10.1 The Consultation Programme

The Waiwhetu Project is the joint Council response to community concerns over flooding that occurred in February 2004 and historically. The objective of the consultation programme is to involve the community in the selection of measures that will mitigate flooding, remediate contaminated sediments in the stream bed, and improve the stream environment.

The consultation programme precedes the formal statutory consultation that will be required if and when the Councils decide to implement the recommendations of the Waiwhetu Project. The overall programme for Phases 1 and 2 is described in Table 10-1. The programme has been structured to ensure that the communities are well informed of the nature of any proposed measures well before the statutory processes are initiated. The statutory planning processes that can be anticipated may include amendments to the District Plan to improve source control, designation of land for flood mitigation purposes, land use consents for the construction of flood mitigation works and water permits for the diversion of water. Other non-notified approvals may be required for the disposal of contaminated sediments and contaminated water.

10.2 Objectives of Consultation

The objectives of consultation are to:

- Obtain information on the nature and extent of flooding to calibrate technical and economic analysis.
- Provide information on the current level of risk and options to mitigate that risk.
- Obtain community objectives for the study outcomes.
- Receive ideas on what is important to individuals and the community in preparing the floodplain management plan to assist in developing briefs for project designs.
- Provide layman summaries of technical outputs.
- Receive feedback on the positive and negative effects of flood mitigation options to help in design optimisation.
- Keep the community informed on the progress of the study.
- Support Councillor's in responding to community concerns.

Table 10-1: The Waiwhetu Project Consultation Programme – Key Events and Timeframes

TIMELINE	PUBLIC CONSULTATION	CONSULTATION PURPOSE	PROCESS	TOOLS (website, media etc)
Sept 05	Media statement	Raise awareness	Media release	One page statement by Mayor Summarising 29th August 05 - decisions of committee
Sept 05 - Oct 05	Prepare information for public access on internet	Provide background resources	Internet page managed by GWRC	Pdf copies of background reports Launch website
Oct 05 -Nov 05	Release Issues Report amended with Phil Wallace data and AAD	Raise awareness of WSFMP Seek expressions of interest in consultation groups	Provide to media with media release	Digital copy on disc with photo library of recent floods Tim Porteous to present Issues Report to WSWG Media release providing information on Issues Report
Ot 05 – Nov 05	Newsletter – Upstream One	Raise awareness of contents of Issues Report and advertise public meeting. Also provides a regular communication format to consult with the community.		Newsletter to the Awamutu and Waiwhetu communities – landlords and tenants Link to website advertised. Summarising Issues Report. Kick starting Consultation Programme.

TIMELINE	PUBLIC CONSULTATION	CONSULTATION PURPOSE	PROCESS	TOOLS (website, media etc)
Nov 05	Public meeting following release of Issues Report	General overview of the Issues Report. Obtain community perspective of Waiwhetu and Awamutu streams		An introduction by key technical team members Summary of Issue Report, advertise public meeting and ask for nominations to consultation groups Advertisement for public meeting in Hutt News.
Dec 05	Establish Awamutu consultation group (as a resource group)	Consultation group establishment	Invite membership	Use existing networks to select invitees and interest from public meeting Media release seeking EOI's for Awamutu consultation group
Dec 05	Establish Waiwhetu consultation group (as a resource group)	Consultation group establishment	Invite membership from selected parties	Use existing network to select invitees and interest from public meeting Media release articles seeking EOI's for Waiwhetu consultation group
Feb 06	Resource group meetings	Scene setting for further consultation — overview of Issues Report Identification of key Issues and objectives for the Waiwhetu and Awamutu along with key issues and concerns for groups, measures of success and capture local knowledge.	Presentation and interactive workshop	



