

Stockwater Transition

Working Group

Notice of Meeting

A meeting of the Stockwater Transition Working Group will be held on:

Date: **Thursday 6 March 2025**

Time: **1.30pm**

Venue: **Council Chamber** (First floor, Te Whare Whakatare), 2 Baring Sq East

Core Group Membership

Ashburton District Council

- Cr Richard Wilson (Chair)
- Cr Carolyn Cameron
- Mayor Neil Brown (ex officio)

Aoraki Environmental Consultancy

- Sally Reihana and Treena Davidson

Federated Farmers

- David Acland

Environment Canterbury

- Marcelo Wibmer

Consultant

- John Wright

Meeting Timetable

Time	Item
1.30pm	Working Group meeting commences

1	Welcome	
2	Apologies	
3	Confirmation of Minutes – 5/12/24	3
4	Pudding Hill Intake closure – initial investigations	5
5	Pudding Hill Intake closure – wider community engagement	35
6	Methven Auxiliary Intake – closure investigation	37
7	Next Meetings	
	22 May 2025, 1.30pm.	

28 February 2025

Stockwater Transition Working Group

6 March 2025



3. *Stockwater Transition Working Group – 5/12/24*

Minutes of a meeting of the Stockwater Transition Working Group held on Thursday 5 December 2024, in the Hine Paaka Council Chamber, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton, commencing at 1.30pm.

Present

Mayor Neil Brown; Councillors Richard Wilson (Chair) and Carolyn Cameron; John Wright (Consultant),

Via MS Teams Sally Reihana and Treena Davis (Aoraki Environmental Consultancy), David Acland and Darryl Hydes (Federated Farmers) and Marcelo Wibmer (ECan).

In attendance

Neil McCann (GM Infrastructure & Open Spaces), Toni Durham (GM Democracy & Engagement), Andrew Guthrie (Assets Manager), Crissie Drummond (Infrastructure Services Support Lead), Janice McKay (Communications Manager) and Phillipa Clark (Governance Support).

1 Apologies

Nil.

2 Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Stockwater Transition Working Group meeting held on 31 October 2024 be taken as read and confirmed.

Cameron/Mayor

Carried

3 Stockwater Service Exit Transition Plan

Final draft Stockwater Exit Transition Plan presented.

- Stockwater reserve deficit balance of \$1.8 million.

Proposed approach

The updated Plan now includes provision for Council to establish a memorandum of understanding with another party prior to committing to any changes to the order of consideration and wider programme of work. Officers explained that this addresses the concern that having a regimented approach may dissuade people. Council would need to be certain that a proposal from another party (interested in taking over an intake) had merit, then it could be advanced without further delaying the project.

Working Group members all spoke in support of the Plan and the proposed approach agreeing that it provides flexibility and is transparent. AEC have noted the positive inclusion of the condition for pre-consideration so it's brought back to the Group for discussion. Marcelo also spoke in support, highlighting that the provision for Council to transfer existing resource consents, while not a matter for this Group, could be a complicated situation.

Next steps

A report has been prepared for Council to consider and adopt the Stockwater Exit Transition Plan on 18 December. Minor updates will be made following today's discussion and feedback.

Following approval of the Plan and after the next Working Group meeting, a community update will be provided to show how the project is tracking. It was noted that the online stockwater exit community newsletter now has 48 subscribers.

Officers will investigate the feasibility of having a FAQ site on the web along with a site for questions specifically related to the stockwater exit to be asked.

Officers advised that the usual line of communication will continue to be through Customer Services and Council's CRM process which allows all requests to be recorded and tracked. Information from the CRM will be reported back to the Working Group.

6 Next meeting

The next meeting of the Stockwater Transition Working Group is scheduled for Thursday 6 March 2024, commencing at 3.30pm.

The meeting concluded at 11.50am.

4. *Pudding Hill Intake Closure – initial investigations*

Author *Andrew Guthrie; Assets Manager*
Executive Team Member *Neil McCann; Group Manager-Infrastructure & Open Spaces*

On 18 May 2022, Council approved the commencement of an investigation into the possible closure of the Pudding Hill Stockwater Intake located at Hart Road.

Some of the drivers for the closure were:

1. *The Pudding Hill intake is one of three intakes that have a requirement for the installation of fish screening infrastructure.*
2. *Officers are reluctant to progress the installation of fish screens due to the capital cost, operational difficulty in keeping them functioning correctly, and ongoing race rationalisation which may make them redundant in a few years.*
3. *Closure of the intake would render the fish screening condition redundant, as it relates to the Pudding Hill site.*
4. *The majority of area serviced by this intake now has alternatives to the open race network available. This includes:*
 - *Spaxton Stock Water Limited which services all properties in the Spaxton area above the RDR; and*
 - *Barrhill Chertsey Irrigation Ltd that services many properties below the RDR adjacent and near the NE boundary of the district.*

The Pudding Hill Intake network

5. The Pudding Hill stockwater intake is situated near the end of Hart Road and abstracts water from the Pudding Hill Stream.
6. It has been in existence for over 140 years, being formally opened on 31 January 1881, and is notable as the first intake of the then County Council stockwater network.
7. The intake currently services an expansive area of the total network. Key statistics of race network supplied by the Pudding Hill intake are as follows:
 - Total race network supplied ~220 km comprising;

- 26.2 km main race;
 - 186.3 km local race;
 - 6.8 km natural waterway (Mt Harding Creek);
 - 181 rateable properties;
 - 93 road culverts;
 - 10 siphons under the Rangitata Diversion Race;
8. The Pudding Hill intake normally abstracts ~250 litres/second but can peak at ~400 litre/second for short periods of time.

2023 Investigation work

9. The 2023 Pudding Hill Intake Closure Investigations comprised of several separate activities carried out sequentially to optimise expenditure. The intention was to confirm that viable stockwater alternatives exist for all affected landowners before committing to significant work on ecological studies or exploring the issues surrounding the intake as a listed archaeological site.
10. Before embarking on significant expenditure on ecological and cultural assessments and other investigations, Council wanted to understand at a high level whether a closure of the affected network would be feasible.
11. Melius Ltd (John Wright) was engaged to assist Council with this work based on his wealth of experience in rural water supply.
12. Phase 1 saw an introductory letter and survey form sent to 171 affected properties in April 2023. The survey form sought to ascertain the stockwater requirements for each property going forward should the intake be closed.
13. The Melius Ltd “Pudding Hill Intake Closure Initial Assessment of Alternative Supply” report (Phase 1 report) indicated that all affected properties would have access to an alternate water supply either already in place (70%) or there were feasible alternate supply options available for the property (30%). The Phase 1 report is attached as **Appendix 1**.
14. The précis of the survey follow-up work undertaken by Melius Ltd is listed below:
- *“Representatives of 46 affected properties have confirmed they require an alternative supply.*
 - *3 affected parties who confirmed in the survey they require an alternative supply are still to be contacted.*
 - *Confirmed no supply required from representatives of a further 50 affected properties where they either relied on race water or did not respond to the survey (and had no obvious alternative).*
 - *5 who did not respond to the survey still to be contacted to confirm they do not require an alternative (their alternative not obvious).*
 - *Remaining 69 properties clearly have an alternative or did not require an alternative so do not need to be contacted (total 173 affected properties).”*

15. This above result supported proceeding with the next phase of work (Phase 2 Report) which involved Melius Ltd working with the landowners and the providers of the alternate supplies to design and cost these alternatives. The Phase 2 report is attached as **Appendix 2**.
16. Melius Ltd held discussions with both BCI and Spaxton Stock Water Ltd regarding the provision of alternate supplies of water for stock.
17. The business case outlined in the Melius Ltd Phase 2 report which was completed in early 2024, confirmed a viable proposal to service all affected properties through extensions to the BCI scheme and had been developed during discussions with BCI.
18. In early 2024 Council decided on the key stockwater LTP proposal to exit the stockwater activity. No further work was therefore undertaken until the Stockwater Exit Transition Plan was adopted in December 2024.

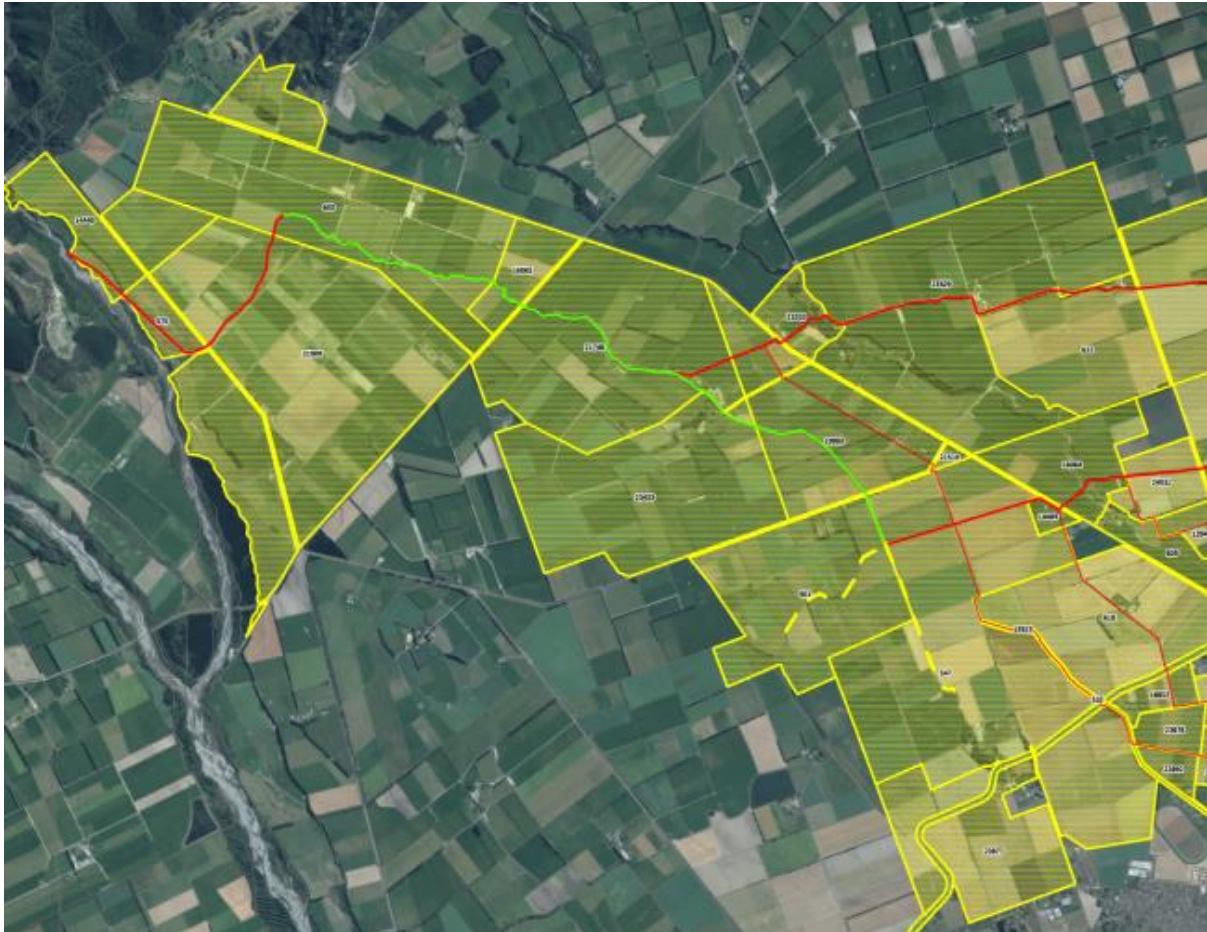
Next Phases of Work

19. Beca were engaged in 2024 to undertake an ecological impact assessment of the race closures arising from closure of the Pudding Hill Intake. The scope of this work includes identifying any positive impacts accruing to the Ashburton River system from the water remaining in the system. The report has been reviewed and will be finalised by the consultant in the coming weeks.
20. A water balance report project brief is currently being priced by three consultants – Beca, WSP and Aqualinc. The brief requires the successful service provider to undertake accurate flow monitoring at 18 key locations along Mt Harding Creek, and prepare / develop a formal water balance for the Creek by documenting the inflows from the ADC network (specifically from the Pudding Hill & Methven Auxiliary intake mains) and other sources, outflows to the ADC network, and losses (where identified) and provide any additional relevant analysis or other observations. The final report is to be with Council in early April.
21. Cultural and archaeological assessments will be progressed along with stormwater/drainage investigations.
22. Part of a more general task, we are preparing a summary of property details where intakes structures and intake supply channels exist to confirm ownership status of the affected parcels. Land ownership adjacent to rivers and streams can be quite complex and the
23. information will inform future works.

