



If calling, please ask for Democratic Services

Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee

Tuesday 7 December 2021, 4.30pm

Hutt City Council Chamber, 30 Laings Road, Lower Hutt

Members

Greater Wellington Regional Council

Cr Lamason (Chair)

Cr van Lier (Deputy Chair)

Cr Connelly

Cr Lee

Hutt City Council

Deputy Mayor Lewis

Cr Edwards

Upper Hutt City Council

Mayor Guppy

Cr Wheeler

Recommendations in reports are not to be construed as Council policy until adopted by Council

Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee

Tuesday 7 November 2021, 4.30pm

Hutt City Council Chambers, 30 Laings Road, Lower Hutt.

Public Business

No.	Item	Report	Page
1.	Apologies		
2.	Conflict of interest declarations		
3.	Public participation		
4.	Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee meeting on 26 October 2021	21.496	3
5.	Update on Progress of Action Items from Previous Meetings – December 2021	21.560	6
6.	RiverLink Project Update - December 2021	21.535	9
7.	Hutt Valley Flood Management Project Update Report – December 2021	21.521	22



Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee meeting on 7 December 2021.

Report 21.496

Public minutes of the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee meeting on Tuesday 26 October 2021

All members participating remotely, at 4:30pm

Members Present

Greater Wellington Regional Council

Councillor Lamason (Chair)
Councillor van Lier (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Connelly

Hutt City Council

Deputy Mayor Lewis
Councillor Edwards

Upper Hutt City Council

Mayor Guppy

All members participated at this meeting remotely and counted for the purpose of quorum, as per clause 25B of Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2002.

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Councillor Connelly / Councillor van Lier

That the Subcommittee accepts the apology for absence from Councillor Wheeler and Councillor Lee.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

There was no public participation.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee meeting on 3 August 2021 - Report 21.354

Moved: Mayor Guppy / Councillor van Lier

That the Subcommittee confirms the Public minutes of the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee meeting of 3 August 2021 - Report 21.354, as corrected.

The motion was **carried**.

5 Update on Progress of Action Items from Previous Meetings – October 2021 – Report 21.372 [For Information]

6 RiverLink Project Update – October 2021 – Report 21.470

Tracy Berghan, Owner Integration Lead RiverLink and Tom Newson, RiverLink Project Director, spoke to the report.

Kim Skelton, Alternate Director, Te Atiawa Taranaki Whanui, tabled a presentation and introduced the Mana Whenua Steering Group.

Moved: Councillor Connelly / Councillor Edwards

That the Subcommittee endorses the decision of the RiverLink Board to seek a change in the agreed consenting pathway to direct referral of the resource consent application to the Environment Court.

The motion was **carried**.

Noted: The Subcommittee requested that Nigel Corry, Chief Executive, Greater Wellington, write a letter to NZ Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi), Hutt City Council and the Chair of the RiverLink Board regarding the makeup of the Tender Evaluation Team (TET). The letter is to indicate the strong preference of the Subcommittee that the TET membership be amended to have one member representing Hutt City Council interests and one member representing the interests of Greater Wellington. This would increase the total TET membership to 5.

7 Response Plan for Taita and Moonshine Stopbanks – 21.477 [For Information]

Lucy Ashford, Project Engineer, Flood Protection, spoke to the report and tabled a presentation.

8 Hutt Valley Flood Management Projects Report – October 2021 – Report 21.469 [For Information]

Sharyn Westlake, Team Leader, Floodplain Management Plan Implementation, spoke to the report and Ross Jackson, Advisor, Hutt River Upgrade Project, tabled a presentation.

Noted:

1. The Subcommittee requested that the Executive Summary and a link to the latest Hutt River gravel analysis report be circulated to members of the Subcommittee.

2. The Subcommittee requested that the cost of the Pomare/Taita Left Bank Erosion Repair Works be circulated to members of the Subcommittee.
3. The Subcommittee requested that a copy of the Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River Management Plan and Operations Manual be circulated to members of the Subcommittee.

The meeting closed at 5.57pm.

Councillor P Lamason

Chair

Date:

Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee
26 October 2021
Report 21.560



For Information

UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS – DECEMBER 2021

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To update the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee (the Subcommittee) on the progress of the action items arising from the previous Subcommittee meetings.

Te horopaki

Context

2. The items raised at the Subcommittee's previous meeting, which required action by officers, is listed in [Attachment 1](#). The status is noted and the information requested is provided.

Ngā hua ahumoni

Financial implications

3. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei

Next steps

4. The completed items will be removed from the action items table for the next report. Any new items will be added to the table, following this Subcommittee meeting, and circulated to the relevant business group for action.

Ngā āpitihanga

Attachment

Number	Title
1	Action items from previous HVFMS meetings December 2021

Ngā kaiwaitohu

Signatory

Approver	Wayne O'Donnell, General Manager, Catchment Management Group
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He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i> The action items are of an administrative nature and support the functioning of the Committee.
<i>Implications for Māori</i> There are no direct implications for Māori arising from this report.
<i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i> Action items contribute to Council's or Greater Wellington's related strategies, policies and plans to the extent identified in Attachment 1 .
<i>Internal consultation</i> There was no additional internal consultation in preparing this report and updating the action items.
<i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i> There are no known risks or impacts.