TIMELINE	PUBLIC CONSULTATION	CONSULTATION PURPOSE	PROCESS	TOOLS (website, media etc)
Feb 06	Meetings with stakeholders e.g. Hutt Park Holiday Park	Identification of key Issues and objectives for the Waiwhetu and Awamutu	Meetings as required	
March 06	Waiwhetu Project Posters	Posters to rise awareness of Waiwhetu Project issues in the Community	Posters placed in Awamutu/Waiwhetu community	
May 06	Resource group meetings and meetings with iwi.	Contaminated sediments remediation options Design standard and options evaluation framework	Interactive workshop and discussion	Capture local knowledge
May 06	Meeting with Waiwhetu Stream Working Group	Facilitate forum for technical input from the WSWG into current stage of investigations - Contaminated sediments remediation options - Flood protection options	Present work to date and seek input from WSWG	
May –August 06	Meetings with Stakeholders of contaminated sediments	Contaminated sediments remediation options - Tolerance for 90-100% containment and costs associated with them	Meeting with stakeholders such as DOC, GWRC, Harbourcare,	Invite groups to become involved



SECTION FREDRING

TIMELINE	PUBLIC CONSULTATION	CONSULTATION PURPOSE	PROCESS	TOOLS (website, media etc)
	remediation options		Wellington tenths, iwi	
May-August 06	Consult with GWRC and MfE on contaminated sediments remediation options	Assess acceptability of GWRC and MfE to loss of contaminants to the harbour	Tim Porteous to conduct with URS assistance	
June 06	Meeting with Waiwhetu Stream Working Group	Facilitate forum for technical input from the WSWG into current stage of investigations - Contaminated sediments remediation options; - Flood protection options	Project team present work to date and seek input from WSWG - Review of contaminated sediments removal methods	
July/August 06	Newsletter – Upstream Two	Use newsletter to consult on Waiwhetu contaminated sediments remediation and inform people on flood protection options	Summarising environmental remediation issues.	Newsletter to the Awamutu and Waiwhetu communities – landlords and tenants Media release – background material on flood protection options

TIMELINE	PUBLIC CONSULTATION	CONSULTATION PURPOSE	PROCESS	TOOLS (website, media etc)
July 06	Resource group meetings	Strategies for Lower Waiwhetu and Awamutu	Interactive workshop and discussion	Capture local knowledge Media release providing information on
				strategies
	Meeting with Waiwhetu Stream	Facilitate forum for technical input from the WSWG into current stage of investigations	Project team present work to date and seek	
July 06	Working Group	Contaminated sediments remediation options and;Flood protection options	input from WSWG	
August/Sept 06	Public meeting	Report on project status and decisions by WSAC	Presentation and discussion	Consultation or other resource group members to present their views/issues and potentially some of the findings
				Advertisement in Hutt news
Sept 06	Resource group meetings	Discuss key aspects of management strategies for total Awamutu and Waiwhetu catchments	Interactive workshop	
Sept-Dec 06	Meeting with Waiwhetu Stream Working Group as required	Facilitate forum for technical input from the WSWG into current stage of investigations	Project team present work to date and seek input from WSWG	

TIMELINE	PUBLIC CONSULTATION	CONSULTATION PURPOSE	PROCESS	TOOLS (website, media etc)
Dec 06	Resource group meetings	Feedback on mix of options	Interactive workshop	Presenting options and an overview of integrated options strategy
Dec 06	Public meeting	Provide information on options	Presentation and discussion	Media release for Hutt News Advertise public meeting
Jan –March 07	Meeting with Waiwhetu Stream Working Group as required	Facilitate forum for technical input from the WSWG into current stage of investigations	Project team present work to date and seek input from WSWG	
April 07	Final public meeting to present findings	Present draft Waiwhetu Stream Floodplain Management Plan	Presentation and discussion	Consultation or other resource group members to present Media release for Hutt News

10.3 Framework for Consultation

The framework for consultation and the membership of the key groups involved in Project decision-making is illustrated in Figure 10-1.

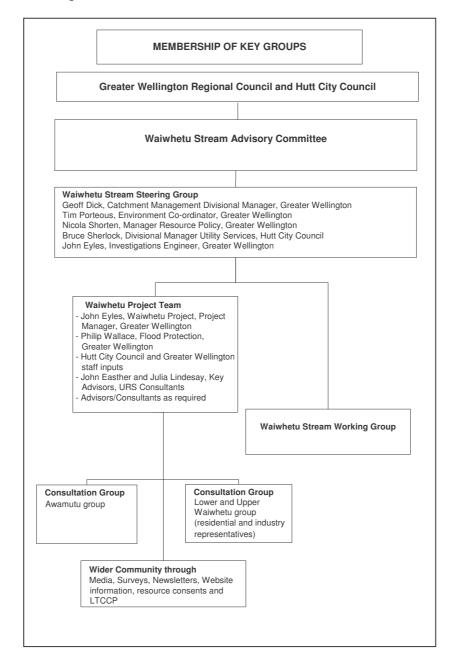


Figure 10-1: Membership of key groups

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The approach taken to consultation has been to establish two consultation groups (resource groups) in conjunction with wider community involvement. These two groups represent the communities of interest in the Waiwhetu and Awamutu stream catchments respectively, and were convened for the first time in February 2006.