Andrew Guthrie
Assets Manager

Neil McCann
GM Infrastructure & Open Spaces

Pudding Hill Intake Closure Initial Assessment of Alternative Supply



29 September 2022

John Wright
Melius Limited
50 Longhurst Terrace
Cashmere
Christchurch

0274 362 358
john@melius.nz

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1. Summary

A robust assessment has been undertaken to consider whether suitable alternative stockwater supplies are available to properties affected by the proposed closure of the Ashburton District Council Pudding Hill intake and downstream race network.

The assessment highlighted that 70% of the 171 affected properties identified by Ashburton District Council had an existing source of water that could be utilised to provide stockwater. Of the remaining 30% of properties, it was assessed that all had a feasible supply alternative, primarily through Spaxton Stock Water Limited or Barrhill Chertsey Irrigation Limited.

2. Background

In May 2022 Ashburton District Council (ADC) approved the commencement of investigations into the closure of the Pudding Hill stockwater Intake and downstream race network. The Pudding Hill stockwater intake is situated near Hart Road and abstracts 250 – 400 litres per second of water from Pudding Hill Stream. The 220km of downstream race network provides access to stockwater on 171 rateable properties between the intake and Rakaia.

As part of those investigations the Council sought to confirm that alternative supply options are available to those stockwater users affected by the proposed race network closure. John Wright of Melius Limited was engaged to undertake this study and has extensive experience in the development of water supply networks in the Ashburton District and further afield.

This report outlines the alternatives considered and assesses which are suitable for each of the 171 rateable properties affected by the proposed closure. This first phase of investigations was a desktop analysis of the suitable alternatives for each property. Should ADC choose to continue with the proposed race network closure further investigations will be required that confirm the actual stockwater requirement and preferred alternative for each property. No consideration in this report has been given to other issues relating to the proposed race network closure such as ecological values, cultural values and stormwater management.

3. Stockwater Requirements

Local piped stockwater reticulation systems have been generally designed to ensure capacity is available to deliver a peak 250 litres of stockwater per hectare per day for farms undertaking dry stock and stock wintering activities. On that basis, a 100 hectare dry stock farm would require a supply of 25,000 litres per day.

Dairy farms have a higher requirement for water supply because of the high intensity of milking animals and requirement for washing down milking sheds and yards, and cooling milk. Dairy farms generally require 400 litres per hectare per day.

Many properties and lifestyle blocks have mixed farming systems that require less stockwater per hectare. For the purposes of this assessment 250 litres per hectare per day has been used to consider if an alternative supply is sufficient to replace the current ADC race network supply. It is

noted that there are no dairy farms affected by the proposed race network closure that do not have an existing alternative supply.

Some of the properties assessed may have an alternative stockwater supply on part of the property. In this initial assessment the stockwater requirements have been calculated on the worst-case scenario, being the full property, and will be refined in discussion with property owners in the next phase of investigations.

4. Alternatives

The following alternative stockwater supply options were considered to replace supply to rateable properties that would be affected by closure of the Pudding Hill intake and race network.

4.1 Spaxton

Spaxton Stock Water Limited (Spaxton) is a cooperative company that was incorporated in 2013. The company has 49 shareholding entities who are stockwater users in the area between the Rangitata Diversion Race and foothills, Ashburton River and Rakaia River. Consents are held to abstract water from Pudding Hill Stream at a similar location to the ADC Pudding Hill stockwater intake, and water is distributed by a buried pipe network of approximately 80km.

Spaxton has incorporated surplus capacity in the installed pipe network and is willing to extend east of the Rangitata Diversion Race if demand is there.

Properties have been assessed as to whether they currently have a supply from Spaxton, or whether they could get a supply from Spaxton. Spaxton has a policy where new connections pay capital costs of new infrastructure plus a catch up on charges paid by existing shareholders. This policy ensures all connections make a full contribution to the cost of the infrastructure regardless of when they join the scheme.

4.2 BCI

Barrhill Chertsey Irrigation Limited (BCI) is a cooperative company incorporated in 1998 and began construction of irrigation infrastructure in 2010. BCI has approximately 150 shareholders utilising irrigation water provided by the company through its 250km pressurised pipe network. BCI holds a suite of consents to take water from the Rakaia River and, through water swap arrangements with shareholders in Rangitata Diversion Race Management Limited, from the Rangitata River. Irrigation water is delivered to approximately 25,000 hectares in the Ashburton District, primarily in the upper plains and adjacent to the Rakaia River and is consented to be used for stockwater.

BCI currently delivers stockwater to around 20 non-shareholders across the district and this experience has proven that delivering stockwater can be achieved within the capacity limits of the existing pipe network. Stockwater connections have generally been added to existing air vent sites and have included small diameter pipe extensions.

Properties have been assessed as to whether they currently have an irrigation supply or a stockwater supply from BCI, or whether they could get a stockwater supply from BCI. Whether a

property can get a stockwater supply from BCI is based on a high-level financial assessment comparing distance from existing BCI infrastructure to potential future revenues. BCI calculate the cost of installing the infrastructure and compare that cost to the discounted future net revenues from the connection (using a Net Present Value calculation) at a standard per litre per day charge. Connections are approved if they have a positive Net Present Value.

4.3 Highbank

Highbank Water Society (Highbank) is an incorporated society that installed and manages a potable water supply in the Highbank area. The scheme supplies water to households at a rate of 1,500 litres per day.

In some household situations a supply of 1,500 litres per day would have surplus water that could be used for stockwater on small properties. Christchurch City Council have reported average daily household consumption of 540 litres per day and intend to charge users who exceed 700 litres per day over a three-month period.

In the following assessment, Highbank as a sole source of water was considered only capable of supplying stockwater to two hectares, leaving 1,000 litres per day for household consumption. Given small properties often have lower proportions of effective land available for grazing animals, property areas of up to 3 hectares have been assessed as being able to be supplied by a standard Highbank connection.

4.4 Rainwater

For relatively low demand properties the use of rainwater was assessed as an alternative. If a roof area of 200 square metres was used to capture rainwater, 80% of the water was able to be stored in a water tank, and average rainfall was 700 mm per year, then 112,000 litres could potentially be stored for use as stockwater per year. Based on stockwater demand of 250 litres per hectare per day, this captured rainfall in this scenario would be capable of supplying 1.2 hectares.

There are a number of variables in this situation, including tank storage volumes and spread of rainfall. Water tanker deliveries can be used to meet shortfalls where demand is higher or rainfall has been lower.

In the following assessment rainwater as a sole source of water was considered only capable of supplying stockwater to one hectare. Given small properties often have lower proportions of effective land available for grazing animals, property areas of up to 2 hectares have been assessed as being able to be supplied by rainwater where there are buildings.

4.5 Groundwater

A large proportion of properties in the area affected by the proposed race network closure are properties irrigated by groundwater, or private wells. Some properties have surface water takes from the Rakaia River and these have been included in this category as the supply is seen as reliable enough to meet the requirements of stockwater with suitable tank storage.

Most groundwater irrigated properties install tank storage that is filled from well supplies as required and then stockwater is distributed to troughs on the property.

Some of the groundwater supplies may not be consented for use as stockwater, but the Resource Management Act and Canterbury Land & Water Regional Plan allow for stockwater use provided consented irrigation take volumes are not exceeded. Stockwater requirements will be a fraction of the volume taken for irrigation and therefore make this a reasonable alternative.

Smallholdings and unirrigated properties have also been assessed for availability of existing groundwater supply of domestic and stockwater. A search of the Canterbury Maps website was undertaken to assess the presence of consented wells. It is noted that drilling of wells and taking of stockwater no longer require consent and some properties may have well supply and not show on the Canterbury Maps system.

Installation of new wells has been considered as an alternative to supply groundwater for stockwater purposes. Assessment of the cost of installing a new well supply for stockwater concluded that this option is likely to be significantly more expensive than other options and prohibitive over 100m well depth. Using the Piezometric Contours data on Canterbury Maps the new well option was restricted to east of Rokeby.

4.6 Not required

There are a number of small properties in the area assessed that are owned by ADC. These are primarily shingle pits and have been assessed as not requiring a supply of stockwater.

There are also some larger properties owned by ADC that are leased to adjoining landowners. These properties have been assessed as to whether an alternative is available to ADC or the lessee.

4.7 Other

Lyndhurst Water Scheme Co-operative Ltd own and operate a stockwater and household water scheme in the Lyndhurst area. The scheme has a delivery pipe along the Lauriston Barrhill Road that delivers water to the Barrhill village. Discussion with a scheme representative concluded that there is limited capacity available to deliver water to the properties affected by the proposed race network closure although some connections may be available from the pipeline to Barrhill.

5. Process

ADC provided a spreadsheet of identified properties with owners and property details and numerous maps showing properties affected by the proposed race network closure. Maps of Spaxton and BCI networks and supplied properties were also provided.

A reconciliation was undertaken with the BCI and Spaxton shareholder lists to confirm the data was up to date. Discussion with both parties was also had to confirm potential areas that stockwater could be supplied.

The Canterbury Maps resource consent data website and Prover property identification website were consulted to verify existing property information and alternatives in place.

The spreadsheet of properties provided by ADC was updated to show alternatives and volumes of water required for each property. Properties requiring an alternative stockwater supply were mapped on Google Earth to enable further assessment by BCI and Spaxton.

It is noted that within the list of 171 affected properties there were two properties where the property number incorporated a remote smaller title that had a separate race water supply. It is likely that these properties will be subdivided in the future and would require a supply of stockwater from a separate source. Therefore, the assessment was undertaken on the basis of 173 affected properties.

6. Analysis

A desktop property by property analysis was undertaken to consider what alternatives are currently available to properties affected by the proposed race network closure, and what alternatives would need to be developed.

6.1 Requirement for Alternatives

Alternatives already available on properties affected by the proposed closure included existing water supply from BCI, Spaxton, groundwater irrigation, Highbank, own stockwater wells, and areas not requiring a supply.

Where none of the above alternatives were available on a property the required alternatives included options from BCI, Spaxton, rainwater, and new stockwater wells. Some properties were assessed as having more than one alternative, such as a BCI option and a Spaxton option.

The chart below shows that 70% of the properties affected by the proposed race network closure have an existing alternative on their property. This means that only 30%, or 52 properties, may require an alternative to be developed.

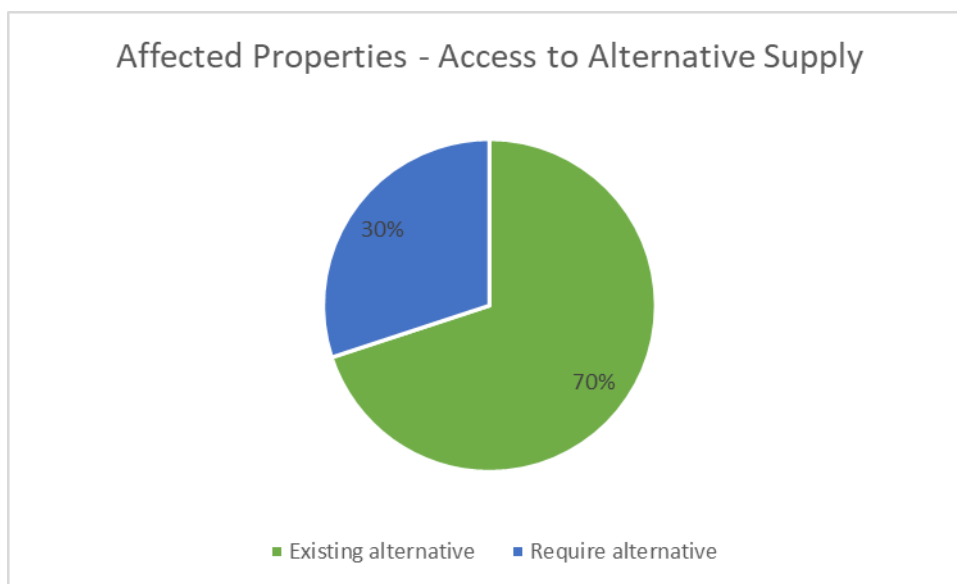


Chart 1. Availability of stockwater alternatives

6.2 Source of Existing Alternatives

The chart below shows the breakdown of the alternatives existing on the assessed properties, being 70% of the total properties assessed. It shows that 86% of properties in this group either do not require a supply or have a Spaxton, BCI or groundwater irrigation supply.

