Three Waters Committee

AGENDA

Notice of Meeting:

A meeting of the Three Waters Committee will be held on:

Date: **Wednesday 30 July 2025**

Time: **9.30am**

Venue: **Hine Paaka Council Chamber, Te Whare Whakatere**
2 Baring Square East, Ashburton

Membership

Chairperson	Russell Ellis
Deputy Chairperson	Liz McMillan
Members	Phill Hooper Lynette Lovett Tony Todd Mayor Neil Brown (ex-officio)

Three Waters Committee

Timetable	
9.30am	Meeting commences

ORDER OF BUSINESS

4. Three Waters Committee – 25/06/25

Minutes of the Three Waters Committee meeting held on Wednesday 25 June 2025, commencing at 9.30am, in the Hine Paaka Council Chamber, Te Whare Whakatere, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton.

Present

Mayor Neil Brown, Councillors Russell Ellis (Chair), Phill Hooper *(via Teams)*, Lynette Lovett, Liz McMillan *(via Teams)* and Tony Todd.
Also present: Cr Rob Mackle

In attendance

Hamish Riach (Chief Executive), Neil McCann (GM Infrastructure & Open Spaces), Toni Durham (GM Democracy & Engagement), Andrew Guthrie (Assets Manager), Hernando Marilla (Operations Manager), Ulrich Glasner (Water Services Manager) and Phillipa Clark (Governance Support).

1 Apologies

Nil.

2 Extraordinary Business

Nil.

3 Declarations of Interest

Nil.

4 Confirmation of Minutes – 14/05/25

That the minutes of the Three Waters Committee meeting held on 14 May 2025, be taken as read and confirmed.

Todd/Lovett Carried

5.1 Three Waters operations & maintenance

- **NE Ashburton water supply extension**

Appears to have majority support. Officers will report back to the next Committee meeting.
A report will come to Council in due course with options for provision to NE Ashburton.

- **Montalto**

Feedback received will be circulated to elected members.

- **Advanced water metering trial**

Telehub metering trial information will be provided to elected members.

- **2025/26 pipeline renewal**

The Committee asked for details on the length of pipework being replaced and what percentage of the network this is. Officers will report back with this statistical information.

- **Drinking water compliance**

Hakatere water supply is not meeting requirements for pH levels and some work is being done internally to determine what will be required to address this issue.

Taumata Arowai's Drinking Water Regulation report is due to be released and will be the subject of a report to the Committee on 30 July.

Cr Wilson joined the meeting at 10.15am.

Officers reported that Taumata Arowai are reviewing Level 3 of the drinking water quality assurance rules and targeting the range that Council is currently required to meet for protozoa. While some testing exemptions will likely come in the new rules, officers would expect Council to continue with UV treatment as the primary approach. Class 1 bore testing will provide an additional level of protection.

The Committee adjourned from 10.35am to 10.53am.

8 RMA Consent Compliance

- **Ocean Farm**

ECan require a revised action plan and a first draft has been provided which includes investigation around wetlands (to determine whether it can be bypassed, partially or fully).

Stormwater Detention

Officers provided an update on the issues that arose with stormwater detention ponds in Tinwald during last week's heavy rain event. Of particular concern is the pond adjacent to the Proctor Park playground and the Tarbottons Rd pond, both of which are impacted by the high water table.

To mitigate safety issues at the playground it is proposed that a pool fence will be constructed between the playground and the pond. A downstream pumping regime and a syphon option to remove water from the pond, as well as different discharge points, are also being considered.

Wastewater – Catherine/Grove Streets

Officers reported on the overflowing wastewater issue. Council's contractor is investigating and officers are looking at monitoring for an early warning/alarm system when wastewater levels rise. The Committee will be updated with the outcome of the contractor's investigations.

The meeting concluded at 12.02pm.

5. *Keenans Road Watermain Extension*

Author *Chris Stanley; 3 Waters Engineer*

Activity Manager Andrew Guthrie; *Assets Manager*
Executive Team Member Neil McCann; *Group Manager - Infrastructure Services*

Summary

- The purpose of this report is to summarise the results of the public consultation for the extension of water supply to the Keenans Road area of Ashburton, and to allow Council to decide on the way forward.
- There has been significant community interest expressed in recent years in a water extension to the north-east Ashburton area, and detailed design has been completed. Keenans Road is the first area to be consulted.
- 21 properties were consulted. 14 responded, so the response rate was 67%.
- Of those who expressed a preference, 10 (71%) supported the proposed extension and 4 (29%) did not support the proposal.
- Of those in support of the proposal, 6 indicated that they intended to connect immediately, one within 12 months, one within 2-5 years and two may connect but not within 5 years.
- The estimated cost of the extension is $487,000. This would be recovered over time as the area develops. The divisor is based on the ultimate development capacity, estimated to be 53 lots, rather than current properties, and so cost recovery may take some time. Council would be required to act as 'banker' in the interim.

Recommendation to Council

That the Three Waters Committee recommends Council approves:

1. the construction and initial funding of a water network extension in Seafield Road, Southpark Road and Keenans Road, as shown in the plan in Appendix Three to this report;

2. the part recovery of the construction cost through lump sum contributions from the connecting landowners (totalling an estimated $45,990 exclusive of GST); and

3. recovery of the balance of the construction costs from each property as they connect to the watermain in future (estimated at $9,198 exclusive GST, and to be indexed to inflation), with this charge to be incorporated into the 2026-27 Annual Plan.

Attachments

Appendix 1 Plan of the proposed extension
Appendix 2 Consultation letter

Background

The current situation

1. The North-East Ashburton area, approximately between Seafield Road, Ashburton Airport and the Ashburton Business Estate is largely without Council water and wastewater service.

2. While Council has had a project to roll out water supply to this area for a number of LTP cycles, it has been deferred until sufficient interest was expressed.

3. In recent years this threshold has been reached, and as a result Officers have progressed detailed design for a water network to service for this area, to allow us to respond to community demand.

4. In response to submissions on the 2024-34 Long Term Plan and 2025-26 Annual Plan, Council consulted with Keenans Road and the surrounding area, as the first area.

5. 21 properties were contacted by letter, sent to the property owners, with letters being sent on 14 May 2025. 14 properties responded, for an overall response rate of 67%.

6. Of those who expressed a preference, 10 (71%) supported the proposed extension and 4 (29%) did not support the proposal.

7. Of those in support of the proposal, 6 indicated that they intended to connect immediately, one within 12 months, one within 2-5 years and two may connect but not within 5 years.

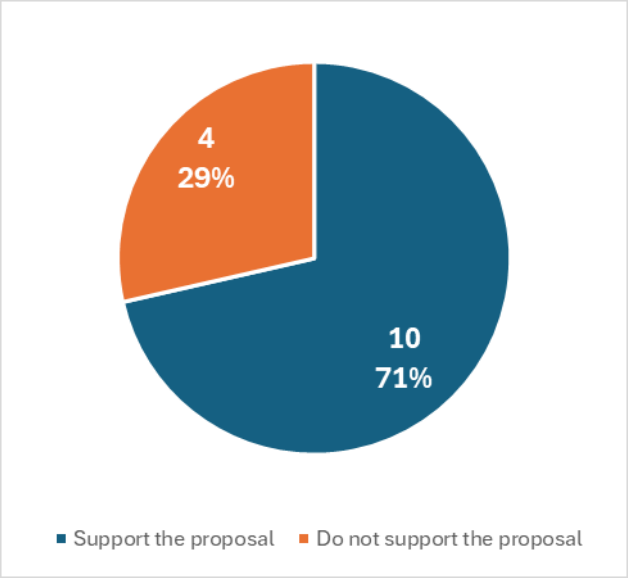


Figure 1 – Support for the proposal

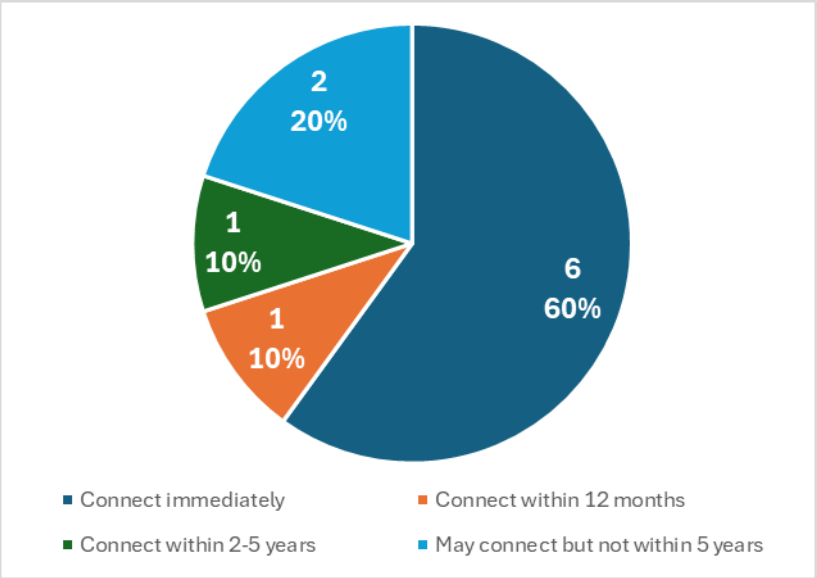


Figure 2 - Intended connection timeframe

8. This initial phase involves construction of pipes in Seafield Road, Keenans Road and Southpark Road. These are shown in the plan in Appendix Three. The main in Seafield Road forms the basis for further extensions in the area.

9. The estimated cost of the extension work is $487,000. The actual project will be competitively priced and the final cost recorded and used as the basis of the cost recovery fee. The recovery fee is based on the total cost divided by the number of potential lots: 53.