Participation in the consultation groups was open to all residential and commercial interests in the Project area. Participation in the groups was invited at the Waiwhetu Project public meeting in December 2005, attended by over 120 residents, through invitations appearing in a Hutt News newspaper article, in Upstream (the newsletter for the Waiwhetu Project), and through targeted invitations. The Waiwhetu group comprises twenty residents from both the upper and lower reaches of the Waiwhetu stream. The group also includes five representatives from commercial and industrial interests in the Project area. The Awamutu group comprises five residents from the Awamutu catchment area.

Consultation with the wider community is being undertaken through surveys, newspaper articles and Upstream which is circulated to householders and business owner/occupiers. The Waiwhetu Project programme of consultation is also building on the programmes of consultation being run for related projects affecting the same communities of interest. These projects include the Private Drain Upgrade project, 2006-2016 Draft Community Plan (Hutt City), Draft Hutt City Council Walking Strategy, Draft Hutt City Council Cycling Strategy and the 2006-2016 Council Community Plan (Greater Wellington).

The programme includes public meetings at key decision points. In addition, all meetings of the project Advisory Committee are open to the public with the media provided with briefing documents prior to the meetings. A Project web page has been established from which all project documents can be accessed by interested stakeholders. The website is www.gw.govt.nz/story12409.cfm.

Consultation with iwi is being undertaken in association with GWRC and HCC iwi liaison officers. Te Runanganui o Taranaki Whanui (Te Atiawa/Taranaki iwi), have kaitiaki of the Waiwhetu Stream. The Wellington Tenths Trust will also be kept informed of the Waiwhetu Project as appropriate during Phase 2.

10.4 Consultation during Phase 1

The community groups which have been the focus of consultation during Phase 1 are listed in Table 10-3 along with their objectives for the Waiwhetu Project and the key issues identified during consultation.

There are other key stakeholder groups that have not been described in Table 10-3 who will be involved in the Consultation Programme. The other groups that have been identified who are expected to be particularly concerned with environmental remediation are the Department of Conservation, Wellington Tenths Trust and other stakeholders of the Wellington Harbour environment. These groups will be incorporated in future consultation of the Waiwhetu Project as consultation on remediation options proceeds.



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Table 10-2 summarises key consultation events and stakeholder group involvement during Phase 1.

Table 10-2: Key Consultation Events (Phase I)

Date	Activity	Consultation Groups	Te Atiawa/Taranaki	Affected Property Owners	General Public	WSAC	WSWG	Utility companies
Nov 05	WSAC Meeting and Bus Tour					✓		
Nov 05	Upstream Newsletter One		√	√	√	√	√	
Dec 05	Public meeting – beginning of Phase 1				√			
Feb 06	Stakeholder Group meetings - remediation - flood protection objectives	✓			✓		✓	
April 06	WSAC Meeting		√		√	√		
May 06	Stakeholder Group meetings - flood protection options	√		√			√	√
June 06	WSAC Meeting				√	√		

Table 10-3: Key Stakeholder Groups, Objectives of Consultation, and Key Issues from Phase I Consultation