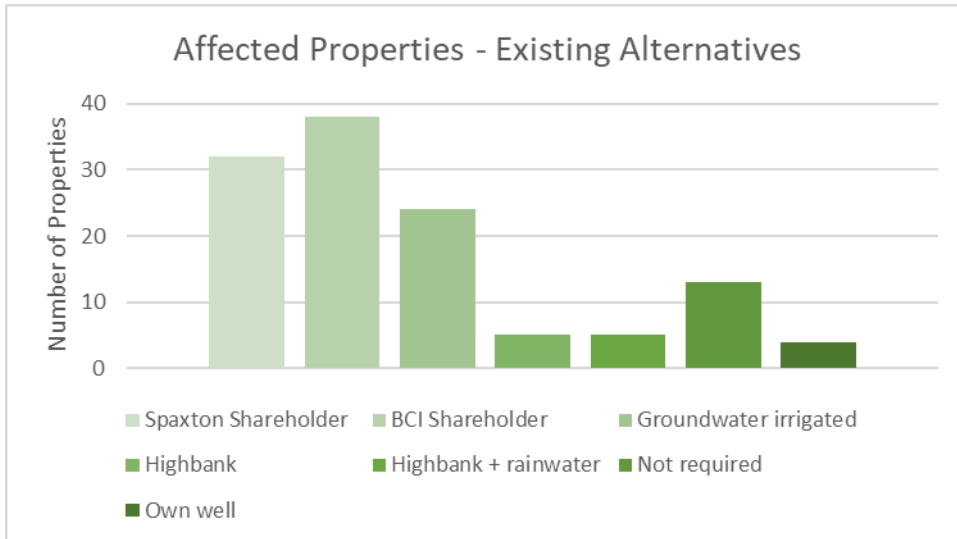


Chart 2. Properties with existing stockwater alternatives

6.3 Required Alternatives

Of the properties without an existing alternative the chart below shows the number of properties that have specific alternatives. 50% of these properties could access their stockwater from either BCI or Spaxton, 44% only have a BCI option, and 6% could install their own well or have a BCI option.

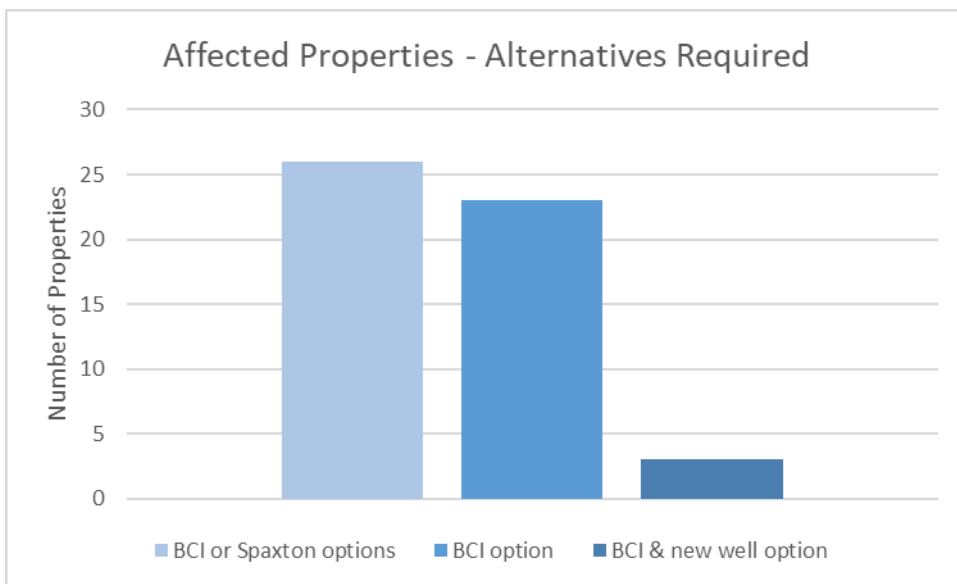


Chart 3. Stockwater options where no existing alternative exists

6.4 Water Requirement

The 51 properties requiring an alternative stockwater supply were assessed for the likely volume of water required. As outlined in the Stockwater Requirements section earlier, this was based on peak demand of 250 litres per hectare per day.

The calculation of peak requirements established that 800,000 litres per day would be required by the properties, or a flow rate of 9 litres per second. This calculation is based on the assumed stockwater requirement of 250 litres per hectare per day over the full property area. Experience in

operating the Spaxton Scheme has shown that average water deliveries are only 40% of peak demand, or 3.6 litres per second. This compares to the current average take of 250 litres per second from the ADC Pudding Hill intake to deliver water through the 220km race network.

The chart below shows the peak and average calculated demand from the alternative stockwater supplies compared to the existing average take from the ADC Pudding Hill intake.

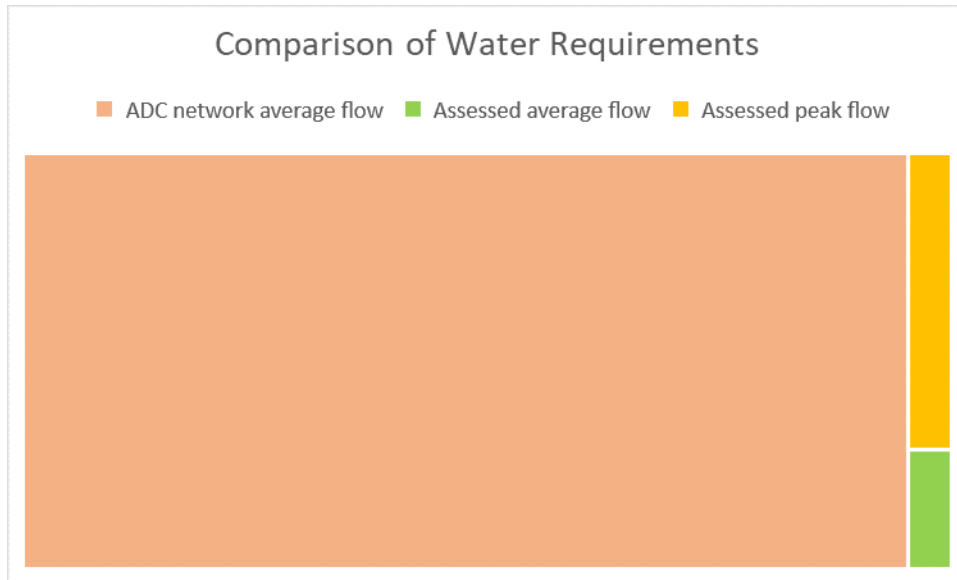


Chart 4. Relative water consumption from existing ADC network and assessed alternatives

6.5 Discussions with Potential Suppliers

Discussions have been held with both BCI and Spaxton regarding the potential supply to the 52 properties assessed as requiring an alternative. Both organisations agree that the potential deliveries assessed are technically feasible from their existing networks and have highlighted the following issues.

BCI representatives have highlighted the following issues that need to be considered before alternative stockwater supplies can be provided.

- Access to road reserve for pipe installation
- Access to stockwater from Rangitata Diversion Race to BCI ponds
- Development of suitable commercial arrangements with stockwater users and ADC to ensure new connections are not subsidised by existing shareholders

Spaxton representatives have highlighted the following issues that need to be considered before alternative stockwater supplies can be provided.

- Access to road reserve for pipe installation
- Access to sufficient consented water from Pudding Hill Stream

Current pricing of installing new well supply was also investigated to enable options to be prioritised where more than one existed.

7. Conclusion

A robust assessment has been undertaken to consider whether suitable alternative stockwater supplies are available to properties affected by the proposed closure of the Ashburton District Council Pudding Hill intake and downstream race network.

The assessment highlighted that 70% of the 171 affected properties identified by Ashburton District Council had an existing source of water that could be utilised to provide stockwater. Of the remaining 30% of properties, it was assessed that all had a feasible supply alternative, primarily through Spaxton Stock Water Limited or Barrhill Chertsey Irrigation Limited.

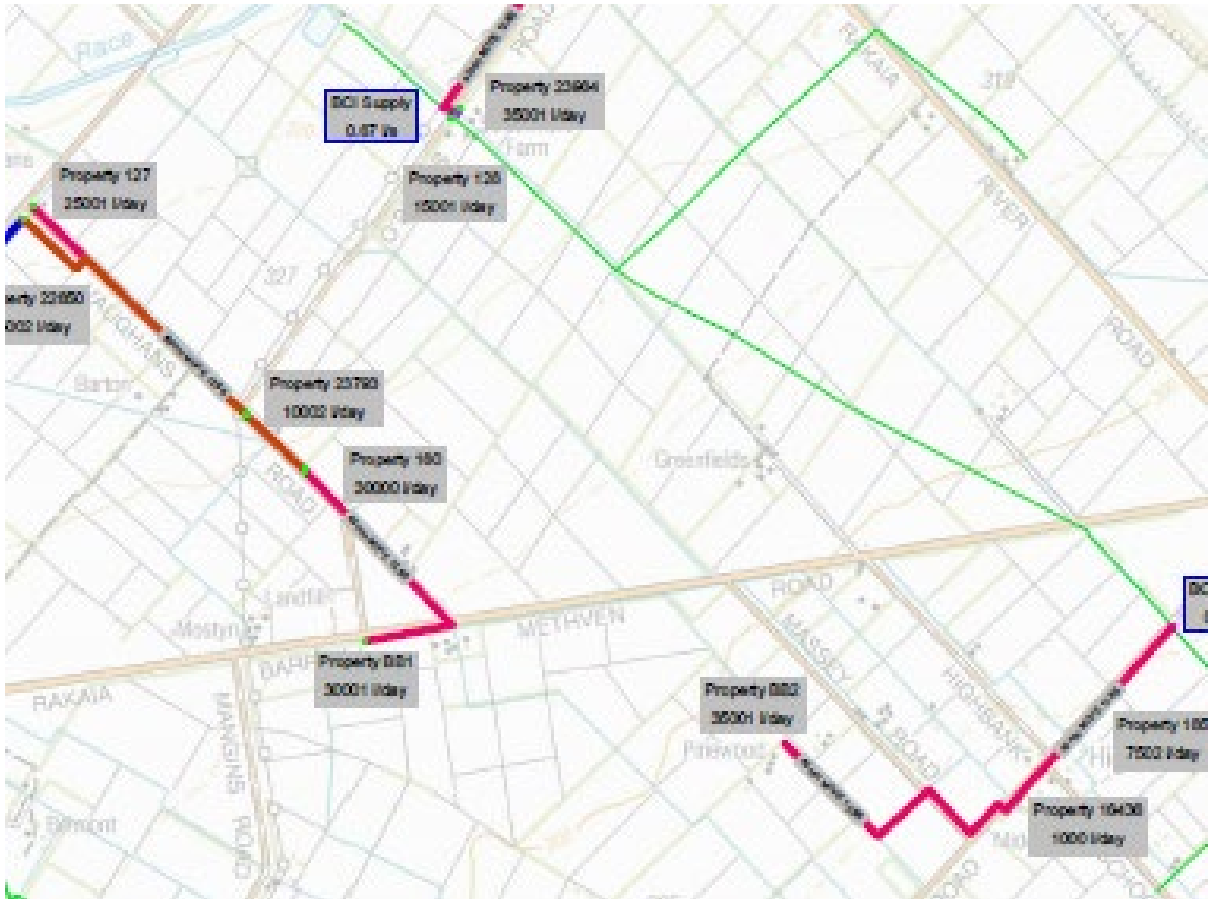
8. Appendices

Updated Property Schedule – electronically

GIS data of properties requiring alternative supply – kmz file

Summary presentation – ppt file

Puttering Hill Intake Closure Detailed Assessment of Alternatives



12 March 2024

John Wright
Melius Limited
50 Longhurst Terrace
Cashmere
Christchurch

0274 362 358
john@melius.nz

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1. Executive Summary

Following the ADC survey, parties representing 99 of the affected 178 properties were contacted and their stockwater needs discussed. These parties included those who responded to the ADC survey signalling that they required an alternative supply, and some who did not respond but had obvious requirements.

Consultation with affected parties has concluded that 48 properties require alternative supply of stockwater should the proposed Pudding Hill Intake closure proceed. The remaining properties already had alternative supplies, primarily from irrigation systems or an alternative stockwater scheme.

Hydraulic modelling was undertaken to establish the feasibility of delivering to those properties from existing Barrhill Chertsey Irrigation Limited (BCI) and Spaxton Stockwater Limited (Spaxton) infrastructure. That modelling determined the deliveries were technically feasible, primarily from BCI.

Pricing of the required new infrastructure was based on recent project information and pipe sizing from the hydraulic modelling. The most cost-effective capital cost to enable delivery to all 48 properties was in the order of \$716,000 through BCI infrastructure.