10. The capital cost would be recovered on new connection as the area develops. Those properties connecting at the time of construction would pay up front, then recovering the rest of the cost would happen over time. Council would be required to act as 'banker' in the interim incurring interest expense not currently factored into the amount recovered from future connections. All water scheme ratepayers subsidise the cost of servicing (interest) the remaining borrowing for the extension at council's borrowing rates.

11. To account for the capital cost to Council of raising the funds up front, we propose to index the recovery fees so they increase over time to account for inflation, however this adjustment has not historically adjusted for the interest component which has been funded by the wider scheme.

12. There is no budget currently in the 2025-26 Annual Plan for this project. There is budget in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan, in Year 4 (2027-28), of $3.47M to provide water service to the peri-urban areas of Ashburton. In essence, we are seeking approval to bring forward a portion of this budget to fund this work.

Options analysis

Option one – Proceed with the extension

13. Under this option, the cost would be met from existing (and future) properties in the service area. The estimated cost for initial connections for each property is $9,198[1] *excluding* GST.

14. Each connecting property will also be required to pay the Ashburton water supply development contribution ($1,941.00 *inclusive* GST). The total payable is estimated at $12,518.70 *inclusive* GST.

15. Council would construct the new watermain to service these properties in accordance with the existing detailed design. Connections will be provided to all properties that have requested a connection and undertaken to pay all prescribed fees.

16. Future connections, i.e. those made after construction is complete and the watermain has been commissioned, will be required to pay the estimated base cost as above (indexed to inflation), the actual cost of a service connection including toby and meter, and all other fees applicable at that time (e.g. application fees, main tapping fees, and development contribution).

Advantages:	***Disadvantages:***
More households get access to reliable, high quality and safe reticulated water supply. Council is responding to community requests and community feedback.	Council needs to raise additional funding and will not recover all of the cost in the near/medium term.
Risks:	
Council may receive criticism for the imposition of serviceable water rates from property owners in the area that do not support the watermain extension.	

Option two – Do nothing

17. Under this option, the watermain extension will not proceed at this time. Property owners will be advised of the decision in writing.

18. New lots in the area continue to be serviced by groundwater bores. The watermain detailed design will be retained on file and may be utilised at some point in future when a watermain is eventually required in this location.

[1] This figure is an estimate for the purposes of consultation. The final contribution will be confirmed after the work is tendered and completed and costs are known, and will reflect the actual costs incurred for construction.

Advantages:	**Disadvantages:**
This option does not require any additional funding.	Without the mains in this project, future extensions in this area may be inhibited.
Risks: Council may be criticised for not providing assistance when requested to do so. Residents in the area may be exposed to poor quality groundwater, which could pose a risk to public health. Properties will need to continue to manage existing bores or install new bores which may erode support for network extensions in future.	

Legal/policy implications

Local Government Act 2002

19. The extension of the Ashburton water supply to service this area is considered consistent with the principles of the LGA2002. The principles are available here.

National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD)

20. The extension of the Ashburton water supply to service this area is considered consistent with the objectives of the National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020 (May2022). In particular, there appears strong alignment with objectives 1, 4 and 6. The full NPS-UD is available here.

Climate change

21. This watermain extension will inevitably cause some emissions, from the manufacture and installation of the assets. We will look for options to minimise the time and use of machinery, which also has the benefit of saving construction cost.

22. The pipe material chosen has a long life, so that it can be used for as long as possible before needing interventions.

23. It is likely that centrally pumping and treating water will be more efficient than each property operating their own bores and pumping systems.

24. Shallow groundwater bores, commonly used by private property owners, are more likely to be affected by weather extremes such as droughts or floods. This extension would allow people to move to Council's more reliable sources, now or as a need may arise in the future.

Review of legal / policy implications	
Reviewed by In-house Counsel	*Tania Paddock; General Counsel*

Strategic alignment

25. The recommendation relates to Council's community outcome of a prosperous economy built on innovation, opportunity and high-quality infrastructure, because this extension enables more people to access safe, reliable drinking water, improving quality of life.

26. In turn, this encourages development and makes Ashburton a more desirable place to live and work.

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic	✓	Providing high-quality infrastructure, including safe and reliable drinking water networks
Environmental		
Cultural		
Social		

Financial implications

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	$487,000 for the initial construction– Estimate based on recent project rates and sourced from an external contractor.
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	Yes. There is $3.47M identified in Year 4 (2027/28)
Where is the funding coming from?	The capital cost of this project will ultimately be funded by contributions as properties connect. In the meantime, Council will fund the balance through borrowing, and debt servicing costs will be recovered from the group water supplies targeted rate. The impact on the Group Water Rate is estimated at $3.30 (connected) and $1.65 (serviceable).
Are there any future budget implications?	Yes – the project costs not recovered up front will need to be managed by Council through borrowing and debt servicing until the area develops fully. This will increase the interest costs serviced by group water ratepayers and the net borrowing on Council's balance sheet. The future budget needs as identified in Year 4 will also reduce accordingly.
Reviewed by Finance	*Helen Barnes; Group Manager Business Support.*

Significance and engagement assessment

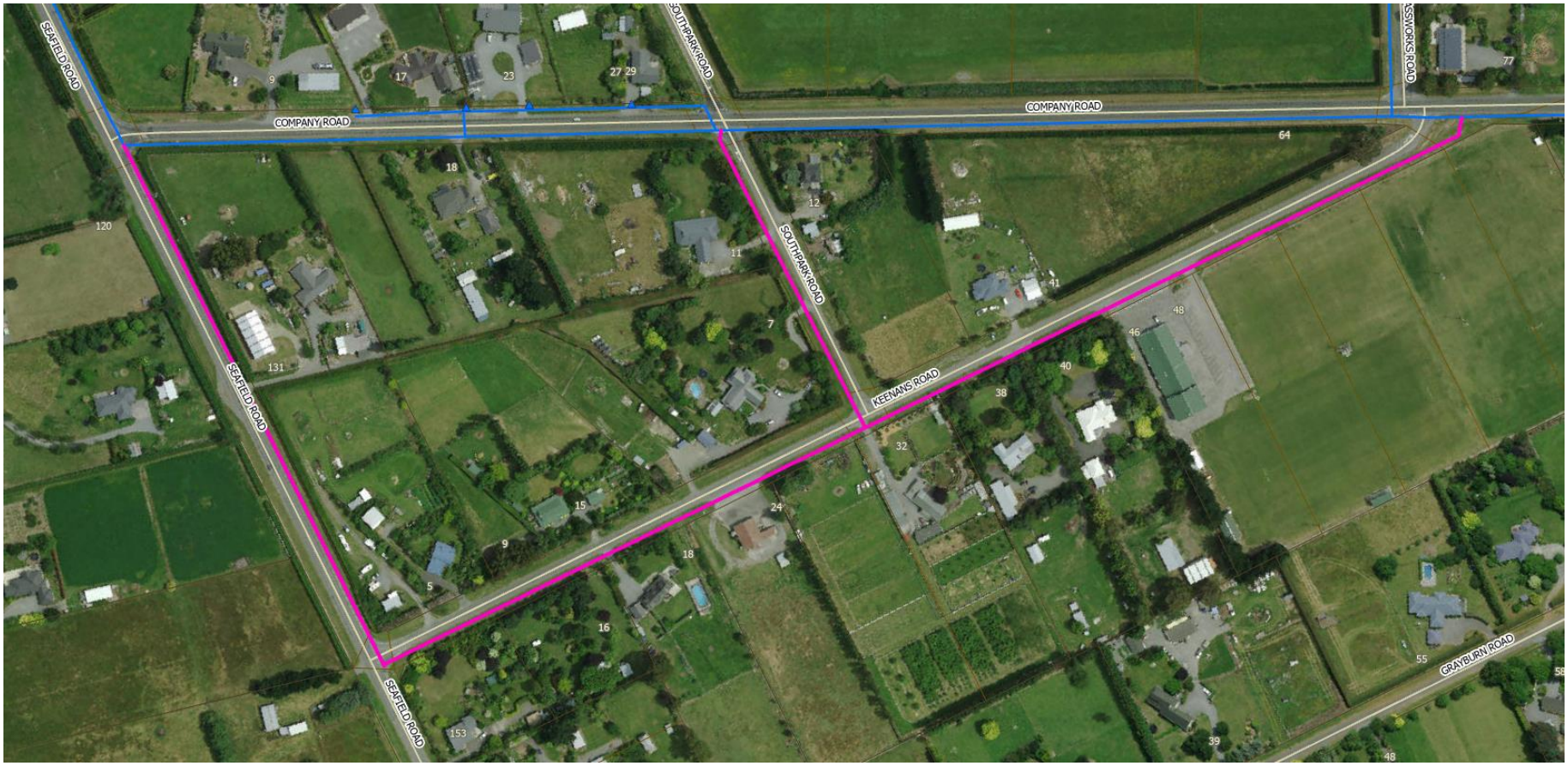
Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No
Level of significance	Low
Rationale for selecting level of significance	While this project is of moderate cost, and like all capital works in road corridors comes with some health and safety risk, generally the project

	affects a small number of customers and costs will eventually be recovered.
Level of engagement selected	1 -Inform
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	Affected property owners have been directly contacted and their views sought. Officers have had direct conversations with several properties already. We will inform the affected properties of the outcome of this decision. If the project is approved, we will keep the affected properties informed of progress and will engage with those properties wishing to connect to identify preferred connection locations.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Toni Durham: GM Democracy & Engagement

Next steps

Date	Action / milestone	Comments
2026	Final cost used to determine recovery. Recovery fee added to next Draft Annual Plan.	
2026	Investigate and consider changes to reticulation recovery fee regime to include interest costs.	