Attachment 1 to Report 21.560

Update on Progress of Action Items from previous HVFMS Meeting December 2021

Meeting date	Action	Status and comment
26 October 2021	<p>RiverLink Project Update October 2021 – Report 21.470</p> <p>Noted:</p> <p>The Subcommittee requested that Nigel Corry, Chief Executive, Greater Wellington, write a letter to NZ Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi), Hutt City Council and the Chair of the RiverLink Board regarding the makeup of the Tender Evaluation Team (TET). The letter is to indicate the strong preference of the Subcommittee that the TET membership be amended to have one member representing Hutt City Council interests and one member representing the interests of Greater Wellington. This would increase the total TET membership to 5.</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>Nigel Corry engaged with Waka Kotahi and HCC – matter successfully resolved</p>
26 October 2021	<p>Hutt Valley Flood Management Projects Report October 2021 – Report 21.469</p> <p>Noted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Subcommittee requested that the Executive Summary and a link to the latest Hutt River gravel analysis report be circulated to members of the Subcommittee. 2. The Subcommittee requested that the cost of the Pomare/Taita Left Bank Erosion Repair Works be circulated to members of the Subcommittee. 3. The Subcommittee requested that a copy of the Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River Management Plan and Operations Manual be circulated to members of the Subcommittee. 	<p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p>

Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee
7 December 2021
Report No. 21.535



For Information

RIVERLINK PROJECT UPDATE REPORT

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

To update the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee (the Subcommittee) on RiverLink and comment on the items raised in the Report of the Project Director - RiverLink ([Attachment 1](#)).

Te tāhū kōrero

Background

1. RiverLink is a partnership project between Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington), Hutt City Council (HCC), Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi), Ngāti Toa Rangitira and Taranaki Whānui.
2. Greater Wellington's interest in RiverLink relates to Greater Wellington's strategic priority of regional resilience and implementation of the Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan. The flood protection benefits derived from the project are Greater Wellington's focus. Greater Wellington's funding primarily relates to delivery of these project outcomes.
3. Greater Wellington's strategic priorities of freshwater quality and biodiversity, and Public Transport are supported by the successful completion of the RiverLink project.
4. Hutt City Councils objectives for RiverLink are that Te Awa Kairangi between Ewen Bridge and Kennedy Good Bridge becomes the centre piece of the city by:
 - a Turning our city around to face and embrace Te Awa Kairangi;
 - b Pedestrian/cycle bridge linking new Melling station to Lower Hutt City Centre;
 - c Revitalised open space alongside the river to provide various features for rest and play; and
 - d Engaging with the private sector to redevelop key sites along the river corridor for residential and leisure use.

Te tātaritanga Analysis

Phase 1 Consenting and Hearing

Planning and Consenting Pathway

5. As indicated at the last meeting the Consent pathway has been confirmed as direct Referral to the Environment court.
6. Total number of submissions is 122, although this may change through the Environment Court process.
7. Project partners are working with submitters to resolve or reduce the number of submission points prior to the Environment Court Hearing.
8. The process is described in more detail in the project director's report attached. The resolution of the submissions has required input from across the project partners and will continue to be a focus for the next several months.
9. At the last Subcommittee meeting an update on the work of the Mana Whenua Steering Group (MWSG) was provided and this will now be a regular inclusion in the Project Directors report. The MWSG have been working closely with the project partners and have an integral role as advisors to the project and the procurement process.

Phase 2- Procurement

10. As discussed at the last meeting of the sub-committee the Registration of Interest (ROI), and Request for Proposal (RFP) process will be delayed, as a result of the change in the consenting pathway. The dates for issuing these documents will depend on a number of factors including the actual date for the Environment Court Hearing.
11. The Technical Advisor (GHD) continues their work on a reference design for the RFP process. Contracts have been let for topographical mapping updates and a further resource consent for Geotechnical information required for detailed design has been lodged with Greater Wellington.

Greater Wellington

12. Belmont Works –Permanent works are continuing in this reach to reconstruct the bank edge and plant willows using the proposed approach for RiverLink; this involves a combination of driven live poles and rope in combination with willows and natives.
13. Demolition of the old PetVet building – investigations have restarted as to the potential opportunity to remove this building.
14. Greater Wellington has successfully purchased 98 properties.
15. Phase 2 MOU, between the project partners – Greater Wellington Councillors received a briefing on progress in mid-November 2021.

Waka Kotahi

16. Further detail is provided in the attached RiverLink Directors report.

Hutt City Council

17. HCC submitted an Expression of Interest (EOI) for Housing Infrastructure Acceleration Funding to provide new three waters assets to support the projected population growth enabled by RiverLink. Kāinga Ora completed its evaluation of proposals in October 2021 and has invited the proposal to progress to the Request for Proposal Stage. The deadline for Request for Proposal submissions is 17 December 2021. Applicants will be notified of the outcome by the end of April 2022.