Stakeholder Group	Group Objectives/Perspectives	Key Issues/Comments	Consultation and communication activities
Community	,		,
Waiwhetu Stream Working Group	The WSWG membership comprises representatives from HCC and GWRC, members of the business and science community, Forest and Bird as well as Te Atiawa/Taranaki iwi and community members of the Waiwhetu area. The group focuses on the environmental restoration of the Waiwhetu Stream. The objective of consultation with the WSWG is to obtain technical and community input into environmental and flood mitigation options at key decision points – from an environmental perspective.	Contaminated sediment remediation options A key issue for both options is the need to address ongoing pollution of the stream. There is potential for remediation needs to be ignored once flood protection has been undertaken. A commitment from all parties involved that remediation will be undertaken is required. Concerns/comments with relation to In-stream Remediation: There is a risk of contamination during transport to the landfill and from disturbance of the site. Assurance is required that a rigorous methodology would mitigate this risk i.e. identify a comparable project, worst case scenarios, and ensure contingency plans are in place. Concern that all costs and risks associated with this option haven't been accounted for. Certainty is required for all costs and risks. More politically acceptable than Hutt Park Diversion. Lower cost means it is more likely to go ahead. Removing contaminated sediment means it has to be dealt with now. Concerns/comments on Hutt Park Diversion: Resistance from Hutt Park development and the Motor Camp. The higher cost and the potential to forget about removing the contaminants at all.	Meetings to gain input at strategic decision making points and Project team members attendance at the majority of WSWG meetings. Updates (a newsletter for key stakeholder groups) is sent to the WSWG as a record of meeting outcomes. Meeting minutes are also sent as a record of meeting outcomes. Les Roberts (chair of WSWG) sits on the WSAC.



Stakeholder Group	Group Objectives/Perspectives	Key Issues/Comments	Consultation and communication activities
		 Allows for future decontamination on site (less risky than In-stream Remediation). Improved environmental appearance with stream removed from industry vicinity. Perceived as a better use of space for the community. 	
		 Fewer disturbances during construction. Draft flood mitigation options The WSWG's initial comments on the flood protection options were: 	
		A preference for Option 3 (lower flood walls, coupled with excavation of the stream) as this addressed both the flooding issue and the contaminated sediments;	
		A preference for stopbanks rather than concrete floodwalls. There is a specific concern that floodwalls in the outlet channel will effectively turn it into a concrete channel.	
		 Note that increased property values resulting from lower floodwalls need to be taken into account in any BCR. Concerns over the risks associated with excavating contaminated sediments and transferral 	
		of risk to Silverstream landfill. Note that industry in particular needs to take further precautionary measures to reduce	
Maintenturand	The Weight strength Assessment	flood damage risks e.g. lifting goods off shop floor. Expectations for the Waiwhetu Project - first consultation group meeting	Mostings to pain invest
Waiwhetu and Awamutu Stream Residential	The Waiwhetu and Awamutu Stream Residential Consultation Groups meet jointly and have	Improving management of the weed problem and possible excavation to increase channel capacity.	Meetings to gain input at strategic decision making points.
Consultation Group (a resource group of the	similar objectives for involvement in the Waiwhetu Project. The priority objective for the	Water quality, pollution and environmental enhancement of the stream. Ensuring an integrated solution to flood protection works so that work downstream does not affect upper reaches and vice versa.	Updates(a newsletter for key stakeholder groups) are sent as a



Stakeholder Group	Group Objectives/Perspectives	Key Issues/Comments	Consultation and communication activities
Waiwhetu Project)	Residential representatives of the Waiwhetu Catchment is to ensure that effective flood protection option is developed with their specific needs in mind. The group is also very concerned with the environmental and aesthetic quality of the Waiwhetu Stream environment with a focus on maximising the availability of space for multi-use recreational purposes.	Stormwater and drainage throughout the catchment and how further development will impact upon this. Flood Protection, structural and non-structural options available for the Waiwhetu floodplain. The need for consultation group members to understand what options for floodplain management are realistic for the Waiwhetu floodplain. Flood protection objectives - first consultation group meeting • Flood risk to properties is minimised and that in times of heavy rain people feel safe. • Flood protection work downstream does not affect upper reaches. • Both stream environments are enhanced with water quality improved, riparian vegetation of appropriate species and abundant animal life. • Recreational opportunities are available and safe. • Rates don't go up as a result of the work, balanced with the need to ensure that cost constraints don't limit options. Contaminated sediment remediation options The most important aspects of both options were identified by participants as: • In-stream Remediation has a lower financial cost. • In-stream Remediation will ensure that scheduling of flood protection will not be delayed and the contaminants will be removed from the site completely. • In slight contradiction to the previous point, it was noted that a positive aspect of the Hutt Park Stream Diversion was that the contaminants weren't disturbed and risk of dispersing contaminants during remediation was less. • In-stream Remediation has risks associated with contaminant disposal at another site	record of meeting outcomes and to provide further information to allow effective input at Consultation Group meetings.