Appendix One – Plan of the proposed extension



Plan showing the proposed pipe route in purple, and existing network in blue

Appendix Two – Consultation letter

13th May 2025

<Address Block>

Dear Sir / Madam

Consultation for Extension of Domestic Drinking Water Service to Keenans Road Block, Ashburton

Council is currently investigating providing a drinking water service to the area bordered by Keenans Road, Company Road and Seafield Road, including part of Southpark Road. There has been particular interest from the community in this area, so we are starting this this block.

The purpose of this letter is to canvass property owners in the affected area and determine the interest in a domestic drinking water service provided by Council. Your response will inform Council's decision whether or not to approve the extension. The more properties that choose to connect at the outset, the more viable the project becomes, and more likely that it will proceed.

If the project were to proceed, Council would install new mains in Seafield Road, Company Road, Keenans Road and Southpark Road and a connection to the boundary of each property at a location chosen by the property owner. The connection would include a backflow preventer and water meter in a toby box. A plan showing the proposed pipe route is at the end of this letter.

Project costs

A detailed design and an indicative construction cost estimate have been produced for this project. The final cost recovery fee will be determined by the actual cost of the work.

If you choose to connect to the scheme you will need to pay a cost recovery fee to cover your share of the extension costs, a development contribution to cover your share of the pumping and treatment capacity already installed, and you will become liable for the Group – Connected targeted water rate. This rate is set at $817.70 for the 2025/26 financial year.

If you choose not to connect at this time but the extension proceeds, you will only become liable for the Group – Serviceable targeted water rate, set at $408.90 for the 2025/26 financial year. You will be able to connect to the new pipeline at any time in the future, subject to the processes and fees at that time.

Cost Items	Amounts
One-off Costs (Project)	
Cost recovery (indicative – the final amount will be confirmed upon completion of the project)	$ 10,577.70
One-off Costs (Council Fees & Charges)	
Application fee (waived if connecting immediately – normally $406.00 inc GST)	$0.00
Ashburton Water Supply Development Contribution	$ 1,941.00
TOTAL	**$ 12,518.70**
Portion of GST in above total	**$1,877.81**

6. 3 Waters Operations

6.1 General Operations and Maintenance

For the month of June, the following activities were carried out:

- A total of 309 plant visits or 672 hours have been spent by plant operators in June, monitoring and maintaining the operations of all water and wastewater treatment plants and pump stations.
- The big rain events in June kept the plant operators busy. The Rakaia WWTP clarifier overflowed due to large volumes of water from the network and the sludge beds.
- The Wilkins Road WWTP and Ocean Farm also received large volumes of water from the Ashburton and Tinwald network triggering overflows at the Ocean Farm labyrinth weir.
- ACL carried out investigations in Tinwald to determine and identify possible sources of stormwater inflows into the wastewater system. They have identified several houses where stormwater run-off is directly drained into the gully traps.
- Investigations of groundwater infiltration to the wastewater network is also being conducted. Instantaneous flow in all the pump stations shows large amounts of infiltration during the rain event. High ground water levels are also contributing to prolonged and sustained infiltration levels.
- A total of 55 CRMs was received in June which is lower than the 135 CRMs received in May. The numbers and locations are shown below.

Location	CRM	Actual Values	Total %
Ashburton	41	74.5%	75%
Chertsey	0	0.0%	0%
Dromore	1	1.8%	2%
Fairton	0	0.0%	0%
Hakatere	1	1.8%	2%
Hinds	0	0.0%	0%
Lake Hood	0	0.0%	0%
Mayfield	0	0.0%	0%
Methven	4	7.3%	7%
Montalto	6	10.9%	11%
Mt Somers	0	0.0%	0%
Ocean Farm	0	0.0%	0%
Rakaia	2	3.6%	4%
Springfield	0	0.0%	0%

6.2 Ocean Farm

- Officers have prepared the scope of work that will be presented to ACL for pricing.
- As of June, Alliance Farming Group, the grazing contractor, grazed more than 13,700 lambs at the farm.

7 Projects

7.1 Drinking Water

Dromore WTP UV/Filtration Upgrade [ARC Projects Ltd] FC – 19/12/2025

- The Dromore WTP UV upgrade was restored into Package 1 with ARC Projects Limited.
- This work was delayed pending the outcome of unrelated resource consent which is close to being issued.
- A start up meeting with Council officers, the contractor and landowner is expected to take place onsite in the next few weeks.
- Programme completion date is 19 December 2025.

Ashburton - Argyle Park WTP UV Upgrade [ARC Projects Ltd] FC – 29/08/2025

- As of June, 72% of the work programme is completed.
- Building construction is completed.
- The cut-in for the flushing point has been completed.
- The UV reactor has been installed & mechanical installation continues.
- Electrical fitout commenced, power laid to new building and light installation underway.
- Backfilling & reinstatement of carpark area is nearing completion.

Ashburton, Tinwald WTP UV Upgrade [Ashburton Contracting Ltd] FC – 30/06/2025

- Final plant commissioning was held on 16 June 2025.
- Quality Assurance (QA) documentation has to be submitted before Practical Completion will be issued, this may delay final capitalisation of the new infrastructure.

Rakaia WTP UV Upgrade [Ashburton Contracting Ltd] FC – 30/06/2025

- The plant was commissioned on 14 July 2025.
- Quality Assurance (QA) documentation has to be submitted before Practical Completion will be issued, this may delay final capitalisation of the new infrastructure.

Chertsey WTP UV/Filtration Upgrade [Ashburton Contracting Ltd] FC – 31/10/2025

- The roof framing, civil pipework, water, fibre, and power installation to the new site is complete.
- Site fencing has also been completed.
- The UV unit has been delivered to site.
- This project is currently running behind programme but officers are discussing with the contractor options to accelerate work to meet the agreed deadline.

Ashburton - Domain WTP UV Upgrade [Ashburton Contracting Ltd] FC – 19/12/2025

- This contract has been awarded to Ashburton Contracting Ltd as part of package 2.
- The contractor has commenced ground investigation works and obtaining the necessary permits.

Ashburton - Bridge St WTP UV Upgrade [ARC Projects Ltd] FC – 19/12/2025

- This contract has been awarded to ARC Projects Ltd as part of package 1.
- Majority of materials have been delivered to site, except for UV which is enroute from Canada.
- The current programme completion date 13 November 2025.
- As of May, 18% of the work programme is completed.

2025/26 Water Pipeline Renewals [Rooney Earthmoving Ltd] FC – 05/12/2025

- This project comprises water renewals on:
  - Phillip Street (Oak Gr to Grigg St)
  - Tancred Street (William St to Chalmers Ave)
  - Mason Place (Full length including ridermain)
  - Grove Street (Carters Tce to Wilkins St)
  - Chalmers Avenue (Dobson St to River)
  - Archibald Street (Johnson St to Hassal St)
  - Talbot Place (Full length)
  - Liley Place (Full length)
  - Spaxton Street (Carr St to Main St)
  - Elizabeth Avenue (Cridland St to Burrowes Rd excluding railway section)
  - Railway Terrace West (Bowen St to Michael St)
  - Fairfield Avenue (Fairfield Rd to Deans St)
  - David Street (Full length excluding Domain section)
- The tender was awarded to Rooney Earthmoving Ltd on 18 June 2025.
- Contract works at Philip Street commenced 14 July 2025.

2025/26 Rural Water Pipeline Renewals [Fulton Hogan Ltd] FC – 05/12/2025

- This project comprises water renewals on:
  - Taverners Road (Stanley Rd to end of pipeline)
  - Stanley Road (Taverners Rd to Dromore Station Rd)
  - Dromore Station Road (WTP to Stanley Rd)
  - Ashburton River Road (o/s 1170 Ashburton River Rd to Longs Ford Rd)
  - Longs Ford Road (Ashburton River Rd to WTP)
- The tender was awarded to Fulton Hogan Ltd on 10 June 2025.
- Work will commence on Taverners Road on or about 28 July 2025.

Source Water Risk Management Plans [Internal] FC – 31/12/2025

- This work involves completing a formal risk assessment of the SWRMA and will require liaising with ECan regarding information they may have on land use activities, potential sources of contamination and other hazards.

- This work will commence utilising internal resources as soon as the end of year reporting commitments have been met, on or about 18 August.

NE Ashburton Watermain Extensions [Internal] FC – 31/03/2025

- The first package is Seafield Rd (Company to Keenans); Keenans Rd (Seafield to Company); and South Park (No 49 South Park to Keenans). Total length is 1,180m.
- Consultation with landowners began 14 May and closed 6 June.
- The results and future of this extension is the subject of a standalone report.

Backflow Investigations and Implementation [Internal] FC – BAU

- This project covers the risk assessment of properties connected to all water supplies to determine the need for installation of appropriate backflow prevention devices, and the installation of devices on high-risk properties.
- This project will contribute to meeting part of the distribution zone requirement of the Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules (DWQAR), rules D3.1-D3.5.
- A Technical Support Officer with a 6-month contract will be hired to continue the work of the Student Assistant. Investigation work is expected to continue 1 August 2025.
- The purpose of the investigation is to ensure that the correct backflow prevention devices as per Council Policy and premises are classified according to risk categories aligned with the degree of hazards as defined in the NZ Building Code. The three categories are high, medium and low risks.

Leak Detection Programme Follow-up [Ashburton Contracting Ltd] FC – BAU

- A specialist leak detection contractor was engaged to carry out acoustic leak detection in various locations (Ashburton north-west of SH1, and Methven). A total of 103 leaks were identified on the Council network. Of the 103 leaks, 46 were high priority leaks and were immediately repaired. The remaining 57 low priority leaks were repaired according to severity.
- All the leaks identified have now been repaired.