2. Background

In September 2022 Melius Limited presented the Ashburton District Council (ADC) an Initial Assessment of Alternative Supply for properties affected by the proposed closure of the Pudding Hill Intake. The report summarised a desktop assessment of alternatives considered and analysed which were suitable for each of the 171 rateable properties affected by the proposed closure.

Following review of that report, ADC undertook a survey of properties affected by the proposed closure. Melius Limited was then asked to undertake further analysis to confirm which of the survey respondents indicating they did not support the closure required an alternative supply and, from there, establish the feasibility of providing that supply.

This report summarises the further analysis.

3. Methodology

Melius Limited was provided with the full survey responses from representatives of properties affected by the proposed closure. Personal contact was made with all the representatives who indicated in the survey that they did not support the proposed closure to establish if an alternative was required or whether their lack of support was for other reasons. An assessment was also made of the parties who did not respond to the survey and a number of those were contacted on the basis that they likely needed an alternative supply. This process is further outlined in the Consultation section below.

Discussions were undertaken with both BCI and Spaxton to assess their interest in providing alternative supplies to the affected parties. Both potential suppliers provided schematics of their existing pipe networks and hydraulic model data to enable analysis of the feasibility and costing of providing the alternative supplies.

Once the extent of the properties requiring an alternative supply was confirmed, an analysis was undertaken of the infrastructure required to supply those properties. The majority of the properties could only feasibly be supplied by BCI and a smaller number near Methven could potentially be supplied by BCI or Spaxton.

Following the design of the required infrastructure, an indicative pricing analysis was undertaken to establish the estimated capital cost of providing an alternative supply. In discussions with BCI and Spaxton, a potential business case was developed to understand the up-front capital cost and on-going annual charge for the alternative supplies.

The result of the analysis has not been communicated to affected parties.

4. Consultation

4.1 Affected Parties

The chart below shows the responses to the survey undertaken in March 2023. Of the 173 properties surveyed, 81 supported the closure and 49 did not support the closure. There was no response from 43 properties.

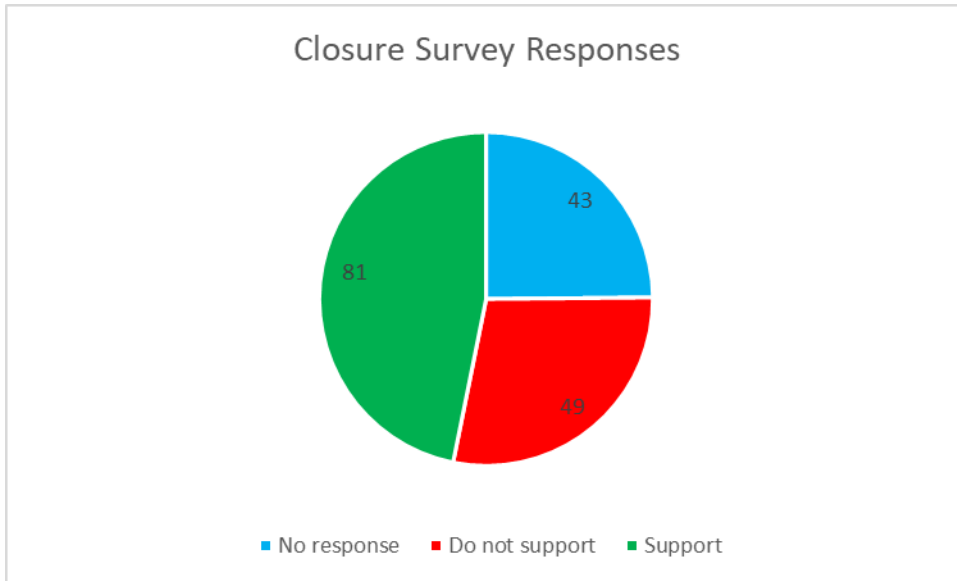


Chart 1. Responses to the survey on potential closure of the Pudding Hill Intake

From July 2023 to October 2023 contact was made with parties representing 99 of the 173 properties surveyed. Parties contacted included;

- 49 representing properties who did not support the closure.
- 20 representing properties who did support the closure but indicated they may need an alternative or wanted other issues resolved.
- 30 representing properties who did not respond.

Representatives were asked whether they required an alternative supply and any specific requirements of that supply (such as delivery point and volume). A schedule of alternative supply requirements was developed and analysis concluded that alternative supplies were required to 48 properties.

Most parties were not clear on the volume of their existing water use from the ADC race network. Unless a specific daily volume was specified, a standard delivery of 250 litres/hectare/day was factored in the alternative supply design. This volume is likely to be in excess of the current demand and also more reliable through a piped delivery system.

4.2 Potential Supply

Discussions had been held with a number of potential supply organisations in preparation of the Initial Assessment of Alternative Supply report. Two individual supply options were also considered.

Once the schedule of properties requiring an alternative was completed, and based on the discussions held with those parties, it was clear that BCI was the only feasible alternative for the majority of the required alternative supplies and Spaxton may be able to deliver to a proportion.

Further discussions were had with BCI management and the Board of Spaxton. Both parties were comfortable to provide access to their infrastructure schematics and hydraulic models to enable the analysis of feasibility of supply from those infrastructure owners. Neither BCI nor Spaxton has

committed to provide the alternative supplies but both have been provided the relevant information included in this report to consider if the business case meets their expectations.

5. Design

Delivery points for the required alternative supplies were plotted spatially and then delivery infrastructure incorporated into the Irricad hydraulic model of the BCI and Spaxton networks as appropriate. The Irricad model allows pipe sizing and delivery pressure to be optimised.

Delivery points were located in order to optimise the delivery network although some preferred farm locations specified by affected parties were accommodated.

5.1 BCI Supply

The following schematics show the layout of the required infrastructure to deliver to each of the alternative supplies from the BCI network. The larger schematics are not clear enough to provide full detail and are included to give an impression of the extent of the required infrastructure. The green lines on the plans are existing BCI infrastructure.

Chart 2 shows the typical output of the Irricad hydraulic modelling process where property details, daily water supply requirements, and pipe sizes are shown.

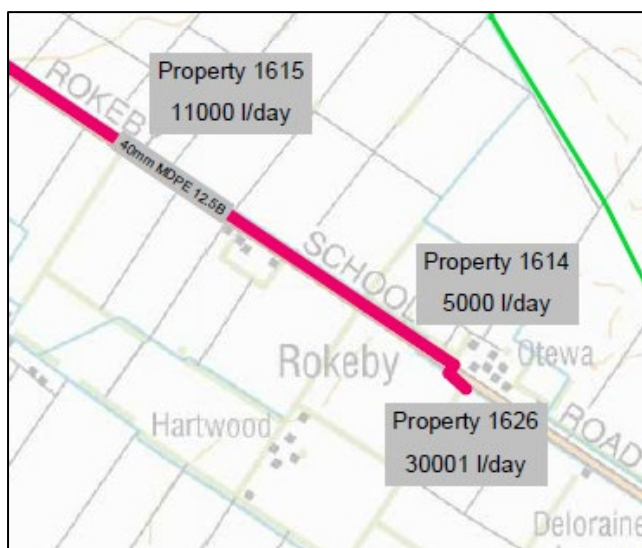


Chart 2. Example of Irricad output.

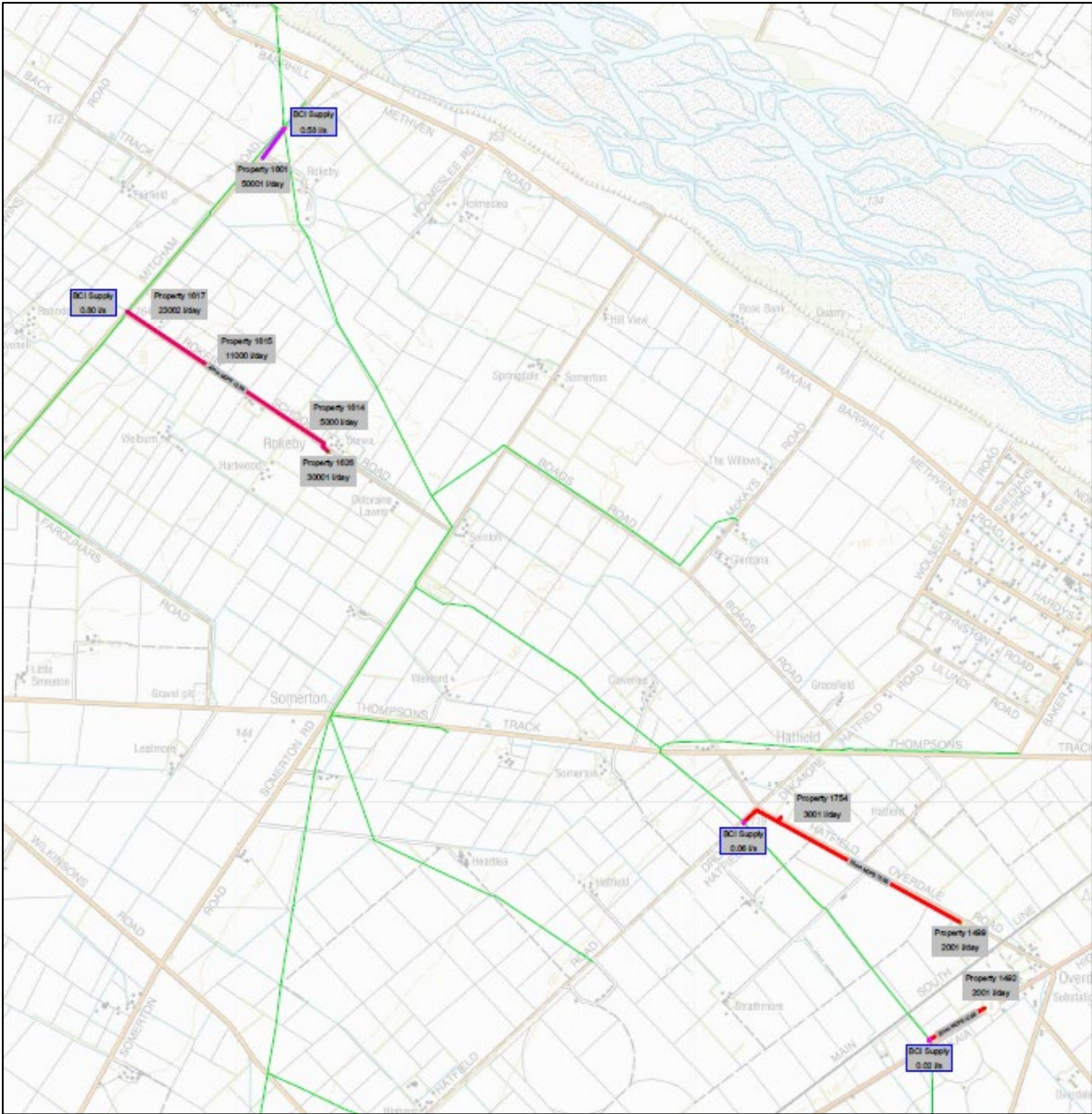


Chart 3. Rokeby and Overdale infrastructure requirements.