Stakeholder Group	Group Objectives/Perspectives	Key Issues/Comments	Consultation and communication
			activities
		(the landfill) and the possibility of spills enroute – some participants felt that more work needs to be done to investigate these possible impacts.	
		Several participants also felt that while a lower cost option is preferable, cost should not prevent the most effective remediation option from being selected.	
		Draft Flood Mitigation Options	
		During a discussion of the possible impacts of higher floodwalls in the community, consultation group members were primarily concerned with ensuring effective flood protection from the outset. Environmental enhancement and unrestricted use of the stream corridor are also perceived as an important consideration for the Waiwhetu Project.	
		They generally felt that the aesthetics of floodwalls or stopbanks were not of concern in industrial areas but may be for residential areas. Aesthetics of flood defences are most likely to be of concern to residents adjacent to them.	
		Consultation group members were concerned with any increased hazard from higher flood depths from higher floodwalls (compared to dredging of the channel and lower flood defences). The concerns of the group relate mostly to a greater chance of a complete breach failure occurring, and if a breach occurs the energy released can be life threatening.	
		The increased risk of a breach in flood defences was of considerable concern to participants who have experienced the Feb 2004 flood where flooding occurred with little or no warning.	
		The advantage of cleaning up contaminated sediments upstream and downstream of the area currently targeted by Options D: In-stream Remediation (through excavating in Options 2 and 3) was noted.	
		Other concerns included that flood protection designed to a 50 year design flood may not be high enough in the event of global warming.	
		The need for non-structural flood and environmental protection was perceived as a pressing issue. There is concern over infill housing and new subdivisions and the issue of source	



Stakeholder Group	Group Objectives/Perspectives	Key Issues/Comments	Consultation and communication activities
Waiwhetu Stream	The Waiwhetu Stream Industrial	control (controlling stormwater at its source e.g. through fewer paved surfaces and restricted development) came up several times at various points during the meeting. Education was also seen as an important part of the Waiwhetu Stream Floodplain Management Plan. Providing people with information on what they can do to improve source control and the realities of living on a floodplain were seen as a key focus of education. Using Hutt Park for flood storage is of concern if it impacts on the recreational uses of Hutt Park itself i.e. if storage limits the use of the area for different recreational activities or impacts on the development of new facilities. Contaminated sediment remediation options	Meetings to gain input
Industrial Consultation Group (a resource group of the Waiwhetu Project)	Consultation Group meets jointly with the residential groups. Their priority is to ensure that flood protection happens as quickly and effectively as possible. Remediation of contaminated sediments is also seen as important to them.	At the first industry meeting (not limited to consultation group members) there was considerable discussion on the cost of remediation and how it would be funded, with a strong feeling from some that remediation should be a priority for central and local government. Draft flood mitigation options The main feeling from representatives of the industrial community is that they are happy to just see flood protection happen and do not need to get involved in the detailed design. A cautionary phrase made by an industry member early in the Project was to "make haste slowly". One industry member was present at the meeting considering draft flood mitigation options. Another later agreed with the outcomes. Their thoughts were that the aesthetics of the flood defences is not likely to be a concern for property owner occupiers in the industrial area of Seaview/Gracefield.	at strategic decision making points. Updates (a newsletter for key stakeholder groups) are sent as a record of meeting outcomes and to provide further information to allow effective input at Consultation Group meetings.
Hutt Park Holiday Park	The Hutt Park Holiday Park owners have a lease on the land they currently occupy in Hutt Park for another 53 years. All	Contaminated sediment remediation options Generally supportive of the need to remediate the Waiwhetu Stream and enhance its environs. In-stream Remediation is the preferred option from the Holiday Parks' perspective. The Hutt	Meetings to gain input at strategic decision making points. Letters and phone