Advanced Water Metering Trial [Intellihub Ltd] FC - TBC

- The structure of this trial includes providing Council up to 350 of the advanced meters, a contribution to the installation, and operation of the meters and supply of data for 12 months.
- The meter data (30min or 60min intervals) is all captured through IOT technology and uploaded to the company's cloud platform. The data is then supplied electronically to Council.
- A memorandum of understanding has been finalised following review by officers. The trial area will be the eastern side of Rakaia Township (east of SIMT Railway).
- Initially there were some concerns about the cellular network coverage for this proposed trial area, however Intellihub are in negotiations with their provider for an increase in coverage specifically to support the trial.
- The smart meters from Intellihub are expected to be provided in the next 2-3 months. Planning for the installation of the meters has commenced. The physical works will be tendered as soon as a delivery date of the meters has been confirmed.

7.2 Wastewater

Rakaia WWTP Control Panel Upgrade [Service Provider TBC] FC – 31/10/2025

- Five compliant tender submissions were received when the tender closed on 13 June 2025.
- The five tenders received were from Bremca Industries Ltd, Industrial Controls South Canterbury Ltd, Kinetic Electrical Queenstown, Level Electrical Ashburton and Millennium Electrical Ltd.
- The tenders were evaluated using a Price Quality method. The delivery model was a lump sum format. This model is the most appropriate based on the design and build form of contract.

Grit Chamber Pipeline Renewal [Ashburton Contracting Ltd] FC – 30/06/2025

- All of the pipeline has been laid.
- The pipeline commissioning works underway.
- Majority of required demolition has been completed.

2025/26 Wastewater Pipeline Renewals [Tru-Line Civil Ltd] FC – 05/12/2025

- The tender was awarded to Tru-Line Civil Ltd on 18 June 2025.
- This project comprises wastewater pipeline renewals on:
  - Catherine Street (McMurdo St to Grove St)
  - Philip Street (Oak Gr to Grigg St)
  - Saunders Road (Creek Rd to Pages Rd)
  - Tancred Street (No 245 to Chalmers Ave)
- The contract start date is end of July 2025.

NE Ashburton Wastewater Servicing Concepts [Beca Ltd] *(Revised)* FC – 29/08/2025

- The Committee has requested that this information be brought back to the committee and ultimately Council consideration as a potential future project as soon as its available. The service provider has indicated that the report will be available for officer review on or about 29 August.

7.3 Stormwater

Industrial Sites Stormwater Risk Prioritisation [Beca Ltd] *(Revised)* FC – 31/10/2025

- The field inspections relating to this work will commence utilising internal and external resources as soon as the end of year reporting commitments have been met, on or about 18 August.

Proctor Park Fencing Installation [Mark's Handyman Ltd] FC – Complete

- Following concerns raised in the media, a fence has been constructed between the Proctor Park playground and the stormwater treatment and disposal area.
- All work is now completed. The total cost of the fencing project was $8,308.35 exc GST.

Stormwater / Drainage Discussions with Environment Canterbury

- The Group Manager Infrastructure and Open Spaces has made contact with key senior staff at Environment Canterbury with a view to establishing some ongoing constructive

dialogue between the two councils in regard to stormwater issues and rural land drainage.

- These meetings are expected to commence in the next couple of months, and it is hoped to reach agreement on how the ADC and ECan can work together to provide an improved level of service to district ratepayers.

7.4 Asset Management

Network Environmental Performance Report (NEPR) [N/A] FC – BAU

- Taumata Arowai released the 2023/24 Network Environmental Performance Report on 30 June 2025. The report is available here.
- There were six instances in the report where Ashburton was identified by name.
- **Page 32** summarised the network performance in relation to restrictions and ADC was one of five network operators that reported a full year of restrictions. This is due to a number of schemes which have a permanent hosing ban in place (i.e. Dromore, Methven Springfield, and Montalto).
- **Page 47** discusses the use of stormwater treatment devices and their increasing utilisation across the country. Ashburton is indicated in the table with 20 devices.
- The figures on **pages 70 & 71** compare water supplied/connection/year. At 667.74 m3/connection/year, Ashburton is closer to the top of this list. The range being 4.82 to 1,372.67m3/connection/year.
- The figures on **pages 72 & 73** compare residential water use/connection/day. At 413 litres/connection/day, Ashburton is towards the lower part of the list. The range being 11 to 1,645 litres/connection/day.
- The figures on **pages 74 & 75** compare current annual real water loss/connection/day. At 61 litres/connection/day, Ashburton is towards the lower part of the list. The range being 0.14 to 1,072 litres/connection/day.
- The figures on **pages 76 & 77** compare capital (CAPEX) and operational (OPEX) spend/connection/year. At $1,366 (capex) & $789 (opex), Ashburton is towards the upper part of the list. The capex ranging from $51 to $2,682/connection/year and opex ranging from $163 to $2,353/connection/year.

Construction Unit Rates & Asset Lives Review [Beca Ltd] *(Revised)* FC – 30/10/2025

- Beca Consultants have been engaged to review our construction unit rates and asset lives for use in the upcoming infrastructural asset revaluation. This review is usually conducted on a three yearly cycle and ensures any asset revaluation exercise remains relative to the real-world construction costs.
- Both factors can have significant implications to the final asset valuation so by out-sourcing this work, it is less likely to be challenged by AuditNZ when they audit the ADC Annual Report.
- The draft output has been reviewed and discussed with the service provider. Additional rate information from recent tendered work has been provided in order to refine the rates to reflect what the market is currently doing. It is envisaged that the final report will be with officers on or about 4 August.

Pipeline Renewal Statistics [N/A] FC - BAU

- The committee requested at the previous meeting some statistics on our pipeline renewal programme. The information is set out in Table 1.

- The stormwater activity has been ignored due to the limited data set. Within the last decade the only stormwater renewals undertaken were pipelines in the CBD as part of the CBD Revitalisation Project.

	Drinking Water			Wastewater		
Year	**Total Network Length (m)**	**Renewed Length (m)**	**Renewed Length (%)**	**Total Network Length (m)**	**Renewed Length (m)**	**Renewed Length (%)**
2014/15	387,795	4,132	1.1	172,312	741	0.4
2015/16	406,699	3,022	0.7	176,718	2,431	1.4
2016/17	487,435	3,346	0.7	180,897	3,316	1.8
2017/18	491,827	10,308	2.1	179,583	2,416	1.3
2018/19	497,120	1,576	0.3	182,126	2,203	1.2
2019/20	497,441	557	0.1	185,060	1,267	0.7
2020/21	505,480	1,512	0.3	187,918	2,227	1.2
2021/22	512,615	2,810	0.5	195,101	2,406	1.2
2022/23	519,873	1,368	0.3	201,652	3,177	1.6
2023/24	527,154	7,204	1.4	208,312	4,642	2.2
10yrs	**527,154**	**35,835**	**6.8**	**208,312**	**24,826**	**11.9**

Table 1 - Drinking Water & Wastewater Pipeline Renewals - Last Decade

8 Drinking Water Compliance

8.1 Overview

Please refer to the summary table in Appendix A.

8.2 Drinking Water Compliance Commentary

The overview report shows the compliance status of Council operated supplies for the **first & second quarter** of the 2025 reporting year. This is largely unchanged from the first quarter reporting provided previously. This has been returned to the rolled-up summary format for the agenda. The fully expanded version will be provided to councillors separately.

8.3 Taumata Arowai - Drinking Water Regulation Report (DWRR) 2024

Taumata Arowai released the Drinking Water Regulation Report (DWRR) on 30 June 2025. The report is available here.

There were two instances in the report where Ashburton was identified by name. In both cases they relate to the Montalto water supply and were expected.

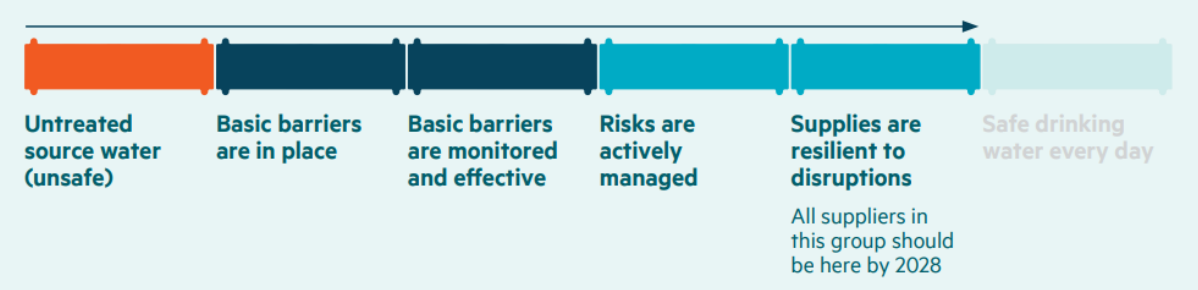
Table 12 on **page 80** of the report lists council supplies with laboratory notifications of E. coli detections. Council had one detection on the Montalto water supply. In this table ADC is 1 of 19 Councils reporting detections and 1 of 46 total detections reported.

Table 21 on **page 87** lists council supplies with long-term advisories (e.g. boil water notices, etc) that have been active for over three years. The Montalto water supply has been on a permanent boil water notice since 20 February 2018.

8.4 Taumata Arowai - Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement Strategy 2025-28

Taumata Arowai released the Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement Strategy 2025-28 on 10 July 2025. It is a three-year action plan for how the agency will regulate drinking water safety. The full strategy document is available here.