Programme

18. The indicative/high level timeline for Phase 2 (delivery) and Phase 3 (Urban Development) has been updated with some minor adjustments:

Phase 2 Delivery

- a Aug 2021 – Notice of Requirement and resource consents lodged
- b Feb 2022 – evidence complete
- c April 2022 – Potential Environment court date
- d April 2022 – Registration of Interest process (ROI)
- e July 2022 – Request for Proposal (RFP)
- f late 2022 – Appointment of Consortia
- g early 2023 – enabling works –demolition/service relocations started
- h 2023 - works start on the river channel/stop banks - completion expected 2028 and Melling transport improvements, which includes the relocation of Melling railway station.
- i 2024 – work starts on the pedestrian bridge at Melling station
- j 2027 – Melling transport improvements completed.

Phase 3 Delivery

- k 2027 onwards – urban development progresses.

Community Engagement

19. The social media campaign is continuing.

20. Travel surveys are underway with a current focus on the workers in the city.

Impacts of climate change on the RiverLink Project

21. The Greater Wellington components of the RiverLink Project are subject to Greater Wellington's initiatives designed to minimise greenhouse gas emissions and enhance sequestration capacity. We will work with our project partners to develop a joint procurement approach that supports Greater Wellington's mitigation objectives once we have entered that stage of the design process. The current basis of reference for this includes the Code of Practice for River Management (Te Awa Kairangi 2020). This guides all river management activities undertaken by Greater Wellington for the purposes of flood and erosion protection across the Wellington Region. The Greater Wellington corporate sustainability programme

and Greater Wellington's procurement process will encourage suppliers and contractors to minimise emissions.

22. The design development for RiverLink acknowledges the need to adapt to a changing climate and aims to address these predicted impacts. Greater Wellington has included allowances for climate change impacts within the RiverLink Preliminary Design.

23. The RiverLink project provides flood protection upgrade to safely convey a 2,800 cumec flood past Hutt City Centre. Greater Wellington assessed this size of flood event at this location against a 2°C stabilization scenario and against the A2 emissions scenario. The 2,800 cumec event being close to the target 1-in-440 year return period event design standard in the year 2,100.

Ngā hua ahumoni Financial implications

24. Greater Wellington has, through its Long Term Plan and annual planning processes, committed funding of \$145 million to delivery of the flood protection benefits of RiverLink. The current forecast for delivery of the flood protection benefits are currently being reviewed through the project processes. Greater Wellington is committed to funding its full share of the project. Work is currently underway to understand the implications and process for any required adjustments to the Long Term Plan.

25. These budgets do not include allowances for improvements to facilities related to public transport associated with the relocation of Melling Train Station, as Waka Kotahi are responsible for its relocation although some Greater Wellington funding may be desirable for some enhancements.

Financial implications for Hutt City Council

26. Hutt City Council (HCC) voted in favour of increasing its 2021-2031 Long Term Plan funding for RiverLink to \$138.4 million, with a net cost of \$94.9 million after revenue from subsidies and land sales. The new funding became accessible from 1 July 2021, with the majority of expenditure scheduled to occur over the next five years. The funding will allow HCC to deliver key RiverLink scheme components including a pedestrian cycle bridge, a riverbank park, city centre urban revitalisation, intersection improvements, strategic property purchases and parking areas.

Ngā āpitihanga
Attachment/s

Number	Title
1	Report of the Project Director – RiverLink

Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatory/Signatories

Writer/s	Tracy Berghan – RiverLink Lead, Greater Wellington Tom Biggin – Project Manager- RiverLink, Hutt City Council
Approver/s	Graeme Campbell – Manager, Flood Protection Wayne O’Donnell – General Manager, Catchment Management Group

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<p><i>Fit with Council’s roles or Committee’s terms of reference</i></p> <p>The Subcommittee’s specific responsibilities include to “review periodically the effectiveness of implementation and delivery of floodplain management plans for the Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River floodplain”, of which the RiverLink project is part of.</p>
<p><i>Implications for Māori</i></p> <p>Ngāti Toa Rangitira and Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika are members of the RiverLink Project Management Board.</p>
<p><i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i></p> <p>RiverLink contributes to the delivery of Greater Wellington’s strategic priorities of Regional Resilience, Freshwater Quality and Biodiversity, and Public Transport.</p>
<p><i>Internal consultation</i></p> <p>There was no additional internal consultation in preparing this report.</p>
<p><i>Risks and impacts: legal / health and safety etc.</i></p> <p>The programme leading to commencement of construction is currently impacted by the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complexity of integrating Waka Kotahi into the consenting work stream, including agreeing a variation to contract and signing of the deed of accession to the project partner agreement; • Additional design work required for the Hutt City urban edge that forms the interface between Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River and the city to enable commencement of the assessment of environmental effects work-streams.

Date: 7 December 2021

Report of the Project Director – RiverLink

RiverLink – Project Update Report

1. Purpose

This report builds on regular reports the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee (the Subcommittee) has received which provides an update on the RiverLink project; it does not repeat or duplicate information previously provided.