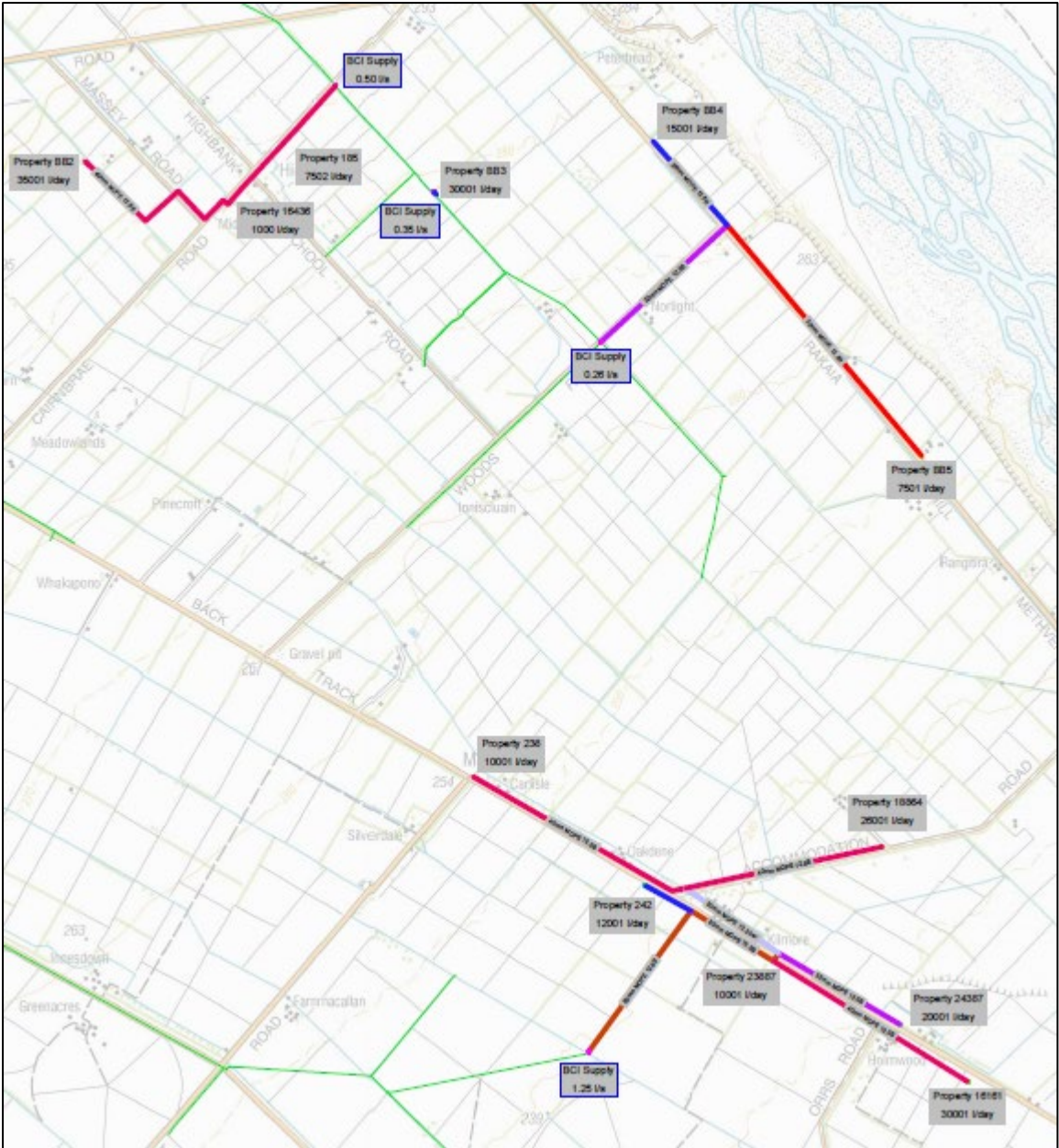


Chart 4. Highbank and Barrhill infrastructure requirements.

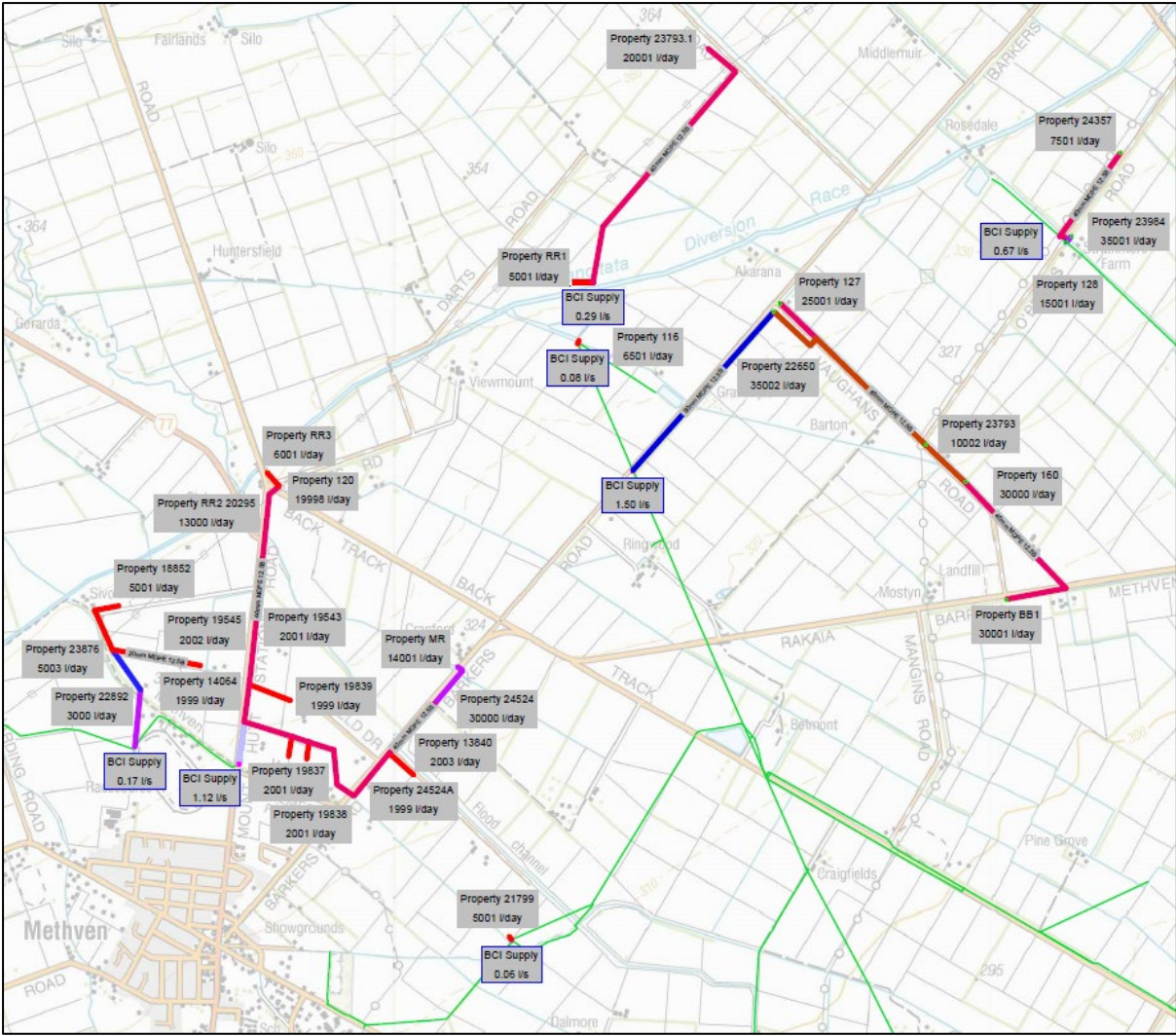


Chart 5. Methven infrastructure requirements.

5.2 Spaxton Supply

The following schematic shows the layout of the required infrastructure to deliver from Spaxton to a smaller group of properties where the Spaxton supply was deemed feasible.

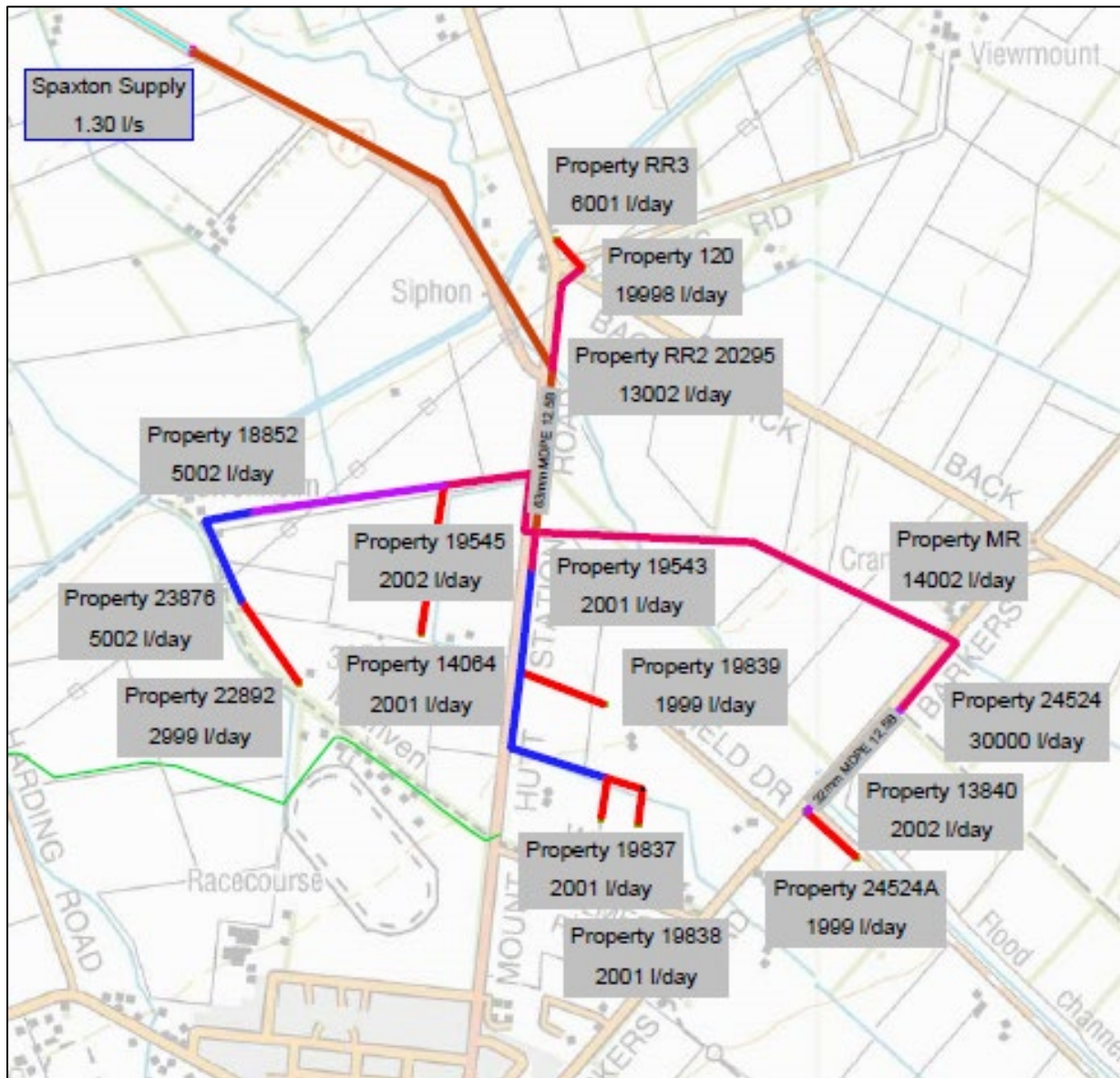


Chart 6. Methven infrastructure for Spaxton option.

6. Pricing

On completion of the design options a schedule of materials and other costs was prepared for each of the options. These are high level costs including materials, installation, traffic management and project management and are based on costs incurred in recent similar projects.

The costs have been analysed in three options.

- The Methven group shown in chart 6. based on a supply from Spaxton – Zone 1.
- The Methven group shown in chart 6. based on a supply from BCI – Zone 1.

- The remaining group based on a supply from BCI – Zone 2.

The following schedules outline the estimated capital cost of providing the alternative supplies.

Item	Description	Preferred Supplier/s	Code	Quantity	Unit	Rate	Total
Section A - HDPE Pipe							
A.1	20mm HDPE PN12.5			1800	m	\$2.31	\$4,165.20
A.2	25mm HDPE PN12.5			2400	m	\$2.07	\$4,960.80
A.3	32mm HDPE PN12.5			1100	m	\$2.38	\$2,616.90
A.4	40mm HDPE PN12.5			2700	m	\$3.13	\$8,459.10
A.6	63mm HDPE PN12.5			2200	m	\$6.71	\$14,757.60
Section A Total				10200	m		\$34,959.60
Section B - Pipe Installation							
B.1	Moleploughing			10200	m	\$6.50	\$66,300.00
B.2	Laying out pipe			10200	m	\$1.30	\$13,260.00
B.3	GPR			20	hrs	\$234.00	\$4,680.00
B.4	Traffic Management			20	days	\$650.00	\$13,000.00
B.7	Establishment etc			1	LS	\$3,900.00	\$3,900.00
B.8	Accommodation, Travel etc			1	LS	\$2,600.00	\$2,600.00
Section B Total							\$103,740.00
Section C - Fittings							
C.1	PE Pipe fittings allowance			1	LS	\$2,272.37	\$2,272.37
C.2	Connection to Spaxton			2	ea	\$3,250.00	\$6,500.00
C.3	Property stockwater offtakes			17	ea	\$1,950.00	\$33,150.00
C.4	Installation			19	LS	\$561.60	\$10,670.40
Section C Total							\$52,592.77
OVERALL TOTAL							\$191,292.37

Chart 7. Capital cost of Zone 1 infrastructure from Spaxton.