The strategy is helpful in outlining expectations of water suppliers. In particular, there is some expectations for Council supplies set out on page 11 of the document. Reproduced in part below:



What this looks like in practice

2025-26

- Basic treatment barriers are installed and operational.
- Treatment barriers are working effectively.
- Suppliers address the root cause of drinking water safety issues.
- We will have low tolerance for repeat *E. coli* notifications or evidence of ineffectively operated treatment barriers.
- We expect all council supplies are already registered.

2026-27

- Achieve full compliance with the Rules or an Acceptable Solution.
- Submit accurate, complete reporting to provide assurance that treatment barriers are operating effectively.

2027-28

- DWSPs show robust processes are in place to identify and manage safety risks and show progress over time to mitigate key risks.
- Contamination events resulting in the need for consumer advisories are rare.

This information will assist Council in the prioritisation of actions in Water Safety Plan improvement plans and where to focus efforts to best meet these expectations.

9 RMA Consents Compliance

9.1.1 Overview

Please refer to the summary table in Appendix B.

9.2 RMA Consents Compliance Commentary

The majority of consents held by ADC are compliant.

There is one new compliance monitoring report (CMR) received since the last committee meeting.

This was for **CRC980564.1 Discharge to land** for the Rakaia wastewater treatment plant. The compliance monitoring report indicates a noticeable improvement in compliance. Previously, this consent was assessed overall as Non-compliant – Action Required with only 5 of the 27 conditions assessed compliant. The latest CMR assesses the consent overall as Non-compliant – No action required on 3 conditions along with 18 of 27 conditions now in compliance. Although there are no actions arising from the non-compliant conditions, for completeness of reporting they relate to:

- C4 - Exceeding sludge application limit. This is now redundant as sludge is no longer applied to land since the commissioning of the sludge drying beds.

- C12 - Failing to notify of a faecal coliform (FC) exceedance (within 10 days). This assessment will be challenged because the only requirement is to forward the results to ECan within 10 working days - which was done.
- C13 – Exceeding the faecal coliform limit. This assessment may also be challenged as the condition only requires sampling/testing two times per year. The current monthly sample/test cycle has been in place since the plant was established. Also, the exceedance in question occurred during the commissioning of the sludge drying beds and it is suspected to be related.

There are two consents with existing assessments of **non-compliant action required**.

- CRC031000.1 Ocean Farm WWTP, discharge to land. This consent covers the operation of the overflow weir structure at top of wetland. The non-compliance relates to exceedances of the overflow limits.
- CRC186263 Ashburton Stormwater Network, discharge stormwater to land. This relates to the delay in completing the industrial site assessment. This is an active project with an update provided in the stormwater section of this report.

There is one existing **significant non-compliance**.

- CRC030999.1 Ocean Farm WWTP, discharge contaminant to land. As reported previously this is due to: uncompleted wetland renovation projects; effluent quality reporting exceedances; the evenness of the land discharge & exceedances of the nitrogen loading rate; and the control system does not record the time and volumes discharged to each irrigation block.

Feedback from ECan has resulted in some minor changes to the Ocean Farm Action Plan previously reported to the committee. The final version was approved by ECan on 16 July. A copy of the approved action plan is included in Appendix D.

Progress on actions from the Action Plan will be reported within the projects section in future committee agendas.

10 Financials

10.1 Overview

Please refer to the summary report in Appendix C.

This report is indicated as period ending 30 June, however there will be additional transactions still outstanding so the summary should be considered interim only at this point.

10.2 Financials Commentary

Operating Income

Drinking Water

The Capital Services Contributions (AKA Development Contributions) have finished 297k above the full year budget. The budgets for these items did not reflect the increased development contribution fee structure finally adopted in the Long Term Plan. This has been addressed for the Y2 budgets.

The final favourable variance for the group is $539k. This is higher than forecast previously due to an unanticipated late item in Grant Income of $112k coming through in June. The grant relates to funding to support three waters reform activities.

Wastewater

Wastewater overall is showing a favourable variance of $329k. This has resulted from higher than anticipated income from consent fees, septage disposal fees, grazing and standing grass sales. These items are typically budgeted conservatively as they can be variable and difficult to predict.

Operating Expenditure

Drinking Water

Expenditure on the Maintenance Contracts is (26% or $489k) above the full year budget. This is driven partly by the volume of reactive works being much higher than that anticipated at the time of budget preparation and the cost (and subsequent maintenance impact) of undertaking the annual leak detection programme.

Group water is currently showing an unfavourable variance in operating expenditure overall of ~$572k with the June claim still to be processed.

Wastewater

Expenditure on the Ashburton Maintenance Contracts has finished (29% or $223k) over the full year budget. This is driven partly by the volume of reactive works being much higher than that anticipated at time of budget preparation and the cost (and associated maintenance impact) of undertaking the annual CCTV condition assessment.

Wastewater overall is currently showing an unfavourable variance in operating expenditure overall of ~$315k with the June claim still to be processed.

Stormwater

This activity indicates a favourable variance of $69k below the full year budget. Some of this relates to the delayed progress on the industrial sites assessment project which is expected to be completed by the end of October. This project is operational in nature and is being funded from the Investigations budget line item in Ashburton stormwater. The project is implementation work associated with the network-wide consent for Ashburton. A portion of the favourable variance will be the subject of a request for carry over funding.

Capital Expenditure

Drinking Water - Group Supplies

Expenditure is late and reflects the revised timing of the Filtration/UV water treatment upgrades. This report indicates a favourable variance of $9.9M but does not include the June contract payments at this point.

The final favourable variance is still forecast at ~$8.8M of which $5.3M may be carried over for project completion.

Drinking Water - Montalto

This budget is carry-over funding to support ongoing investigations and ultimately design of an upgrade solution for the supply. Taumata Arowai consultation on the Mixed-Use Rural Water Supplies Acceptable Solution closed on 13 June. It is understood any changes arising would be given effect to prior to the end of the year (potentially sooner). A revised Acceptable Solution may make point of entry treatment a viable solution.

On this basis, we are progressing a pilot trial of units at three sites to evaluate the performance of point of entry treatment. It was envisaged that purchase of the equipment could be progressed prior to year end, however this was not achieved. The favourable variance of $396k will be the subject of a request for carry over funding to support the ongoing work.

Wastewater

Actuals reflect costs on the Rakaia Sludge Beds (now complete), and the Grit Chamber pipeline renewal (costs still to come). Due to favourable tendering for these projects, a favourable variance between $2.5-3.0M is anticipated when all costs are through.

An associated project to renew the switchboard and controls is ongoing. This work is now committed, and a carryover will be requested for the value of work.

Stormwater

The favourable variance in the stormwater area relates to the design phase for the West St treatment and attenuation project which was not progressed. The physical work part of this project was reprogrammed into Year 3 (2026/27) to provide time to advance the design phase in Year 2 (2025/26). The favourable variance will be the subject of a request for carryover funding.

11 Procurement

11.1 Active Tenders / Pricing

A list of the contracts or other works currently out for tender or pricing (including those that have recently closed but not yet awarded) is set out in Table 2.

Contract or Item Name	Closing Date
Rakaia WWTP Control Panel Upgrade	13/06/2025

Table 2 - Contracts or other items currently being tendered/priced or pending award. [For moderate and high expenditure].

11.2 Contracts Awarded

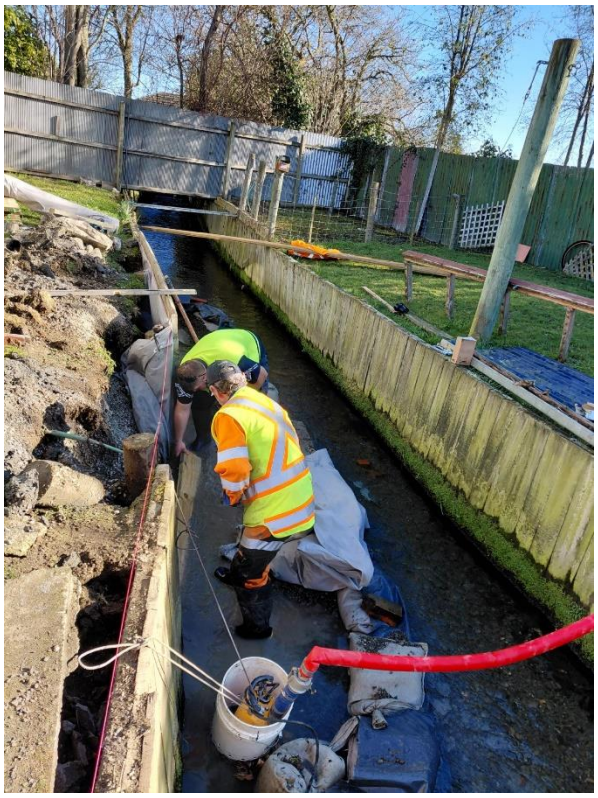
A list of contracts or other works awarded during the reporting period is set out in Table 3.

Contract or Item Name	Awarded to	Value	Estimate	Tenders received	TTM
WATE0417 2025/26 Water Pipeline Renewals	Rooneys Earthmoving Ltd	$4,238,415.00	$3,000,000	4	$253,550
WWAT0391 2025/26 Wastewater Pipeline Renewals	Tru-Line Civil Ltd	$2,572,463.67	$2,000,000	5	$142,500
External Laboratory Services 2025/26 – Drinking Water	Eurofins Ltd	$43,724.31	ND[2]	2	N/A
External Laboratory Services 2025/26 – Wastewater, Stormwater	ALS Food & Environmental NZ Ltd *(formally Analytica Labs NZ Ltd)*	$59,913.04	ND	3	N/A

Table 3 - Contracts or other items awarded. [For moderate and high expenditure].

[2] Not Developed.