In October, the Subcommittee received a report advising that the RiverLink Project Board has decided to pursue the direct referral consenting pathway. The report advised members of the nature of submissions received and progress on addressing s92 requests.

This report updates Members on the consenting and procurement workstreams.

The report outlines the latest indicative programme/timeframe for the delivery of the project, and an update is provided on the marketing and communications workstream.

In October the Subcommittee were advised of the work of the Mana Whenua Steering Group (MWSG), and an update is provided.

This report should be read in conjunction with a covering report on the Subcommittee's agenda, which provides an update on specific matters as they relate to Greater Wellington Regional Council and Hutt City Council.

COVID-19

COVID-19 business continuity plans continue to be implemented.

2. Background

Throughout 2020 and this year members have received reports which have provided a high level overview of the RiverLink project. The vision and strategic objectives have been outlined, as has the partnership approach and supporting governance structure. The partners have agreed to work collaboratively in an integrated, joined-up manner, the benefits of which were outlined in the February report, 2020. The partners work on the basis of achieving a "best for programme" outcome.

3. The consenting workstream

The resource consents and Notice of Requirements were lodged with the two regulatory authorities in August 2021. The application pack was publicly notified on 25 August 2021. The two consenting authorities have approved the direct referral consenting pathway.

Attachment 1 to Report 21.535

In October, members were advised of the number and nature of submissions. At the time of writing this report, the position regarding submissions is as follows:

- Total number of submissions is 122.
- Contact has been made with the 42 submitters who wish to be heard.

(Members are reminded from the last report to the Subcommittee, that the submission themes are:

- cycling network design;
- loss of parking (primarily on the western side of the river);
- design of the transport infrastructure, ie Melling Bridge, intersections;
- operation of the transport infrastructure, primarily signalised intersections;
- comments on the engagement process;
- construction effects, including noise and vibration and dust management;
- freshwater ecology;
- heritage;
- public transport network, including future services;
- site/location specific landowner issues.)

The project partners and the consultant team (“the team”) continue to liaise with all submitters to fully understand their position and where possible move towards a resolution. This may involve the team taking time to explain the indicative plans to submitters, amending design solutions where possible to accommodate their concerns, and/or refining conditions and management plans.

The topic which attracted the largest number of submitters is cycling. Waka Kotahi has been working to address these concerns and they have reached a position where further meetings are arranged with the cycling advocates to reach a consensus. Network design changes are proposed.

The plans and drawing submitted to the consenting authorities as part of the resource consents are indicative only. They are consenting plans and not detailed engineering plans. Detailed engineering plans and drawings will be prepared by the alliance, as the procurement process progresses.

Further meetings are planned with a number of submitters to maintain dialogue, clarify expectations and work towards an agreeable outcome.

All submitters have been advised of the change in the consenting pathway and they have been referred to the Ministry for the Environment’s website for assistance and guidance.

S92 requests

This is a mechanism where the regulatory authorities may request further information for clarification on primarily technical matters. At the time this report was written, 75 requests have been received from Greater Wellington Regional Council (EReg) and 64 from Hutt City Council. These matters are being addressed by the team.

RiverLink is a large and complex programme of works, and this is reflected by the number and nature of the s92 requests.

The s87/198D reports from the regulators are expected to be received 18 November. Any matters raised in the reports will be discussed with the regulatory authorities to mitigate as many issues as possible.

Programme

In terms of the programme/timeline it is anticipated that the hearing will be in early April, and the team are working on finalising their evidence by mid-February. This is an indicative timeline, which will be driven by the Environment Court. At the time of writing it is anticipated that the Environment Court may opt to hold any mediation meetings etc virtually, depending on the COVID-19 situation.

Again, in terms of the scale and complexity of the programme of works the number and nature of the submissions are not unexpected. However, there remains considerable pressure on the team to work through all of them and meet the indicative timeframe. Project partners are also mindful of the possible cost increases of addressing submitter concerns in terms of redesigning some elements of the indicative proposals.

4. Mana Whenua Steering Group

At the last Subcommittee meeting members received an update on the work of the Mana Whenua Steering Group (MWSG). The MWSG have been working closely with the project partners and have an integral role as advisors to the project and the procurement process. The update includes:

- The preparation of a Mana Whenua Values Plan pertaining to RiverLink and project outcomes, currently in development;
- Contribution to the draft proposed consent and Notice of Requirement conditions for RiverLink, currently ongoing review and development;
- With respect to the consenting pathway and the direct referral process, regular interactions with the Pou Tātaki keep the MWSG apprised of the project, key timeframes for input and involvement, as required for the hearings and project approval processes.
- The Pou Tātaki is working with the MWSG to prepare statements of evidence to be presented on behalf of Ngāti Toa Rangatira and Taranaki Whānui ki te Upoko o te Ika.

- The MWSG contribute, with the Pou Tātaki to the engagement and communications strategy for the project.

5. Procurement

The decision to pursue the direct referral consenting pathway presents risks and opportunities for the procurement programme. For example, the Registration of Interest (ROI), or shortlisting process, will no longer be released at the end of October.