Stakeholder Group	Group Objectives/Perspectives	Key Issues/Comments	Consultation and communication activities
	facilities at the Holiday Park are owned by the Levein family.	 Park Diversion is unacceptable to the Holiday Park owners due to the short and long term impacts on their operations. The most significant of these impacts include: Removal of facilities that service a significant proportion of the campsite - resulting in loss of bed numbers during diversion works and until facilities can be rebuilt; Constraints on future development on the golf course side of the Holiday Park; and Land swaps to compensate – land reclaimed from the stream bed is perceived to be of lesser value due to contamination contained in the old stream bed and proximity to the road. Mr Levein noted that the In-stream Remediation would impact on their operations in the short term; however, he considers that this is likely to be at an acceptable level. Draft flood mitigation The Levein family would like to see effective flood protection that least impacts on their business operations. The main flood protection concern of the Manager (Alan Levein) is that flooding appears to be caused by water backing up the stormwater pipes. As such he perceives little benefit from flood defences such as stopbanks and stop walls. The Holiday Park intends to create a work area in the southeastern corner of their property 	conversations.
Potentially Affected Property Owners	Business owner/occupiers and residential property owners/occupiers whose properties bound the Waiwhetu Stream and who may be impacted upon by the	 boundary which may impact on the deign options for flood defences in that area. Issues varied greatly between different landowners. Residential property owners on Riverside Dr and Hinemoa St. had the following viewpoints: All would generally like to benefit from flood protection improvements although none have suffered extensive flooding of their homes (some flooding of yards and garages). Most 	One-to-one meetings and phone calls with affected property owners



Stakeholder Group	Group Objectives/Perspectives	Key Issues/Comments	Consultation and communication activities
	development of flood defences in close proximity to their properties.	 were happy with the concept of a floodwall running through or very close to their property boundaries to achieve this. The key issue for some is the uncertainty of what will happen i.e. they do not want to invest money into their property if they have to leave it or if the value of it may be affected etc. One residential owner had significant concerns over the damage to the aesthetics of their property from a flood wall between their house and the stream. Commercial property owners were generally unconcerned with the aesthetics of flood defences – some commented that they did not want it o impact on extension possibilities (note that at time of writing not all had been met with to discuss potential impacts on their property). 	
lwi			
Te Atiawa/ Taranaki iwi	Engage iwi in the Waiwhetu Project through their role as kaitiaki of the Waiwhetu Stream	The key issue outlined by Te Atiawa representatives is that consultation with regards to the Waiwhetu Project, and environmental remediation particularly, will not have an impact on decisions made regarding the best options.	
		Te Atiawa representatives will meet with Waiwhetu Project team members to discuss the flood protection opinions specifically but do not wish to be involved in consultation on environmental remediation currently apart from receiving information on progress made. However, as the remediation ad flood protection options have become very integrated, it is difficult to talk about flood protection in isolation from remediation and vice versa.	



Stakeholder Group	Group Objectives/Perspectives	Key Issues/Comments	Consultation and communication activities				
General Public							
Waiwhetu and Awamutu Community	The Waiwhetu Catchment members of public are largely concerned with effective flood mitigation. Environmental protection is also a significant concern.	Ensuring that flood protection mitigation is carried out as cost effectively and as quickly as possible. The public (in the Lower Hutt and potentially the whole of the Greater Wellington region) is also concerned that contaminated sediments remediation takes place with the least risk to the environment and greatest benefit for the environment.	Upstream Newsletter One Hutt News and Dominion Post articles and media release Public Meeting All reports held at Lower Hutt libraries Posters in Waiwhetu Catchment HCC and GWRC website information and all reports/advisory committee papers downloadable				



10.5 Focus of Consultation for Phase 2

The focus of the consultation for Phase 2 will be on:

- Non-structural options for the Waiwhetu Project e.g. source control, district plan changes, and education;
- Receiving feedback on the positive and negative effects of physical flood mitigation options (developed in Phase 1) to help in design optimisation;
- Receiving ideas on what is important to individuals and the community in preparing the final mix of options for flood protection (structural and non-structural);
- Contaminated sediment remediation options;
- Environmental management of stream i.e. weed management;
- Discussing key aspects of management strategies for total Awamutu and Waiwhetu catchments;
 and
- Keeping the community informed on the progress of the study.