Item	Description	Preferred Supplier/s	Code	Quantity	Unit	Rate	Total
Section A - HDPE Pipe							
A.1	20mm HDPE PN12.5			2000	m	\$2.31	\$4,628.00
A.2	25mm HDPE PN12.5			350	m	\$2.07	\$723.45
A.3	32mm HDPE PN12.5			700	m	\$2.38	\$1,665.30
A.4	40mm HDPE PN12.5			5500	m	\$3.13	\$17,231.50
A.5	50mm HDPE PN12.5			300	m	\$4.30	\$1,290.90
Section A Total				8850	m		\$25,539.15
Section B - Pipe Installation							
B.1	Moleploughing			8850	m	\$6.50	\$57,525.00
B.2	Laying out pipe			8850	m	\$1.30	\$11,505.00
B.3	GPR			20	hrs	\$234.00	\$4,680.00
B.4	Traffic Management			20	days	\$650.00	\$13,000.00
B.7	Establishment etc			1	LS	\$3,900.00	\$3,900.00
B.8	Accommodation, Travel etc			1	LS	\$2,600.00	\$2,600.00
Section B Total							\$93,210.00
Section C - Fittings							
C.1	PE Pipe fittings allowance			1	LS	\$1,660.04	\$1,660.04
C.2	Connection to BCI			3	ea	\$3,250.00	\$9,750.00
C.3	Property stockwater offtakes			17	ea	\$1,950.00	\$33,150.00
C.4	Installation			20	LS	\$561.60	\$11,232.00
Section C Total							\$55,792.04
OVERALL TOTAL							\$174,541.19

Chart 8. Capital cost of Zone 1 infrastructure from BCI.

Item	Description	Preferred Supplier/s	Code	Quantity	Unit	Cost	Markup	Rate	Total
Section A - HDPE Pipe									
A.1	20mm HDPE PN12.5			5100	m	\$1.78	30%	\$2.31	\$11,801.40
A.2	25mm HDPE PN12.5			1200	m	\$1.59	30%	\$2.07	\$2,480.40
A.3	32mm HDPE PN12.5			2500	m	\$1.83	30%	\$2.38	\$5,947.50
A.4	40mm HDPE PN12.5			11600	m	\$2.41	30%	\$3.13	\$36,342.80
A.5	50mm HDPE PN12.5			800	m	\$3.31	30%	\$4.30	\$3,442.40
A.6	63mm HDPE PN12.5			3700	m	\$5.16	30%	\$6.71	\$24,819.60
A.7	90mm HDPE PN12.5			1400	m	\$10.36	30%	\$13.47	\$18,855.20
Section A Total				26300	m				\$103,689.30
Section B - Pipe Installation									
B.1	Moleploughing			26300	m	\$5.00	30%	\$6.50	\$170,950.00
B.2	Laying out pipe			26300	m	\$1.00	30%	\$1.30	\$34,190.00
B.3	GPR			80	hrs	\$180.00	30%	\$234.00	\$18,720.00
B.4	Traffic Management			120	days	\$500.00	30%	\$650.00	\$78,000.00
B.7	Establishment etc			1	LS	\$5,000.00	30%	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00
B.8	Accommodation, Travel etc			1	LS	\$4,000.00	30%	\$5,200.00	\$5,200.00
Section B Total									\$313,560.00
Section C - Fittings									
C.1	PE Pipe fittings allowance			1	LS	\$5,184.47	30%	\$6,739.80	\$6,739.80
C.2	Connection to BCI			13	ea	\$2,500.00	30%	\$3,250.00	\$42,250.00
C.3	Property stockwater offtakes			31	ea	\$1,500.00	30%	\$1,950.00	\$60,450.00
C.4	Installation			26	LS	\$432.00	30%	\$561.60	\$14,601.60
Section C Total									\$124,041.40
OVERALL TOTAL									\$541,290.70

Chart 9. Capital cost of Zone 2 infrastructure from BCI.

7. Business Cases

Irrigation and stockwater scheme experience is that the socialisation of costs is the most appropriate way of getting support for a project such as the potential Pudding Hill Intake closure. Looking at individual connection costs creates winners and losers when in reality the whole project will only proceed if all participants have an economically viable alternative. The following financial business cases have been prepared on that basis.

The capital cost of infrastructure to deliver to the 17 Zone 1 (adjacent to Methven) properties is slightly more cost effective from BCI than it is from Spaxton. Supply to the Zone 2 properties can only practically be delivered by BCI. The capital cost of infrastructure for Zone 1 and Zone 2 from BCI is around \$716,000. Spaxton infrastructure for Zone 1 would cost an additional \$17,000. On that basis a financial business case was developed for BCI to install infrastructure for both Zone 1 and Zone 2.

7.1 BCI

The concept discussed with BCI was that new connections to their network would make a capital contribution and then an ongoing annual charge. The capital contribution would seek to meet as much of the capital cost as possible while remaining reasonable to the parties requiring an alternative stockwater supply.

Review of other stockwater scheme charges suggested [REDACTED] was a reasonable minimum capital charge for connections less than 10,000 litres per day and that it was also reasonable to charge more for larger connections. On that basis the following up-front costs were proposed based on the daily

volume of supply required on the property. The combined contribution meets close to [redacted] of the capital cost of installing the required infrastructure.

Combined Capital Cost			\$ 715,291
Capital Contribution			
litres per day	no. supplies	Proposed cost	Total
1000	1	[redacted]	[redacted]
2000	10	[redacted]	[redacted]
3000	2	[redacted]	[redacted]
5000	5	[redacted]	[redacted]
6500	2	[redacted]	[redacted]
7500	3	[redacted]	[redacted]
10000	3	[redacted]	[redacted]
11000	1	[redacted]	[redacted]
12000	2	[redacted]	[redacted]
15000	3	[redacted]	[redacted]
20000	3	[redacted]	[redacted]
23000	1	[redacted]	[redacted]
25000	1	[redacted]	[redacted]
26000	1	[redacted]	[redacted]
30000	6	[redacted]	[redacted]
35000	3	[redacted]	[redacted]
50000	1	[redacted]	[redacted]
Total	48		
To finance			

Chart 10. Proposed up-front cost of new connections.

[redacted]

It is acknowledged that the capital cost of the new connections would be significantly higher if the existing BCI network was not in place and potentially available to deliver stockwater to the affected properties. There is, inherently, an element of subsidy which is accepted and justified on the basis that BCI shareholders benefit from the race closure and have a strong community value. [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

The proposed terms allow for the remaining [redacted] of the capital cost of the new infrastructure to be financed while making a contribution to the operation and maintenance of the new connections. It is expected that the charge will continue beyond the [redacted] debt repayment period which will coincide with increased maintenance requirements on the new connections.

The chart below shows the proposed annual charge for the various connection daily volumes based on the proposed finance terms. The minimum annual charge of [redacted] was based on the review of charges in other stockwater schemes. [redacted]

Annual Charge			
litres per day	no. supplies	Proposed cost	Total
1000	1		
2000	10		
3000	2		
5000	5		
6500	2		
7500	3		
10000	3		
11000	1		
12000	2		
15000	3		
20000	3		
23000	1		
25000	1		
26000	1		
30000	6		
35000	3		
50000	1		
	48		

Chart 11. Proposed annual cost of new connections.

This financial business case assumes the following;

- ADC makes stockwater available to BCI via the RDR at no cost.
- ADC makes road reserves available for infrastructure installation at no cost.
- There is no cost of easements in the capital cost.

BCI have reviewed the information provided in this report and are comfortable with the accuracy of the high-level analysis. **Note: BCI have conveyed that they need to do further analysis before they can commit to supporting the new connections to their network.**

7.2 Spaxton

As noted above, the additional cost of utilising Spaxton for the Zone 1 connections is around \$17,000.

Spaxton have a set policy for annual charges and new connection fees. Annual charges are based on [redacted] per litre available per day and the new connection charge is equivalent of the charges paid by other shareholders since the inception of the scheme in 2013. On that basis, a 10,000 litre per day connection would have a capital cost in the order of [redacted].

Collectively the group of 17 new connections would contribute [REDACTED] under the standard Spaxton connection charge which is around [REDACTED] of the capital cost of that option. Where Spaxton has accommodated new connections in the past, the connection charge has met the connection cost. Spaxton have not confirmed whether they are comfortable to offer a delivery option where they need to fund the remaining [REDACTED] of the capital cost or whether they would seek to on-charge the full capital cost as a connection charge.

Spaxton also have a minimum [REDACTED] litre per day connection. This will need to be discussed further.

On balance, potential supply from Spaxton appears less economic than supply from BCI. There may be some individual supplies that are suitable from Spaxton but this can only be determined in the next stage of confirming individual property requirements.

8. Other Considerations

At least 10 of the required connections in Zone 1 already have a potable water connection from ADC. It may be more cost effective to increase those supplies to meet stockwater demand on those properties. A review of infrastructure would ascertain any capacity limitations.

The modelled demand from the alternative connections is in the order of 8 litres per second. This compares to the current 300 – 400 litres per second taken at the Pudding Hill Intake. As noted above, BCI would expect ADC to make sufficient water available from the RDR and this would be in the order of [REDACTED] litres per second to meet demand and some headpond losses.

It is possible that some of the indicated new connections do not proceed once the commercial terms are provided. In the worst-case scenario this may impact on the wider business case, although an economic uptake threshold is difficult to establish. By way of example, if uptake is 50% and is concentrated on the upstream end of the new networks then the current pricing would not likely change. However, if uptake was 50% and concentrated at the downstream end of the new networks the pricing could increase by 50%. Proposed pricing of new connections should be presented to affected parties with a disclaimer outlining the proposal's reliance on a reasonable spread of support.

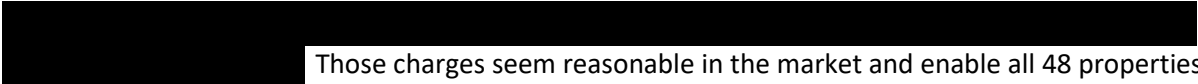
9. Conclusion

Following the ADC survey, parties representing 99 of the affected 178 properties were contacted and their stockwater needs discussed. These parties included those who responded to the ADC survey that they required an alternative supply, and some who did not respond, but who had obvious requirements.

Consultation with affected parties has concluded that 48 properties require alternative supply of stockwater should the proposed Pudding Hill Intake closure proceed. The remaining properties already had alternative supplies, primarily from irrigation systems or an alternative stockwater scheme.

Hydraulic modelling was undertaken to establish the feasibility of delivering to those properties from existing BCI and Spaxton infrastructure. That modelling determined the deliveries were technically feasible, primarily from BCI.

Pricing of the required new infrastructure was based on recent project information and pipe sizing from the hydraulic modelling. The most cost-effective capital cost to enable delivery to all 48 properties was in the order of \$716,000 through BCI infrastructure.

 Those charges seem reasonable in the market and enable all 48 properties to have a financially viable alternative delivery option.

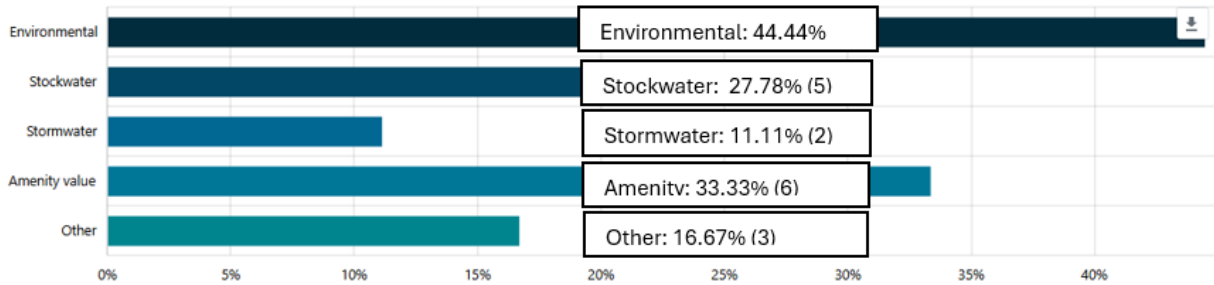
5. *Pudding Hill Intake – wider community engagement*

Author *Andrew Guthrie; Assets Manager*
Executive Team Member *Neil McCann; Group Manager-Infrastructure & Open Spaces*

1. Following the Stockwater Exit Transition Plan programme, the wider stakeholder engagement part of the Pudding Hill Intake consultation has commenced.
2. There is an online feedback / survey form on Council's website under the Stockwater Exit Transition Programme web page.
3. The survey opened on Wednesday 12 February with a closing date of Tuesday 4 March.
4. A drop-in session was held at the Mt Hutt Memorial Hall on the evening of 19 February which 60 people attended. Cr Wilson spoke of Council's intention to exit the delivery of stockwater and encouraged the attendees to provide their feedback to Council. The initial feedback suggests there is support for retaining at least an environmental flow through the Mt Harding Creek.
5. A summary of the survey results as of 25 February are on the following page. Further updates will be provided at the 6 March STWG meeting.