Delaying the ROI will provide the project partners the opportunity to fully assess the impacts of the consent pathway change and to evaluate and respond to submissions, and to jointly agree the preferred procurement pathway and programme impacts. Once the project partners have clarity on the submitter issues, a revised programme for release of the ROI will be confirmed. Regular engagement with industry continues to keep them apprised of project expectations and timeframes.

The project partners have agreed that a hybrid alliance is the most appropriate model and that Waka Kotahi will be the principal, with side agreements in place with the two local authorities and delivered in partnership with Mana Whenua.

The Principals Technical Advisor has been appointed, and the contract originally signed by Isthmus to lead the consenting phase has been novated to GHD to progress through to the procurement and delivery phases.

6. Other matters

Members have been advised of some outstanding **property matters** which required further work. Whilst there has been significant progress in resolving a number of these matters, there is still further work required on a few properties which are within the scope of the project. Negotiations and discussions with the relevant property owners are ongoing, details of which cannot be provided because they are commercially sensitive.

Ahead of lodging the consents and designation orders the project partners have undertaken a **cost revision exercise** to ensure that they have a sound understanding of the costs of delivering the proposal. As may be expected, costs have risen since the last cost estimate was undertaken, due mainly to the proposals being firmed up, the need for additional third party property and the global cost increases for materials and labour. The RiverLink Project Board have attended a number of workshops, where working collaboratively, they are working through a process to fully understand the revised cost estimates, and work towards the “minimum requirements” which meet the project vision and expected outcomes. The revised cost estimates are also being peer reviewed. A verbal update will be provided at the Subcommittee meeting.

The Subcommittee should remain confident that proposals which will be delivered are those as per the proposals plans which have been shared with the local community.

The Subcommittee has been advised that with such a large and complex programme of works that there will inevitably be **disruption** in and around Te Awa Kairangi and in Hutt CBD. Roads, cycleways and pathways will be temporarily closed, traffic will be diverted and there will be noise, dust and

vibration. Contractors will be required to minimise these disruptions and follow industry standards and apply best practice, and implement an engagement plan to advise and inform the community of mitigation proposals.

7. Communications and engagement

Strategic communications strategy

The communications team are reviewing the next steps with the communications strategy (what we're doing and why) for the next project phases and the communications framework plan (how we work together). The communications plan is being currently updated to reflect the new consenting pathway (Direct Referral).

Print and radio advertising

The campaign continues to focus on Lower Hutt – your river city - with a call to action to check the website for more information and sign up to our community updates (Hutt News, DomPost, Stuff, Neighbourly and local Media Works stations, also Atiawa toa FM and Hutt FM, digital communications and local cinema, posters in trains and buses and at Melling Station, and information at HCC facilities).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

There are twenty-two new FAQ's on the website. The FAQ section will be continually updated, and the communications team have requested more pictures and diagrams from the consultant team to help explain proposed changes.