12 Photo Gallery



Mill Creek - Minor Maintenance Repairs
(Fulton Hogan Limited)

East Street, Watermain Repair
(Ashburton Contracting Limited)

Tancred St Watermain Renewal
(Rooney Earthmoving Limited)

Philip St Watermain Renewal
(Rooney Earthmoving Limited)

Tinwald WTP UV Upgrade
(Ashburton Contracting Limited)

Tinwald WTP UV Upgrade
(Ashburton Contracting Limited)

Argyle Park WTP UV Upgrade
(ARC Projects Limited)

Argyle Park WTP UV Upgrade
(ARC Projects Limited)

	
Argyle Park WTP UV Upgrade *(ARC Projects Limited)*	**Rakaia WTP UV Upgrade** *(Ashburton Contracting Limited)*
	
Rakaia WTP UV Upgrade *(Ashburton Contracting Limited)*	**Rakaia WTP UV Upgrade** *(Ashburton Contracting Limited)*

Grit Chamber Pipeline Renewal
(Ashburton Contracting Limited)

Grit Chamber Pipeline Renewal
(Ashburton Contracting Limited)

Proctor Park Fence
(Mark's Handyman Ltd)

Example of Illegal Stormwater Connection
(Tinwald)

Appendix A

ADC DRINKING WATER COMPLIANCE STATUS SUMMARY

Internal Assessment Against Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules 2022 29 November 2024

Assessment Period - Q1 & Q2 2025 (1 Jan to 30 Jun 2025)

DWQARs Rule #	Rule Type	Compliance Period	Ashburton	Methven	Rakaia	Chertsey	Dromore	Hakatere	Hinds	Mayfield	Montalto	Mt Somers
General Rules (G Rules)	Assurance	Varies	**53%**	**53%**	**53%**	**58%**	**58%**	**58%**	**58%**	**58%**	**58%**	**58%**
Level 2 Source Rules (S2 Rules)	Varies	Varies	N/A	N/A	N/A	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**79%**	**100%**
Level 3 Source Rules (S3 Rules)	Varies	Varies	**100%**	**88%**	**100%**	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Level 2 Treatment Rules (T2 Rules)	Varies	Varies	N/A	N/A	N/A	**46%**	**46%**	**89%**	**47%**	**48%**	**57%**	**91%**
Level 3 Treatment Rules (T3 Rules)	Varies	Varies	**53%**	**61%**	**87%**	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Level 2 Distribution System Rules (D2 Rules)	Varies	Varies	N/A	N/A	N/A	**91%**	**91%**	**91%**	**91%**	**91%**	**82%**	**91%**
Level 3 Distribution System Rules (D3 Rules)	Varies	Varies	**51%**	**44%**	**44%**	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Overall Average DWQARs Compliance			**65%**	**72%**	**73%**	**67%**	**67%**	**86%**	**67%**	**67%**	**67%**	**86%**

Return to DW Compliance Commentary

Appendix B

ADC COMPLIANCE STATUS SUMMARY - FOR RMA ISSUED RESOURCE CONSENTS

Operational Consents*

Consent Number	Activity	Scheme Network	Local Name	Date Granted	Expiry Date	No: of Conditions	Date last monitored by Ecan	Not Operational	Not Monitored	Unable to determine compliance	Compliant	Non-Compliant No Action required	Non-Compliant Action Required	Significant Non-Complaince	Overall Compliance	Reason
Water Supply																
CRC002108	Take & use groundwater	Methven Springfield	Methven Springfield Intake	30/01/2006	30/01/2041	9	11/09/2018	0	5	0	4	0	0	0		
CRC011923	Take & use groundwater	Methven	Methven Intake	08/08/2002	08/08/2037	6	19/10/2017	0	4	0	1	1	0	0		Take limit exceedance.
CRC022026	Take & use groundwater	Mt Somers	Mt Somers Intake	05/07/2022	15/07/2037	5	03/02/2021	0	3	0	2	0	0	0		
CRC041517	Take & use groundwater	Hinds	Hinds Bore	18/02/2004	18/02/2039	9	11/09/2018	0	5	0	4	0	0	0		
CRC050225.1	Take & use groundwater	Ashburton	Ashburton Bores	30/05/2011	26/11/2039	10	13/09/2017	0	6	0	4	0	0	0		
CRC051262.1	Take & use groundwater	Ashburton	Tinwald Bore	13/10/2011	26/11/2039	11	13/08/2019	0	9	2	0	0	0	0		
CRC052628	Take & use surface water	Montalto	Montalto Intakes	04/08/2010	04/08/2045	11	11/09/2018	0	9	0	2	0	0	0		
CRC120547	Take & use groundwater	Mayfield	Mayfield Bore	17/10/2011	17/05/2045	11	03/02/2021	0	8	0	3	0	0	0		
CRC164142	Take & use groundwater	Lake Hood	Lake Hood Bore	26/11/2015	18/03/2037	6	NM									
CRC170019	Take & use groundwater	Dromore	Dromore Bore	29/07/2016	29/07/2051	15	13/08/2019	0	13	2	0	0	0	0		
CRC231924	Discharge contaminant to land	Methven	Methven WTP	15/03/2023	24/03/2058	22	23/04/2025	3	2	0	17	0	0	0		
CRC231934	Discharge contaminant to land	Mt Somers	Mt Somers WTP	14/03/2023	14/03/2058	23	23/04/2025	3	2	0	18	0	0	0		
CRC244450	Take & use groundwater	Rakaia	Rakaia Bores	29/04/2009	29/04/2044	12	NM									
CRC244645	Discharge contaminant to land	Various	Water Treatment Plants	31/07/2024	31/07/2059	17	NM									
CRC980747.1	Take & use groundwater	Fairton	Fairton Bore	15/03/2010	03/12/2032	4	03/02/2021	0	2	0	2	0	0	0		
CRC991485	Take & use groundwater	Hakatere	Hakatere Bore	07/04/1999	07/04/2034	6	13/09/2018	0	4	2	0	0	0	0		
CRC991612	Take & use groundwater	Chertsey	Chertsey Bore	04/03/1999	04/03/2034	5	03/02/2021	0	3	0	2	0	0	0		
Waste water																
CRC030474	Discharge contaminant to land	Ashburton	Wilkins Rd WWTP	04/06/2004	03/06/2039	10	11/04/2025	1	0	0	9	0	0	0		
CRC030999.1	Discharge contaminant to land	Ashburton	Ocean Farm	05/09/2012	13/06/2039	31	28/04/2025	2	0	1	20	1	6	1		Nitrogen loading rates exceeded.
CRC031000.1	Discharge contaminant to land	Ashburton	Ocean Farm	05/09/2012	13/06/2039	16	11/03/2025	2	0	2	11	0	1	0		Overflow limit exceedance.
CRC031001.1	Discharge contaminant to land	Ashburton	Ocean Farm	18/10/2004	03/06/2039	5	12/03/2025	2	0	1	2	0	0	0		
CRC031002	Discharge contaminant to land	Ashburton	Wilkins Rd WWTP	04/06/2004	03/06/2039	4	21/03/2025	1	0	0	3	0	0	0		
CRC031003	Discharge contaminant to air	Ashburton	Wilkins Rd WWTP	04/06/2004	03/06/2039	8	12/03/2025	2	0	0	5	1	0	0		Odour complaint not actioned.
CRC031005	Divert Surface Water	Ashburton	Ocean Farm	04/06/2004	03/06/2039	6	NM									
CRC031006	Discharge contaminant to water	Ashburton	Ocean Farm	04/06/2004	03/06/2039	6	21/03/2024	2	0	2	2	0	0	0		
CRC031007	Disturb bed of waterway	Ashburton	Ocean Farm	04/06/2004	03/06/2039	12	NM									
CRC031148	Discharge contaminant to air	Ashburton	Ocean Farm	18/10/2004	03/06/2039	11	23/04/2025	2	0	0	9	0	0	0		
CRC093639	Discharge contaminant to land	Ashburton	Ocean Farm	05/09/2012	03/06/2039	14	23/09/2024	5	0	0	9	0	0	0		
CRC200198	Take groundwater	Ashburton	Ocean Farm	10/10/2019	03/06/2039	17	03/02/2021	0	14	0	3	0	0	0		
CRC244473	Discharge contaminant to air	Rakaia	Rakaia WWTP Sludge beds	29/07/2024	29/07/2029	9	09/04/2025	4	0	0	5	0	0	0		
CRC244933	To use land for a community wastewater treatment system	Rakaia	Rakaia WWTP	29/07/2024	29/07/2029	9	NM									
CRC980563	Take Groundwater	Rakaia	Rakaia WWTP	28/11/1997	26/11/2032	4	03/02/2021	0	2	0	2	0	0	0		
CRC980564.1	Discharge contaminant to land	Rakaia	Rakaia WWTP	15/02/2012	11/03/2033	27	17/06/2025	2	3	1	18	3	0	0		Sludge, and FC exceedances.
CRC980565	Discharge contaminant to air	Rakaia	Rakaia WWTP	11/03/1998	23/03/2033	6	01/12/2023	1	1	0	3	1	0	0		
CRC991241	Discharge contaminant to land	Methven	Methven WWTP	08/07/1999	08/07/2034	15	18/03/2025	2	3	0	7	2	0	0		Exceeding effluent discharge limit

Appendix B (Continued)

ADC COMPLIANCE STATUS SUMMARY - FOR RMA ISSUED RESOURCE CONSENTS
Operational Consents*

Consent Number	Activity	Scheme Network	Local Name	Date Granted	Expiry Date	No: of Conditions	Date last monitored by Ecan	Not Operational	Not Monitored	Unable to determine compliance	Compliant	Non-Compliant No Action required	Non-Compliant Action Required	Significant Non-Complaince	Overall Compliance	Reason
Storm water																
CRC020158.1	Disturb bed of waterway	Mill Creek	Mill Creek	07/10/2011	30/11/2026	17	NM									
CRC051734.1	Discharge contaminant to land	Methven	Wayne Place, Methven	20/06/2005	17/06/2040	8	NM									
CRC103734	Disturb bed of waterway	Ashburton	Dobson Str West	29/11/2010	29/11/2045	20	NM									
CRC120550	Discharge contaminant to water	Mill Creek	Mill Creek	07/10/2011	20/11/2036	6	NM									
CRC120552	Divert & take Surface water	Mill Creek	Mill Creek	07/10/2011	20/11/2036	7	NM									
CRC143888	Discharge contaminant to land	Ashburton	Wollen Mills Drive	14/11/2013	20/01/2044	7	NM									
CRC186263	To discharge stormwater to land & water from existing & future urba	Ashburton	Ashburton network wide con	17/06/2019	17/06/2044	43	17/06/2024	7	0	13	18	1	4	0		Industrial sites assessment.
CRC213699	To discharge treatment stormwater into water	Ashburton	Charleworth Dr, HanrahanSt,	16/02/2021	29/04/2046	24	NM									

*Notes-:
1. Consent summary only covers consents for the day to day operation of the 3 waters activities. Construction phase consents will be reported by exception through the relevant capital project reporting.
2. Rows shaded in blue indicate new CMR received since last Water Cmte report.

