

Report No.	20-75
Information Only - No Decision Required	

## RANGITIKEI STOPBANK UPGRADE PROJECT UPDATE

### 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. This item provides members with an update on the Rangitikei Stopbank Upgrade project.

### 2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1. Council has, over a number of years, been progressively upgrading stopbanking along the lower reaches of the Rangitikei River as part of Rangitikei River Scheme operational activity. The work is a direct response to the February 2004 flood event, raising / strengthening the network to provide both a higher level of service but also a higher level of reliability under operation.
- 2.2. The work programme is long relative to the size of the upgrade, a function of both the funding challenges that underpin much of the Rangitikei Scheme's operational activity but also the sheer volume of activity in the river management area post 2004. Delays have been incurred due to flood events but more recently around ensuring a precise design approach to raising the stopbank over the lower North Island gas main.
- 2.3. The work programme is nearing completion and is at present forecast to be within the original budget.

### 3. RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-75 and Annex.

### 4. FINANCIAL IMPACT

- 4.1. Funding for the outstanding work identified in this item is provided for in the Long-term Plan.

### 5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- 5.1. Ongoing community engagement around this programme of work is through the Rangitikei Scheme Liaison Committee and the annual Scheme meeting.

### 6. SIGNIFICANT BUSINESS RISK IMPACT

- 6.1. The raised / strengthened stopbanks this project delivers will have a positive impact on business risk but one that is not significant.

### 7. BACKGROUND

- 7.1. The Rangitikei-Whanganui Catchment Board first approved the Rangitikei River Scheme in 1952, with subsequent amendments in 1965 and 1994. A revised targeted rate classification was implemented in 1995. The Scheme was further reviewed following the February 2004 flood event; recorded peak flow for the February 2004 flood was 1,550 cubic metres per second (cumecs) as measured at Mangaweka, the third largest flood in

10 June 2020

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107 years of record at that time. More than 1,500 hectares of productive land was flooded in addition to extensive flooding of houses in Tangimoana and Scotts Ferry.

- 7.2. Flood protection standards were found to be well short of a 50 year Return Period (RP) event, instead estimated to only be able to contain a 20 year RP event (a 5% chance of overtopping in any given year). Council resolved through the 2006-16 Long-term Plan to raise flood protection standards through a programme of stopbank upgrade work. Work to provide an 'enhanced' 50 year RP standard for Tangimoana was completed at an early stage, followed by work to provide a 100 year RP standard of flood protection for the Parewanui to Scotts Ferry section.
- 7.8. The work programme commenced in 2006 with an original budget for the project of \$6.1 million, drawn from a loan. Note that the proposal for the 2020-21 Annual Plan includes extending the repayment period for that loan, part of the response to the economic impacts of COVID-19.

## 8. DISCUSSION

### 8.1. Summary of work completed to date:

1. 10,030m of Parewanui stopbank upgraded.
2. 690m of Scotts Ferry secondary ring bank.
3. 3,680m of Tangimoana stopbank upgraded.
4. 1,250m of Parewanui stop bank flood damage repairs completed.

### 8.2 Works outstanding:

- Construction of concrete wall over gas main.
- 2,000m of Parewanui stop bank upgrade.

8.3 The plan attached shows the extent of the remaining work. Cost estimates for all outstanding works have been reviewed on the basis of actual costs for recently completed works. It is likely that the project will be completed next financial year.

## 9. CONSULTATION

9.1. No consultation is envisaged with this item.

## 10. TIMELINE / NEXT STEPS

10.1. Staff are currently working on tender documents for the works outlined in Section 8.2.

## 11. SIGNIFICANCE

11.1. This is not a significant decision according to the Council's Policy on Significance and Engagement.

Wayne Spencer  
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**GROUP MANAGER RIVER MANAGEMENT**

## ANNEXES

A 2020 Parewanui Stopbank Upgrade Plan