Social media calendar – September

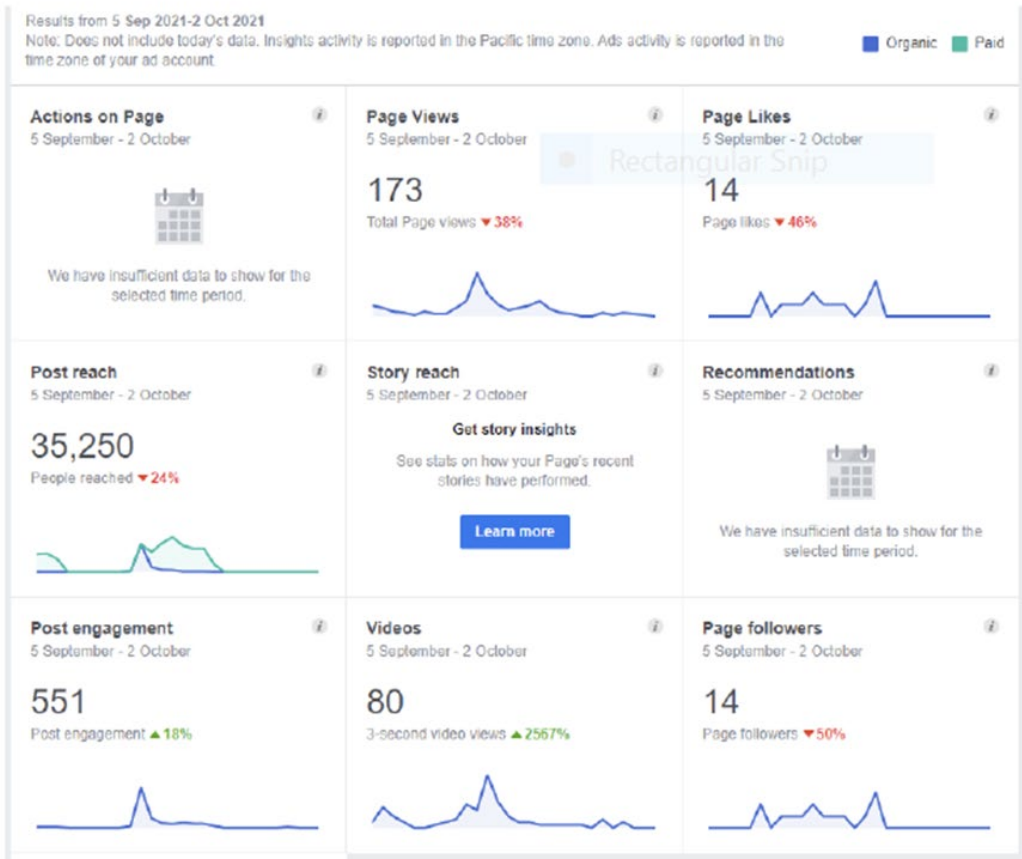


Attachment 1 to Report 21.535

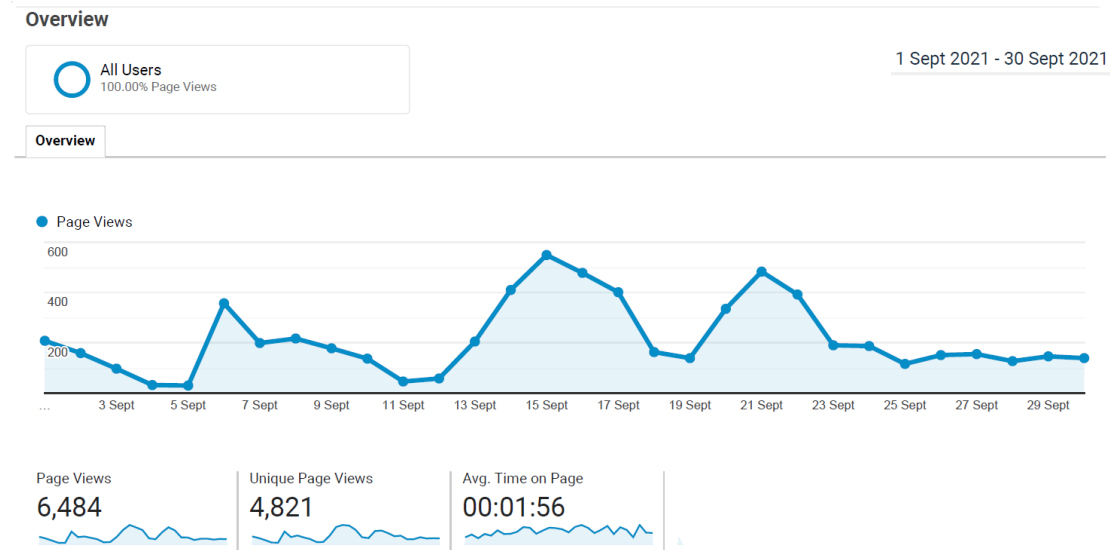
Posts Overview

Published	Post	Type	Targeting	Reach	Engagement	Promote
17/09/2021 05:02		Video	Global	100	3 0	Boost post
17/09/2021 04:55		Image	Global	172	5 3	Boost post
15/09/2021 09:10	The Resource Management Act (RMA) provides several ways for you	Image	Global	32K	705 64	Boost post
03/09/2021 12:41	Thank you to the Hutt Valley Chamber of Commerce & Industry for	Video	Global	67	6 0	Boost post

Page Summary



Website statistics



Engagement update

Engagement continued with the Southend Business Group. They have received presentations and the team are discussing the issues they have raised in their submission.

8. Project governance

The **project partner agreement (PPA)** which covered phase 1 – the pre design and consenting phase, is in the process of being updated to ensure that an extant agreement is in place to cover phase 2 (a) which will keep the Riverlink partnership together, as the project transitions into the delivery phase.

The **Chief Executive’s RiverLink Relationship Management** meetings are now held monthly, and they continue to be a forum to reinforce the collaborative nature of the project and solve issues collectively.

9. Conclusions

The Project Board continues to be focussed on working through the matters raised by submitters and meet the challenging programme set out by the Environment Court, with a view of having a hearing in April next year.

The focus is now transitioning to the procurement/delivery phase with the partners remaining aligned and working collegiately.

Future reports will continue to keep the Subcommittee informed of progress.

Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee
7 December 2021
Report No. 21.521



For Information

HUTT VALLEY FLOOD MANAGEMENT PROJECT UPDATE REPORT

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To update the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee (the Subcommittee) on progress made in implementing general Hutt Valley Flood Management (HVFM) projects, and on other mahi including operational maintenance and regional investigations initiatives.

Te horopaki

Context

2. Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) has an ongoing programme of projects within the catchments of Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River and the Wainuiomata River. The projects are included in or guided by the floodplain management plans and river management schemes for the rivers and streams within these catchments.