Return to RMA Consents Compliance Commentary

Appendix C

Ashburton District Council
Water Committee Financials

Income & Expenditure Report to: Period Ending 30 June

OPERATING INCOME

25GLFOR1 25GLFOR1 100%

Description	CC	Nat Acc	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance	% of YTD Budget	FY Budget	FY Variance	% of FY Budget
Drinking Water	#	#	$ 9,129,237	$ 8,579,494	$ 549,743	106%	$ 8,579,494	$ 549,743	106%
Wastewater	#	#	$ 7,431,627	$ 7,103,013	$ 328,614	105%	$ 7,103,013	$ 328,614	105%
Stormwater	#	#	$ 1,538,471	$ 1,502,211	$ 72,520	102%	$ 1,502,211	$ 36,260	102%

OPERATING EXPENDITURE

Description	CC	Nat Acc	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance	% of YTD Budget	FY Budget	FY Variance	% of FY Budget
Drinking Water	#	#	$ 8,628,168	$ 8,093,850	$ 534,318	107%	$ 8,093,850	$ 534,318	107%
Wastewater	#	#	$ 6,919,696	$ 6,604,776	$ 314,920	105%	$ 6,604,776	$ 314,920	105%
Stormwater	#	#	$ 1,674,490	$ 1,743,934	$ (69,444)	96%	$ 1,743,934	$ (69,444)	96%

CAPITAL INCOME

Description	CC	Nat Acc	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance	% of YTD Budget	FY Budget	FY Variance	% of FY Budget
Drinking Water	#	#	$ 2,768,442	$ 14,446,879	$ (11,678,437)	19%	$ 14,446,879	$ (11,678,437)	19%
Wastewater	#	#	$ 4,000,000	$ 5,618,171	$ (1,618,171)	71%	$ 5,618,171	$ (1,618,171)	71%
Stormwater	#	#	$ 0	$ 135,698	$ (135,698)	0%	$ 135,698	$ (135,698)	0%

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Description	CC	Nat Acc	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance	% of YTD Budget	FY Budget	FY Variance	% of FY Budget
Drinking Water	#	#	$ 5,866,000	$ 15,808,704	$ (9,942,704)	37%	$ 15,808,704	$ (9,942,704)	37%
Wastewater	#	#	$ 3,731,679	$ 7,497,762	$ (3,766,083)	50%	$ 7,497,762	$ (3,766,083)	50%
Stormwater	#	#	$ 0	$ 135,698	$ (135,698)	0%	$ 135,698	$ (135,698)	0%

Return to Financials Commentary

Appendix D

Ocean Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant Action Plan – 13 May 2025 [Revision1 – 11 July 2025]

Consent CRC030999.1					
Condition	**Content**	**Reason/s for non-compliance/s** **CMR - April 2025**	**Comments /Proposed Actions**	**Target Timeframe**	**Progress and updates**
4.	The consent holder shall, as far as practicable, operate the facilities and treatment plant in accordance with the report titled "Ashburton District Council Wastewater Treatment and Disposal: Scheme Summary", dated 3 April 2009, attached to, and forming part of this consent.	Updates not provided regarding the wetland renovation project.	**Wetland** There was an undertaking in a previous Action Plan to design and install appropriate intercell connections within the wetland. The connections were to be constructed with appropriate flow control. The draft design of the connections was developed but proved to be difficult to implement at each site due to access constraints. This issue resulted in a reconsideration of the original action. Given that it has been demonstrated through test results that the wetland is impacting detrimentally on treated effluent quality (due to the bird population) Council is intending to explore potentially bypassing the wetland partially or fully depending on the need for buffering storage. It is anticipated that some buffering storage will still be required to ensure the overflow weir & channel only operates for inflows >30,000m3/day.		
			• Develop a hydraulic model of the wetland including the inflow channel, outflow channel and storage pond. [$20,000].	30/09/25	
			• Run model scenarios to evaluate the impact of either fully or partially bypassing the wetland, to determine how much if any buffering is required within the existing wetland. [$5,000].	31/10/25	
			• Engage with Arowhenua (via AECL) to understand their views on any potential changes to the wetland. [BAU].	30/11/25	
			• Investigate (and discuss with Environment Canterbury) consenting implications of any potential / proposed changes to the functioning of the wetland. [$10,000].	30/11/25	
			• Prepare business case for consideration as part of 2026/27 Draft Annual Plan. [BAU].	31/12/25	
			• Subject to Council project approval, implement identified solution. [TBC].	30/06/27	
		Confirm if community liaison committee has been set up according to scheme report.	**Community Liaison Group** This group was never established. Given the intention of the group was to provide a "local voice" during the initial development of the site, the merits of establishing such a group at this time are somewhat questionable. There are therefore no plans to do so. The community's interest are represented through our recently formed water committee. We also have regular hui with Arowhenua.		
			• No action required.	N/A	

Consent CRC030999.1					
6.	(i) The consent holder shall take a representative sample of the wastewater from the influent pipeline from Ashburton and Tinwald, and from the outflow from the land disposal site wastewater treatment plant at least once per month. (ii) All samples taken in accordance with (i) shall be analysed for the following: A. Every month, the samples shall be analysed for: (a) pH (b) Temperature (c) Dissolved oxygen at 9 am (d) Five-day biochemical oxygen demand (e) Filtered five-day biochemical oxygen demand (f) Total suspended solids (g) Ammoniacal nitrogen (h) Nitrate nitrogen (i) Total Kjeldahl nitrogen (j) Dissolved reactive phosphorus (k) Total phosphorus (l) Faecal coliforms (m) Escherichia coli (n) Turbidity B. Every six months, the samples shall be analysed for: (a) Arsenic (b) Cadmium (c) Chromium (d) Copper (e) Mercury (f) Lead (g) Nickel (h) Zinc C. Every year, the sample shall be analysed for: (a) Organochlorine pesticides (OCP) (b) Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) (c) Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) (d) Campylobacter jejuni (e) Salmonella spp (f) Enteroviruses (g) Giardia Lamblia (h) Cryptosporidium parvum	Some sampling test results missing from the 2023-24 Annual Report.	The majority* of this data is made available to Ecan in monthly reports, but due to a minor technical error not all results were sent from WaterOutlook to the reporting tables in the annual report – more care will be taken to ensure all data is set out in the annual report. *Only 2 parameters were not tested in Jan 24 due to an error at the lab.		
			• The requested data will be resent.	07/05/25	Action completed 07/05/2025.
			• Make adjustments to WaterOutlook reporting to ensure annual report tables are complete. [BAU].	30/09/25	
		Condition 6(b) specifies the testing must be conducted every six months.	Council testing programme was January & June, giving a 5mths/7mths cycle. Historically, we had issues with July compliance testing as it typically coincides with new laboratory services contracts and there can be issues with new labs at the start of new engagements. We note the January / June cycle (5mths/7mths) has been accepted in response, and we appreciate the latitude provided by Environment Canterbury. However, on further reflection we have decided to reorient the programme to bring it into alignment with the consent.		
			• The six-monthly testing shall be resumed in alignment with consent requirements (i.e. Jan & July each year). [BAU].	31/07/2025	
7.	(a) Based on monthly samples of the outflow from the land disposal site wastewater treatment plant, taken over the 12-month period specified in condition (29), not more than eight values shall exceed a faecal coliform standard of 200cfu/100ml. (b) In the event that eight values exceed the standard set out in (8a), the consent holder shall record and report to the Canterbury Regional Council within 20 working days of the receipt of the analyses: (i) The extent and most likely cause of the eight exceedances; and (ii) Any remedial action undertaken by the consent holder to ensure that no further exceedances of the faecal coliform standard of 200cfu/100ml occur within the remainder of the 12-month annual reporting period. For the purposes of clarification of Condition (8b), eight monthly values exceeding the standard set out in Condition (8a) shall not constitute a breach of this condition, but nine or more such exceedances will constitute a breach of this condition	Exceeded limit of "not more than 8 values exceeding a faecal coliform standard of 200cfu/100ml."	See Condition 8.		