5 What is your interest in the Pudding Hill race?

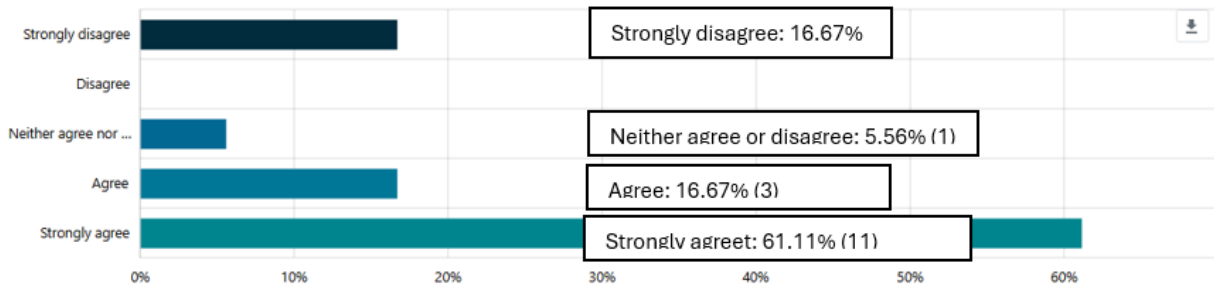
Multi Choice | Skipped: 1 | Answered: 18 (94.74%)



[View contribution data](#)

6 Should Council prioritise maintaining an environmental flow in the Mt Harding Creek system?

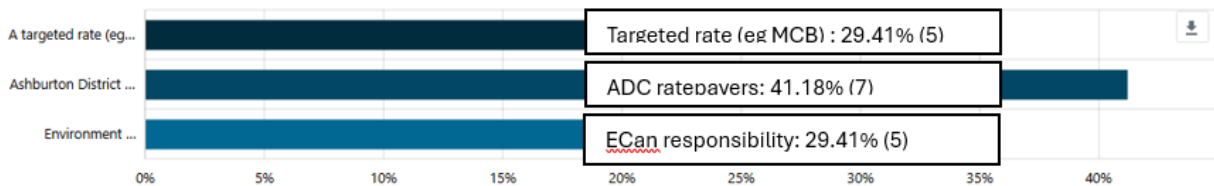
Multi Choice | Skipped: 1 | Answered: 18 (94.74%)



[View contribution data](#)

7 If Council or another party maintain an environmental flow in the Mt Harding Creek system, who should manage and/or pay?

Multi Choice | Skipped: 2 | Answered: 17 (89.47%)



Andrew Guthrie
Assets Manager

Neil McCann
GM Infrastructure & Open Spaces

6. *Methven Auxiliary Intake – closure investigation*

Author *Andrew Guthrie; Assets Manager*
Executive Team Member *Neil McCann; Group Manager-Infrastructure & Open Spaces*

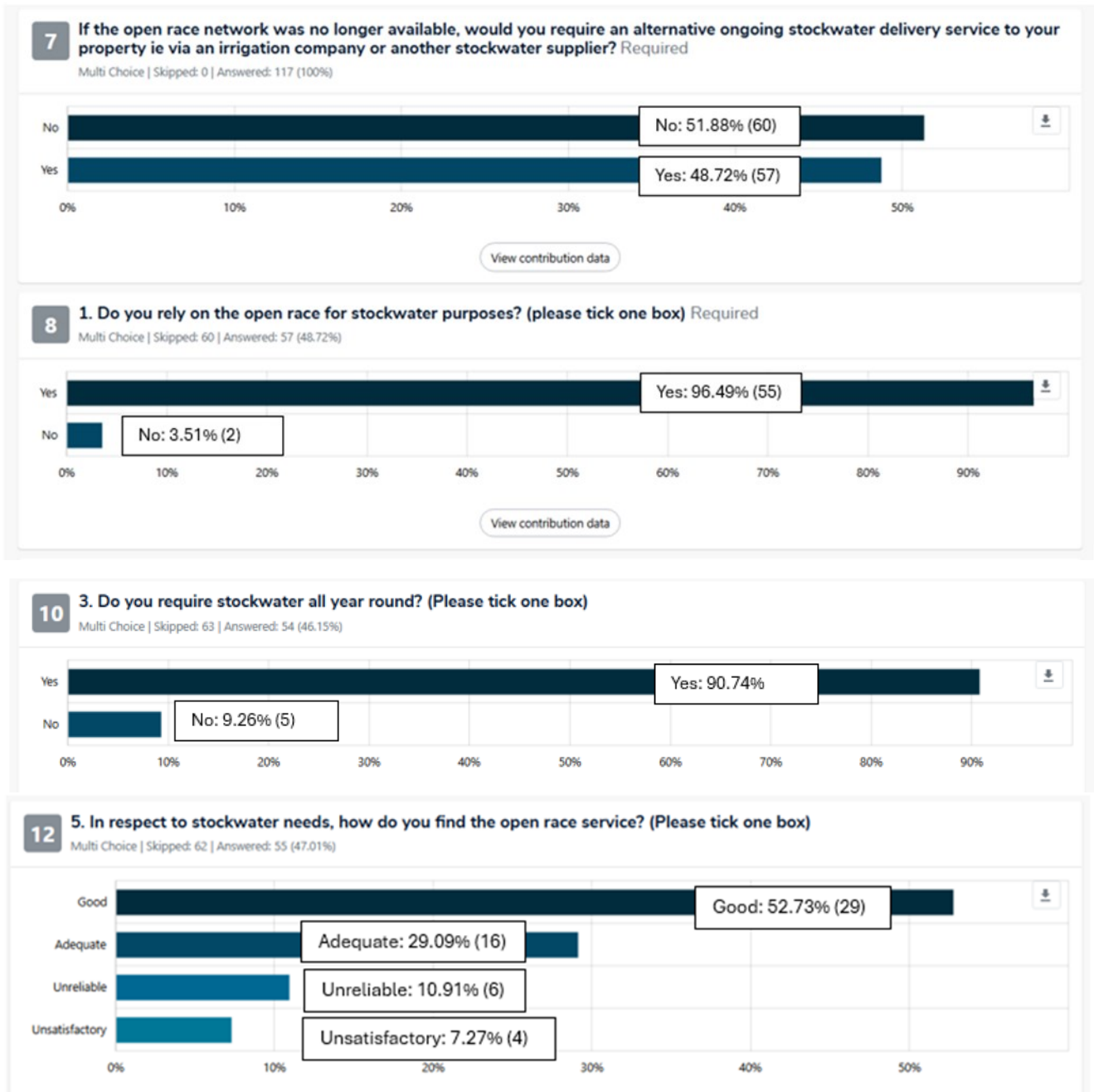
The Methven Auxiliary Intake network

1. The Methven Auxiliary stockwater intake is located on the true left bank of the Ashburton River North Branch and is accessed from Ashburton River Road.
2. While the Methven Auxiliary intake is not documented in the ArchSite database, it was established not long after the Pudding Hill race due to the Pudding Hill race not being able to supply adequate amounts of water to meet demand.
3. The intake currently services an expansive area of the total network. Key statistics of race network supplied by Methven Auxiliary intake are as follows:
 - Total race network supplied ~310 km comprising;
 - 51.2 km main race;
 - 247.4 km local race;
 - 11.3 km natural waterway (Mt Harding Creek);
 - 208 rateable properties;
 - 124 road culverts;
 - 2 siphons under the Rangitata Diversion Race;
4. The Methven Auxiliary intake normally abstracts ~320 litres/second but can peak at ~500 litres/second for short periods of time.

2025 Initial Investigation work

5. On 25 January 2025, 208 introductory letters and survey forms were posted to landowners who pay stockwater rates and receive their stockwater from the Methven Auxiliary intake.
6. The surveys could be completed by either returning the hardcopy form or completing it online at a link or a QR code provided to them in the letter and on the hardcopy form.
7. The initial survey closure date was 17 February, however at that date only 47% of the surveys had been received. The decision was made to push the closing date to Monday 3 March.

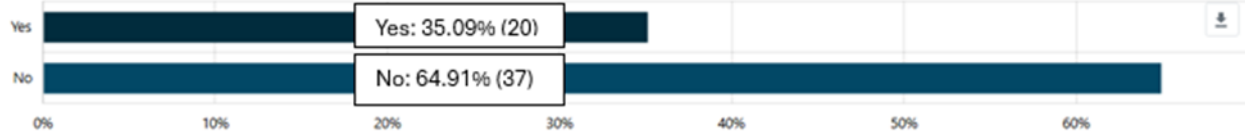
8. Reminder letters were sent the week of 24 February to those property owners for whom ADC has no contact details, and emails to those for whom ADC has email addresses.
9. As of 25 February, 117 responses have been received (note however that 3 are 'double ups' ie 3 property number have been entered twice). The 114 received equals a return of 54%. Further updates will be provided at the 6 March STWG meeting.
10. Some of the results as of 25 February include:



17

10. Do you have a groundwater bore (well) on your property? (Please tick one box)

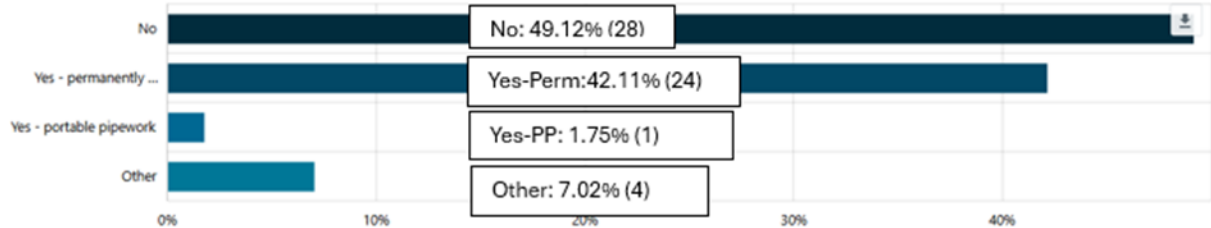
Multi Choice | Skipped: 60 | Answered: 57 (48.72%)



21

13. Do you have an irrigation system on your property? (Please tick one box)

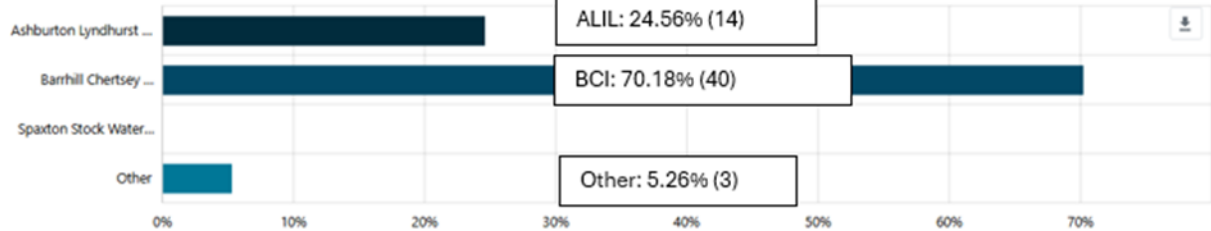
Multi Choice | Skipped: 60 | Answered: 57 (48.72%)

[View contribution data](#)

22

14. Which piped irrigation or stockwater scheme is closest to your property (Please tick one box)

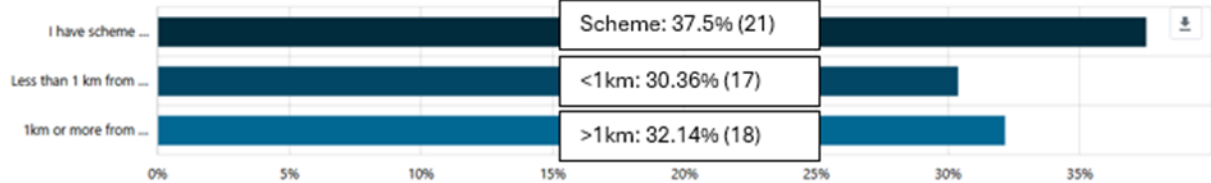
Multi Choice | Skipped: 60 | Answered: 57 (48.72%)