Te tātaritanga

Analysis

Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River

3. Projects being completed within the managed extent of Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River are outlined in the Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan, and Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River Environmental Strategy. Currently, a major focus area is RiverLink, the length of river between Kennedy Good Bridge and Ewen Bridge near to Hutt City Central Business District. The projects in this section have been combined into the RiverLink project.
4. RiverLink is a multi-partner project to improve flood protection, regenerate Hutt City and improve transport choice. It is the major focus for implementation of the Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan. The project is forecast to complete implementation in 2028. Detail about the project is contained in separate RiverLink Project Director's reports.
5. Government funding has been secured for flood protection projects through the Government's stimulus package focusing on climate resilience and infrastructure development to help rebuild the economy following COVID-19 alert levels lockdown periods. Greater Wellington's programme comprises two projects located in the Te Awa Kairangi /Hutt River and the Ruamahanga River. Within the two projects, there are

seventeen separate locations of works. The works comprise flood and erosion protection in Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River and landfill erosion protection in the Ruamahanga River. The Te Awa Kairangi specific projects are reported on below under the “Climate Resilience heading”.

Flood Hazard Modelling

6. Greater Wellington is updating the flood hazard model for Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River. This is being carried out in line with Greater Wellington’s flood hazard modelling standard process and also to meet Hutt City and Upper Hutt City’s District Plan change timeframes.
7. We are continuing with modelling and have engaged a peer reviewer to review the modelling work being undertaken before the development of the mapping. This is as per our flood hazard modelling standard.

Climate Resilience Projects

8. Project-specific tasks which are underway are as follows:
 - Pomare Railbridge Stopbank Repair Works* – this project was completed in early November 2021.
 - a *Royal Wellington Golf Club Erosion Repair Works* – Urgent bed re-contouring mahi was completed at the end of August. Rock protection and groyne work is underway, with the groyne fully constructed and just over 50% of the rock revetment work completed (180 m / 320 m). The current schedule is for project completion in January 2022, but for reinstatement and public access to the Hutt River Trail to re-open just in time for the Christmas holidays (*see further updates and photos in Figures 2-4 below*).
 - b *Pomare/Taita Left Bank Erosion Repair Works* – Urgent bed re-contouring mahi was completed in September. On site rockline and groyne mahi will follow, after the contract for this work has been let. On-site works for this site are expected to re-start in January 2022. The project end date is subject to contractor scheduling.
 - c *Manor Park Shared Pathway (Cycleway) Construction* – Stage one works to construct a shared pathway (cycleway) adjacent to the Manor Park Golf Course in Lower Hutt is expected to finish by the end of December 2021. Greater Wellington’s project partner, Hutt City Council, is managing the construction. Stage 2 (northern section up to the Silverstream Bridge) will immediately follow on but it will initially be a narrower gravel track (as opposed to a 3 m wide sealed surface) until the new Wellington Water main is laid and new Silverstream pipe bridge is constructed (both by Wellington Water). As some of the new water main alignment is along the Stage 2 walkway a permanent track won’t be in place until the water main is completed. This community enhancement project will improve Hutt River Trail access along the west side of Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River.
 - d *Stokes Valley Works* – Comments from stakeholders (Department of Conservation (DoC) and Fish & Game) and Greater Wellington Environmental Regulation Department on the draft Site Specific Environmental Management Plan (SSEMP) have been received and incorporated into the plan.

- e Remaining Programme Sites – All consultants are procured and detailed design work is progressing as planned. With long-lead items (such as plants) procured for all sites, most sites are currently in the contractor procurement stage, with many in a mixed design/construction phase.
- 9. Regular hui are taking place between Greater Wellington and iwi partners: Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira Inc. and Taranaki Whānui. Partners are involved in co-design of tree planting, signage, storyboards, memorials, and mahi toi, amongst other works.
- 10. Through this programme, Greater Wellington is working with iwi partners to strengthen the relationship between iwi and the Department of Corrections. Iwi are leading the approach and desired end result, with Greater Wellington helping to facilitate strategy and to connect the appropriate personnel. This engagement has the potential to create meaningful ways for inmates to reconnect to their whenua, whanau, and identity overall.
- 11. Through this programme, Greater Wellington is involved in an initiative for councils to regularly engage with the Department of Corrections for the procurement of plants. This initiative is growing in scope, with wide appeal for both councils and iwi nationally. Engagement with councils, iwi, and Corrections (through the Correction's National Maori Affairs Manager) has begun.
- 12. An estimated 50,000 plants are being procured for planting at project sites along Te Awa Kairangi/ Hutt River. Approximately half of these plants are being procured from a local correctional facility: Rimutaka Prison, contributing to the extensive social procurement outcomes of this programme of works as well as to the above Corrections/Councils procurement initiative.
- 13. Programme progress is being regularly communicated to partners via email and/or webpage updates.
- 14. The project budget has been increased by \$3 million to a total of \$20 million due to an increase in the scope of works. The work scope has increased as other works on Flood Protection's work programme have been put into the project to enable them to be progressed with the increased resources taken on for the project. The works will be financed within current Flood Protection budgets.
- 15. Consultation with DoC and Fish & Game is progressing well. Draft Site Specific Environmental Management Plans are currently being prepared for a number of work sites. The Environmental Regulation team is currently reviewing some of these for approval.
- 16. The sustainable procurement programme approach is also progressing well. Mills Albert, a local, Māori owned contractor has been engaged to construct the works at numerous sites. Mills Albert is connecting with local iwi Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust and Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira Inc. to hire Māori workers. Thus far, they've hired a local Ngāti Toa engineer for project works. They're also now in contact with Mahi Toa, a Ngāti Toa run apprenticeship program, looking at ways local Māori apprentices can be involved.