Consent CRC030999.1					
8.	(a) Based on monthly samples of the outflow from the land disposal site wastewater treatment plant, taken over 12-month reporting period specified in Condition (29), not more than three values shall exceed a faecal coliform standard of 1000 cfu/100 ml. (b) In the event that three values exceed the standard set out in Condition (9a), the consent holder shall record and report to the Canterbury Regional Council within 20 working days of the receipting of the analyses. (i) The extent and most likely case of the third exceedance; and (ii) Any remedial action undertaken by the consent holder to ensure that no further exceedances of the faecal coliform standard of 1000cfu/100ml occur within the remainder of the 12-month annual reporting period. For the purposes of clarification of Condition (9b), three monthly values exceeding the standard set out in Condition (9a) shall not constitute a breach of this Condition, but four or more such exceedances will constitute a breach of this Condition.	Exceeded limit of "not more than 3 values exceeding a faecal coliform standard of 1000cfu/100ml"	This is an ongoing issue and in response to previous exceedances, faecal source tracking had been undertaken on samples taken in March & April 2022 above the wetland (midflow) and below the wetland (outflow). The ESR report notes: *"The overall conclusion from these results is that the elevated E. coli levels detected in the outflow samples is most likely attributed to wildfowl faecal inputs"*. Environment Canterbury has received this report. ADC will look into setting up another investigation into faecal source tracking. Should the results again indicate that the exceedances are likely attributed to wildfowl then ADC may consider a consent variation.		
			• Conduct a further round of faecal source tracking (FST) and evaluate results. [$10,000].	30/09/2025	
			• If another round of FST demonstrates an avian source for the exceedances, officers will identify the advantages, disadvantages and risks associated with a consent variation to seek relief from this ongoing issue. [$5,000].	31/10/2025	
			• Investigate (and discuss with Environment Canterbury) consenting implications of any potential / proposed changes to the functioning of the wetland. [See Condion 4].	30/11/2025	
			• Present findings of the above actions to Water Committee for decision on progressing a consent variation or other mitigations. [BAU].	31/12/2025	
18.	No ponding of wastewater for periods of more than 24 hours duration shall occur as a result of wastewater irrigation. Nor shall any effluent be applied to areas where there is surface ponding.	Unable to determine compliance.	It is noted that no areas of ponding were identified by compliance officers during the compliance visit. The issue of ponding is relatively localised and mostly infrequent. It has been assessed as due to natural compaction of the soil matrix over the years since the pasture was first established. We propose to undertake subsoil ripping of selected areas of the pasture. Best practice dictates that this be carried out in the summer months.		
			• Establish with ACL a monitoring schedule to identify if, and where, ponding is occurring, and to record this information electronically. [$5,000].	30/06/2025	
			• Trial subsoil ripping of areas identified prone to ponding (as necessary). [TBC].	31/03/2026	
			• If subsoil ripping trial is unsuccessful, ADC will consider localised re-seeding pasture at identified sites. [TBC].	30/06/2026	
19.	The wastewater shall be discharged in such a manner that the total annual loading is spread as evenly as is practicably achievable over the irrigated areas	No evidence that discharge is spread evenly over the irrigated areas.	This is one of the active investigations around potential improvements to the existing solid set popup sprinkler system at Ocean Farm. Following previous concerns, an issues and option investigation was undertaken using Beca consultants. This work indicated a significant cost		

Consent CRC030999.1					
			to upgrade the existing system. The results of this work were workshopped with Council at a workshop on 14 August 2024. At conclusion of the workshop, officers promoted a proposal to develop a wastewater strategy. In response Council did not agree to the strategy and requested officers to work with additional irrigation companies to ensure all options were being considered. These proposals have been received and evaluated and reported back to Council. Officers reiterated the desire to develop an overall wastewater strategy for the district before embarking on an isolated upgrade of the irrigation system. Council has agreed to officers progressing a wastewater strategy but asked for more information on the additional irrigation proposals as well. The strategy shall include the development of a hydraulic network model and a separate treatment model for the Ashburton wastewater scheme as a first stage deliverable. The treatment model development will include an analysis of the serviced population, dilution factors and treatment times during varying flow events, and a comparison to original consent application figures.		
			• Report findings on the additional irrigation proposals back to Council. [BAU]	30/06/2025	
			• Prepare a design brief covering the development of a wastewater strategy for the Ashburton District. This is proposed to be progressed through an RFP process. [$5,000]	30/08/2025	
			• Develop a hydraulic network and treatment model for the Ashburton wastewater scheme. [$ Inc in Strategy Development]	31/12/2025	Note-: Additional action included to address ECan concerns.
			• Develop a wastewater strategy for the Ashburton District. [$200,000].	31/12/2026	
20.	The nitrogen loading rates of the wastewater shall not exceed 305 kilograms N/ha/year	Nitrogen loading rates have consistently exceeded the limit.	The question around the nitrate loading has been a long standing one and officers hold concerns that the current levels reported may be overstating what is actually occurring. We would expect if we were exceeding the nitrogen loading to the level currently reported, some effects would be reflected in the groundwater monitoring at the site. On cursory inspection, this does not appear to be the case. We believe that increasing the sampling of nitrogen parameters would give us a better picture of nitrogen levels across the year. At present we are sampling during routine base flow conditions which will be yielding a higher concentration of nitrate than when the routine base flows are increased by receiving additional stormwater/groundwater during high rainfall events. These higher flows can extend for many days.		

Consent CRC030999.1					
			This additional nitrogen data will assist the treatment modelling proposed to be undertaken as part of the Wastewater Strategy (refer to condition 19 for actions). We are also mindful of the impact of the changes made at the Wilkins Rd ponds in relation to aeration. This is a significant positive change to the appearance and performance of the ponds, but we are aware that excessive aeration could be disrupting the normal pond denitrification process. It is proposed to optimise the aeration to ensure that we are only applying aeration when there is a need to do so. This optimisation is expected to be an iterative process over a number of months.		
			• Implement weekly sampling of nitrogen parameters. [2,500/annum].	30/05/2025	
			• Investigate and consider the deployment of a continuous nitrate probe. [$1,000].	30/06/2025	
			• Subject to feasibility, install and commission a continuous nitrate probe on the outflow channel. [$35,000].	30/09/2025	
			• Optimise aeration at Pond 1 & 2 at Wilkins Rd. [$20,000].	31/12/2025	
25.	The consent holder shall maintain a detailed record of wastewater disposal, including the following: (a) Daily volume of wastewater discharged, (b) Date, time, and location of each application of wastewater, (c) The depth of each application of wastewater, (d) The total nitrogen applied during each application of wastewater, and (e) The total nitrogen applied to the irrigated areas annually.	Long term solution for irrigation system required to ensure more accurate data and calculations.	This issue was proposed to be resolved as part of any significant upgrade of the irrigations system. (Refer comments under condition 19). However, with the anticipated delay to embarking on significant upgrading of the irrigation system in favour of developing a wastewater strategy for the Ashburton District, it is considered appropriate to endeavour to make improvements in this area. We are proposing to install flow meters on each of the 15 irrigation areas at Ocean Farm. We are still working through the detail of this upgrade but will share the results of this work once the meters are installed and commissioned.		
			• Install flow meters on each zone (15). [$250,000].	31/03/26	

Consent CRC031000.1					
Condition	**Content**	**Reason/s for non-compliance/s** **CMR - October 2024** **CMR - March 2025**	**Comments /Proposed Actions**	**Target Timeframe**	**Progress and updates**
3.	The daily volume of wastewater discharging via the outflow bypass structure into the constructed swale under this consent shall not exceed 18,000 cubic metres per day.	Periodic exceedances of limit have occurred in each of the last three years.	This matter is under active investigation and is considered to be a symptom of the wider wetland issues and likely addressed through those actions listed under CRC030999.1 condition 4 of this action plan. The issue pertains to the flow buffering potential inherent in the wetland. We do note that if buffering is currently reduced by the state of the wetland,		

Consent CRC031000.1					
			and as a consequence an overflow is required, the preferred overflow point is the overflow bypass swale rather than the storage pond overflow swale. We are concerned that the resolution of the weir flow measurement equipment may be such that the recorded flows are overstating what is actually occurring during these events. ADC will either modify the level sensor output to have higher precision (or replace it with one that does) and get the calculation done in near real-time so we're able to see the overflow volumes as they happen. As an additional measure, we are proposing to install camera to capture and document any overflows so we can see when it starts and stops and correlate that with the level sensor information.		
			• Upgrade the labyrinth weir level measurement equipment to provide increased resolution on water level height and flow calculation. [$10,000].	31/07/2025	
			• Install a suitable remote camera directed at the overflow weir and channel. [$10,000].	31/07/2025	
			• Install and commission appropriate flow measurement equipment at end of transfer pipeline (top of wetland). [$20,000].	31/07/2025	

Return to RMA Consents Compliance Commentary

Three Waters Committee
Terms of Reference

Purpose

The purpose of the Three Waters Committee is to provide oversight of the district's drinking water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure programme and services in a manner that promotes the current and future interests of the community (Local Government Act 2002).

Membership

Membership of the Committee comprises:

- Cr Russell Ellis (Chair)
- Cr Liz McMillan (Deputy Chair)
- Cr Phill Hooper
- Cr Lynette Lovett
- Cr Tony Todd
- The Mayor, Neil Brown (ex-officio)

The quorum is four members.

Meeting Frequency

The Three Waters Committee will meet on a six (6) weekly cycle, or more frequently on an as-required basis as determined by the Chair and Group Manager Infrastructure Services.

Committee members shall be given not less than 5 working days' notice of meetings.

Delegations

The Three Waters Committee has no delegated authority to make decisions. Its role is to consider and review matters of work programme, compliance, service delivery and forward planning in its sphere of Council business, and (if appropriate) to make recommendations to full Council.

Sphere of business

- Drinking Water supplies
- Stormwater network
- Wastewater – reticulation and disposal (including trade waste and septage disposal)

Reporting

The Three Waters Committee will report to the Council.

Adopted by Council

16/10/24