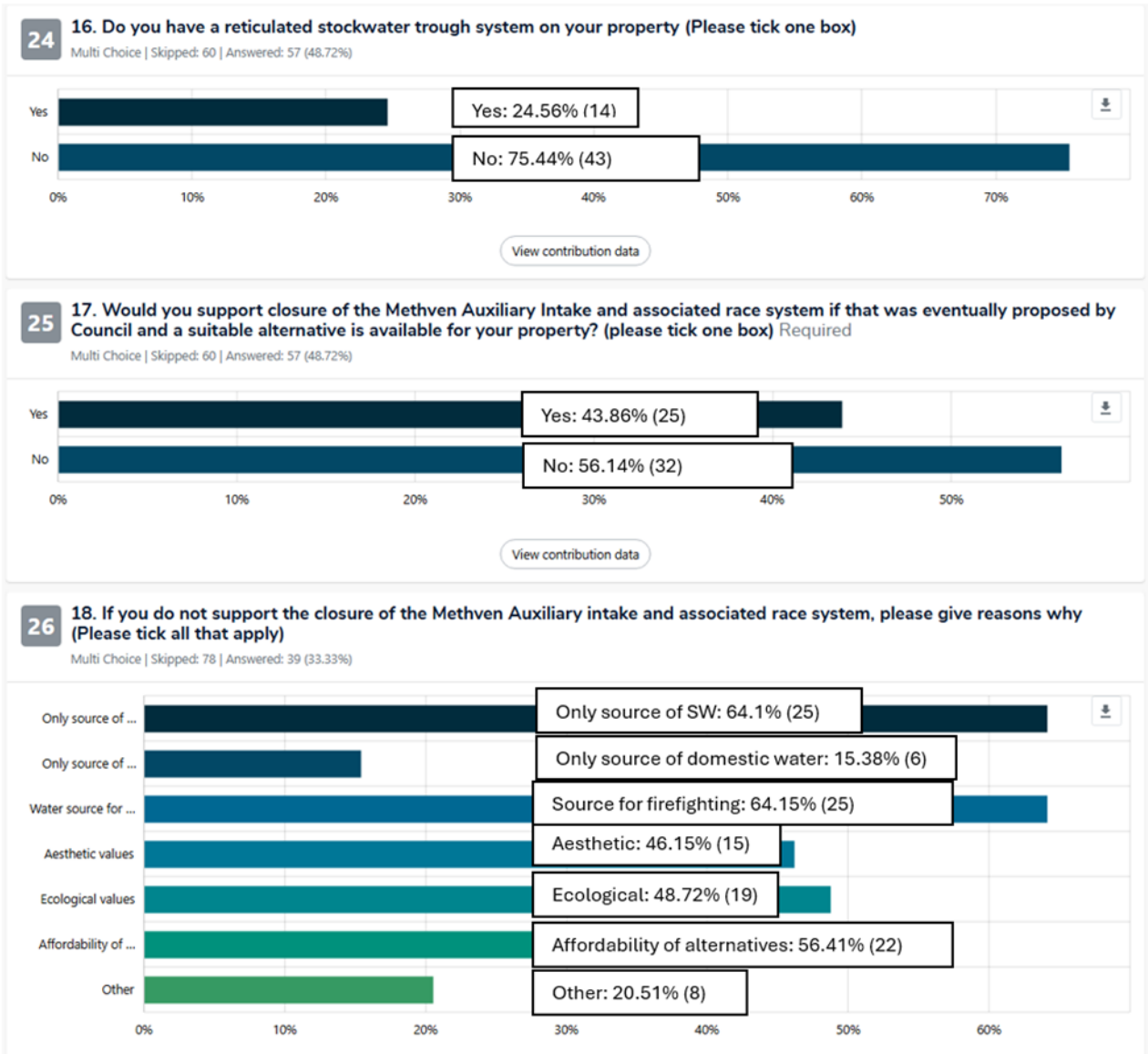
[View contribution data](#)

23

15. Approximately how far is the scheme pipework from your property (Please tick one box)

Multi Choice | Skipped: 61 | Answered: 56 (47.86%)





Next Phases of Work

11. The draft ecological report for the Pudding Hill network has been reviewed and will be finalised by the consultant in the coming weeks. We intend to commission similar scope of work for the Methven Auxiliary race network; however, it is anticipated that much of the Pudding Hill work will be transferable to the Methven Auxiliary network. However, we expect that additional field sample sites will need to be formally surveyed to ensure the robustness of any final report.
12. A water balance report project brief is currently being priced by three consultants – Beca, WSP and Aqualinc. The brief requires the successful service provider to undertake accurate flow monitoring at 18 key locations along Mt Harding Creek, and prepare / develop a formal water balance for the Creek by documenting the inflows from the ADC network (specifically from the Pudding Hill & Methven Auxiliary intake mains) and other sources, outflows to the ADC network, and losses (where identified) and provide any additional relevant analysis or other observations. The final report is to be with Council in early April.

13. Cultural and archaeological assessments will be undertaken along with stormwater/drainage investigations.
14. Part of a more general task, we are preparing a summary of property details where intakes structures and intake supply channels exist to confirm ownership status of the affected parcels. Land ownership adjacent to rivers and streams can be quite complex and the information will inform future works.

Andrew Guthrie
Assets Manager

Neil McCann
GM Infrastructure & Open Spaces

Stockwater Transition Working Group

Terms of Reference

Background

- 1.** Council have decided to cease delivering the stockwater service by 30 June 2027. Funding has been included for a managed and inclusive exit from the Council delivery of the stockwater service.
- 2.** The key reasons for Council ceasing to deliver stockwater by 30 June 2027 are:
 - The stockwater network is an ageing and inefficient method of delivering water for livestock to farms.
 - Maintaining the system is getting costlier because the infrastructure is aging and needs replacement. Many components, related to the channels (e.g. gates, pipes, pumps) will need replacing over the next few decades.
 - The service relies on having sufficient water in the system to keep the water flowing. During summer, water sources often dry up, meaning we can't always guarantee the service.
 - There are other, more modern ways for properties to get water. A lot of people who pay for this service don't use it because they've found more efficient ways to get water, such as through irrigation schemes.
 - Stockwater is currently funded by all properties that have a race, aqueducts or water channels that pass through, along, or adjacent to, or abuts the property. This means that it is being paid for by many that don't use, need and/or want the service.
 - Meeting new environmental requirements will add extra cost to ensure the system is viable in the future. For example, this includes the installation of fish screens on some intakes to meet these new standards.
- 3.** Council has a stockwater race closure process in place for property owners that no longer need their race and want to close it. This process will remain in place alongside the stockwater transition work.

Purpose of the Stockwater Transition Working Group

The purpose of the Stockwater Transition Working Group (STWG) is to give effect to Council's policy position to exit the delivery of stockwater by 30 June 2027.

Definitions of Key Terms

Intake: A structure or location where water is formally “taken” into the water race network.

Exit: Council will no longer be the provider of stockwater.

Stockwater delivery alternative: An alternative proposal or proposals to deliver water to the property boundary that can be used for stockwater, or other purposes (where consented).

Stockwater solution: A solution funded by the stockwater user/s to replace the stockwater service. This may represent one of the stockwater delivery alternative proposals or a separate solution determined by the stockwater user.

Stockwater Transition Plan (SWTG): Plan adopted by Council that outlines the approach and programme for Council’s exit from the stockwater service

Underlying Principles

The underlying principles for the STWG are as follows:

- The Transition Plan will establish the order of the exit programme which will be followed unless there are exceptional circumstances leading to a Council decision to alter the exit programme
- The exit programme will follow an intake-by-intake approach¹
- Council is committed to clearly communicating with stakeholders the progress of the exit programme
- A proposal(s) for stockwater delivery alternatives will be only to the property boundary.
- Council will not fund any stockwater solutions, either to the property boundary or on-farm.
- Council is the final decision-maker

Key Deliverables

The STWG will be responsible for delivering a Stockwater Transition Plan to Council for adoption by December 2024.

Once the Transition Plan is in place, the STWG will be responsible for monitoring progress towards achieving the exit programme.

Stockwater Transition Working Group Membership

The STWG membership will consist of two-tiers of members, with differing functions.

Core Group Membership

- Council appointees (Cr Wilson, Cr Cameron and Mayor ex-officio)
- 1 x Federated Farmers representative
- 1 x Environment Canterbury representative
- 1 x Te Runaka o Arowhenua representative
- 1 x Consultant resource

¹ Some intakes may be progressed in conjunction with others where expedient to do so.

Each Core Group member will be welcome to bring organisation advisors to meetings as required to provide advice.

Council officers will attend the Core Group meetings as required to provide advice.

Key Stakeholders

The Transition Plan adopted by Council, will assign stakeholders from the list below to the respective intake by intake exit approach. This means that key stakeholders will be invited to contribute and/or attend working group meetings on an 'as required' basis, when the exit programme will be focused on the intake they have expertise or involvement with.

- 1 Acton Scheme representative
- 1 Ashburton Lyndhurst Irrigation Limited (ALIL) representative
- 1 Barhill Chertsey Irrigation Limited (BCIL) representative
- 1 Eiffleton Scheme representative
- 1 Hekeao Hinds Water Enhancement Trust (HHWET) representative
- 1 Mayfield Hinds Valetta Irrigation (MHV) representative
- 1 Mid Canterbury Catchment Collective (MCCC) representative
- 1 Rangitata Diversion Race (RDR) representative
- 1 Spaxton Scheme representative
- 1 Ashburton Zone Committee representative

Functions of the Core Group

As well as the deliverables identified in 1.5, the Core Working Group will make recommendations to Council based on the specialist and technical expertise they receive from the consultant advice and through the key stakeholders input.

The Core Working Group is expected to take a 'consensus approach' where possible when developing the recommendations to Council. If consensus isn't reached then the range of views should be presented to Council for their final decision.

The Chair will be appointed by Council following the adoption of these Terms of Reference.

The Core Group will consist of 7 members (excluding organisational advisors and Council officers). Should a member withdraw from the Core Group, Council or the respective organisation may appoint a new member to replace them.

The Core Group has no delegated authority to spend budget or allocate resources.

Functions of the Key Stakeholders

Key stakeholders will be invited to contribute to and/or attend the working group meetings to provide their knowledge and expertise on each respective intake based on the exit programme.

Key stakeholders do not have the authority to make recommendations to Council.

Reporting

The Stockwater Transition Working Group minutes will be reported to the next available Council meeting following each meeting. Member organisations may also report back to their respective organisation outcomes of the working group.

Meetings & Quorum

The Core Working Group will meet monthly until the Stockwater Transition Plan is adopted by Council in December 2024.

From January 2025, the Core Working Group will meet on a quarterly until 30 June 2027 (or sooner if work is complete).

The Core Working Group will be required to have a quorum of 5 members (including 2 Council elected representatives) to make recommendations to Council.

Term of appointment

The term of the Working Group will commence on appointment, and end on the 30 June 2027.

Remuneration

The members of the Stockwater Transition Working Group will not receive remuneration.

Final Determinations

The recommendations of the Core Group, and the decisions of Council to give effect to Council's exit from the delivery of stockwater, including Council's adoption and implementation of the Stockwater Transition Plan, shall be treated as final decisions, unless revoked or amended by Council in accordance with its Standing Orders.

Individual members of the STWG, stakeholders, or the general public shall have no right to appeal or right to challenge these decisions.

Standards of Conduct

The STWG members may be privy to confidential and market sensitive information. Discussions and analysis from STWG meetings should also be treated as sensitive and confidential.

In order for the group to operate effectively, members must maintain the confidence of the group, including maintaining confidentiality of matters discussed at meetings, and any information or documents provided to the group. Only with the agreement of Council officials can members share information about the business of the group.

Where information is already in the public domain the confidentiality requirements do not apply to that information.

Members must not represent the group, or comment on the business of the group, to the media. Council's Communication Policy will apply when media statements are made or enquiries are answered.

A conflict of interest will occur when a member's private interest interferes, or could appear to interfere, with an issue that faces the group. A conflict of interest will also occur when there is a possibility that a benefit may apply to a sector, industry, or organisation that they represent. A conflict of interest may be real or perceived.

Members must at all times comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act 2020 and keep information about identifiable individuals confidential.

All information provided to the group will be treated as official information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and, subject to the requirements of that Act, may be released to the public if there are no grounds for withholding it.

Members will treat each other, and the opinions of others, with respect at all times. Members will not take unfair advantage of anyone through manipulation, concealment, abuse of privileged information, misrepresentation of material facts or any other unfair dealing practices.

Members will generously share practice and learnings and actively participate in constructive discussion and debate. Members will show respect for other participants and alternative ideas.

Adopted by Council 4 September 2024