Te Awa Kairangi/ Hutt River Corridor Environmental and Recreational Management Plan and Operations Manual

17. The Environmental and Recreational Management Plan and Operations Manual is currently being finalised and will be put on the Greater Wellington website. This sets out the framework within which all future recreational management of the river corridor will be carried out and provides detail to guide development and maintenance activities, e.g. conventions for signage, furniture types to be used, bollards etc.

Waiwhetū Stream

18. Greater Wellington is continuing to work with Hutt City Council to support the activities of the Friends of Waiwhetū Stream.

Operational Works (River Management Schemes)

19. Rockline and groyne maintenance inspections have been completed and rock purchase and sourcing is now underway.
20. Willow and native planting is now complete and we have caught up with what was a late planting season due to managing the damage from numerous flood events. Having such warm mild spring weather has allowed us to progress the programmed planting late into the season to complete all programmed works
21. Asset maintenance inspections are underway, with extra skilled staff brought in to assist so the work can be completed by mid-December 2021.
22. Maintenance work continues on floodgates and arrestors to ensure they are fully functional. This maintenance work involves replacing seals, hinge pins and painting to protect the fibreglass surfaces and general site maintenance.
23. Staff have now completed the construction and planting trial works of the RiverLink site at Belmont. The native planting will be completed once the site has settled and the willows have established.

Regional Investigations Initiatives

Emergency Management

24. Greater Wellington continues to work with the Wellington Region Emergency Management Office to improve flood response, warning and awareness across the Region. Training on the new procedures has been progressing over past month and will conclude in December 2021. We are exploring opportunities to more closely align with Wellington Water on the provision of flood warning and response.
25. Flood Protection is working with Greater Wellington's ICT Services to procure and embed a flood forecasting platform. This will allow Greater Wellington duty officers to more effectively use current flood forecasting models, newly developed flood forecasting models, and Wellington Water Limited's 'Nowcasting' systems to provide more effective flood forecasts and warning. Procurement of specialist support is still progressing and we have commenced the detailed investigation in alternatives for our legacy phone tree systems in the Wairarapa.

26. Flood Protection has teamed up with Greater Wellington’s Environmental Science team to deliver a regional programme of improvements to the hydrometric flow gauging network. This network is critical for the provision of flood warnings and for the development of hydraulic models. Work has commenced to upgrade the first sites identified in Waikanae and Masterton.

Floodplain Management Planning Guidelines Update

27. With changing attitudes and legislation around freshwater management, Flood Protection is working with other Greater Wellington departments to review and update the Floodplain Management Planning Guidelines which drive the development of our longer term strategies for managing flood and erosion risk. The updated guidelines are expected in early 2021. It is envisaged that these will inform the Waiwhetū FMP project.

Flood Hazard Planning Guidance

28. To support the District Plan changes currently being progressed across the region, Flood Protection has developed a guidance document on proposed rules for dealing with flood hazard. We are promoting a risk based approach that seeks to allow people and communities to use their land and property in areas at a lower risk of flooding, while managing use where the risk is moderate and avoiding it in areas of significant risk. This guidance is due to be workshopped with District and City Council Officers across the region as part of the District Planning process.

**Ngā hua ahumoni
Financial implications**

29. The above projects are within the current flood protection budgets in the LTP. The erosion sites funding is through the Crown Infrastructure Partners initiative. Part funding is required from Greater Wellington, and officers are bringing forward Long Term Plan funding to enable this.

**Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories**

Writer	Sharyn Westlake – Team Leader, Floodplain Management Plan Implementation
Approvers	Graeme Campbell – Manager, Flood Protection Wayne O’Donnell – General Manager, Catchment Management

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<p><i>Fit with Council’s roles or Committee’s terms of reference</i></p> <p>The Subcommittee’s specific responsibilities include “reviewing periodically the effectiveness of implementation and delivery of Floodplain Management Plans for the Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River floodplain.”</p>
<p><i>Implications for Māori</i></p> <p>Ngāti Toa Rangitira and Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika are members of the RiverLink Project Management Board.</p> <p>Cultural liaison or co-design contracts have been signed by Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangitira Inc., Rangitāne ō Wairarapa Inc., and Ngati Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Charitable Trust for enhanced involvement and collaboration on programme work for the Climate Resilience Projects.</p> <p>We are entering into a co-design relationship with Greater Wellington’s mana whenua partners (Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust).</p>
<p><i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i></p> <p>The projects contained within this report deliver on Greater Wellington’s strategic priority area of te tū pakari a te rohe/regional resilience, and support delivery of Greater Wellington’s strategic priority area of te oranga o te wai māori me te rerenga rauropi/freshwater quality and biodiversity.</p>
<p><i>Internal consultation</i></p> <p>Specific projects consult with groups and departments across Greater Wellington where relevant to that project.</p>
<p><i>Risks and impacts: legal / health and safety etc.</i></p> <p>This report raises no risks.</p>