those areas.

5.11.2 Fire Incidents

Eighteen incidents have been attended by rural fire parties from the time of the last Committee meeting and up to 7 March 2007, with a breakdown as follows:

Vegetation	9
Structure	1
Vehicle	4
False alarm	4

5.11.3 NRFA Performance Assessment of Ashburton Rural Fire Authority

The National Rural Fire Authority will be conducting a performance assessment of the ADC Rural Fire Authority in mid March. This assessment is additional to the recent audit, and will involve an in depth look at how the Fire Authority conducts its business. The Assessment team (3-4 representatives from the NRFA and a consultant) will be in Ashburton on 20 March, and amongst other things they will be viewing records and will interview a range of representatives of the Fire Authority including elected members, management and volunteers.

5.11.4 Rakaia Huts Emergency Warning Siren

A siren has recently been erected at the South Rakaia Huts through funding provided by the Council and Rakaia Huts residents to serve the community as an early warning device for emergencies such as fire, flooding and tsunamis. The next step is to devise a response plan for the community in the event of siren activation. This will be done in consultation with the community, and will include the Emergency Management Officer, local NZ Fire Service Safety Officer and the Chief Fire Officer of the Rakaia Volunteer Fire Brigade.

5.11.5 June 12 Snow Event Cost Reimbursement

The EMO was recently advised by the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management that the South Island snow event claims have been endorsed by the Minister for submission to Cabinet seeking approval to reimburse. The paper is currently scheduled to be considered by Cabinet on 14 March. Should there be no delays it is expected that Finance would make payment before the end of March.

5.12 Methven Community Board

A meeting of the Methven Community Board was held on 5 March 2007, and there were no matters referred to the Committee.

5.13 Ashburton District Road Safety Co-ordinator's Report

The Road Safety Co-ordinator, Ngaire Tinning, reports:

5.13.1 Road Safety Action Plan Meeting

The Ashburton District Road Safety Action Plan meeting, which is to be hosted by the Ashburton District Council, will be held on Wednesday, 28 March. Invitations have been sent out to the various stakeholders involved in road safety in the Ashburton district. The period covered by the new Road Safety Action Plan will be from May to October 2007. Ideally, the six monthly plan will be finalised before the end of April.

5.13.2 Driver Reviver

A driver reviver stop was held on Waitangi Day at Dromore Corner, on State Highway One. The number of motorists using the stop was slightly down in comparison to other driver reviver campaigns; this could be accounted for by Waitangi Day falling on a Tuesday.

I also attended the Regional Fatigue meeting. Geoff Holland from Land Transport NZ presented the Canterbury crash statistics where fatigue had been noted as a contributing factor. Since that meeting individual Ashburton statistics have been received.

5.13.3 CAN Cycle Forum

The Cycling Advocates Network forum was held in Christchurch on 15 February. Gavin Thomas, Tony MacPherson and I attended. From this forum, a regional committee has been formed to commence development and promotion of safe cycling for health, sustainable transport and the environment. Maureen Bishop will represent Road Safety Coordinators.

5.13.4 Back to School Campaign

Radio advertising and newspaper articles were arranged in late January and early February. The Police "Speed Around Schools" campaign commenced at the same time and this has received wide publicity. I am currently visiting three local schools to observe and record traffic behaviour in these areas, particularly at peak times.

5.13.5 Bike Wise Week 24 February to 2 March 2007

This year we held the Mayoral Challenge for the first time. It was a very successful event and if held again next year I am sure the number of participants will markedly increase. We also held the Bike Wise Business Battle, which also recorded more teams and interest than last year.

Other events included the Go By Bike Day Breakfast and the Cycle Skills afternoon for younger cyclists. Cycle helmet checks were completed with the Police, with the focus on school aged children. The result of the check was encouraging, with more planned once daylight saving ends.

5.13.6 SADD (Students Against Driving Drunk)

I attended a meeting with the SADD Regional Coordinator and our local alcohol health promoter and the Ashburton College SADD students group. It was a good opportunity to meet this group as we will jointly involved in the planning of the Youth Crash Consequences and After School Ball projects to be held later this year.

5.13.7 National Land Transport Funding

Recently, Tony MacPherson and I attended a training session at Land Transport NZ on the changes to the Community Focused Land Transport funding process. From the 2007/08 financial year, the Ashburton District Council will have total responsibility of lodging all Ashburton District Road Safety Community Programme funding applications to Land Transport NZ. We currently have two other parties that deliver road safety activities in our area.

R S ROUSE

Operations Manager

RECYCLING MATERIALS TRANSPORTED OFF-SITE – MONTH OF JANUARY 2007

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	
Tot 06/07 to date	398.627	505.673	27.913	8.201	6.243	28.275	32.505	18.394	37.248	274.99	403.168	5,250

Tonnage for January 2007 is 253.212 tonnes compared to 243.724 tonnes in January 2006

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

Note: an additional 28.88 tonnes of glass was processed and stored on site in January 2007.

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

- July 1,359kg
 - August 2,561kg
 - September 2,031kg
 - October 2,190kg
 - November 2,785kg
 - December 2,608kg
 - January 2,257kg
- Total 15,791kg

TRANSPORT WASTE TO CHRISTCHURCH
Residual Waste Volumes – Kate Valley

<u>Month</u>	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		627	602	640	558	589
March		668	670	675	554	573
April		562	668	595	579	566
May		690	677	582	565	567
June		558	600	525	499	486
Annual Total	4653	7537	7609	7,242	6,423	6,992

Budget for contracts	\$861,500	8,000 tonnes
Contract to January 2007 (transport and disposal)	\$507,424	4,653 tonnes
Projected expenditure and tonnages 30 June 2007	\$869,870	7,977 tonnes

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