



1946 flood, Earl Gardiner

# OHAKUNE SCHEME

## BACKGROUND

Horizons, like most other regional councils, carries out flood protection and drainage activities using a scheme-based management approach. 34 river management schemes cover a large part of the Region providing a variety of services, each tailored to meet the needs of the particular community that receives the benefit of those activities. Those activities range from protecting people and property from flooding to minimising river/stream erosion of productive land to the provision of land drainage.

Technical work undertaken in 2014 by Horizons assessed and ranked flood hazard areas that were not within existing river management schemes, identifying Ohakune as the Region's highest priority. Historic

floods have devastated the town and a flood event in 2013 came close to causing substantial issues. Currently no community-wide approach to flood hazard mitigation exists.

In 2017 Horizons undertook significant consultation with the Ohakune community around establishing a river management scheme for the town, including a well-attended public meeting. Horizons has reflected on the feedback from that consultation and accordingly we're proposing to include in our Long-term Plan a staged approach to addressing that hazard, establishing a targeted rate river management scheme for Ohakune.

## THE PROPOSAL

The intention is to initially focus on channel management issues through a three-year programme of works, focusing on maximising the flood carrying capacity of the rivers and stream that flow through the town. That will include vegetation clearance and the management of gravel and potential flood debris issues.

Although that work will improve matters, it will still leave Ohakune significantly exposed to flooding. Upon the completion of this initial work we intend, through a future Long-term Plan (LTP)

process, to assess the communities' appetite for undertaking a range of infrastructure improvements (short sections of stopbank, floodway, flood detention areas and the modification of some bridges and culverts) that will, over time, provide a much higher standard of flood protection. It will also cost significantly more than what we're proposing for this LTP.

# ADVANTAGES

Having a coordinated approach to flood management for Ohakune will have considerable benefits for the town, reducing the risk to life and property associated with flood events.



1946 flood, Earl Gardiner



## RATING IMPACT

The Ohakune Scheme proposal will cost approximately \$58,000 per annum for Years 1 – 3 of the LTP, and \$54,000 from Year 4 onwards, at a cost of approximately \$9 per \$100,000 of capital value for Ohakune property owners. That cost is proposed to be met in part by way of a new targeted river management rate for all of Ohakune, with a contribution from a new district-wide river management rate. We initially proposed an additional contributor rate for those within the catchment area upstream of Ohakune; based on the feedback we received last year we're now proposing to limit the targeted rate to the town only.



1946 flood, Earl Gardiner

## HOW TO HAVE YOUR SAY

Your views on this proposal are important in assisting Horizons in making a decision on whether to make the changes proposed. Horizons is hosting a community meeting to discuss this and invite you to come along:

- **Thursday 5 April, 6pm, Te Pae Tata, Ohakune – Conference Room**

We also welcome submissions via the options below before 30 April 2018.

- Go to **[haveyoursay.horizons.govt.nz](https://haveyoursay.horizons.govt.nz)** and submit online.
- Fill out the submission form in the consultation document available at our service centres and post it to **Freepost 217922, Horizons Regional Council, Private Bag 11025, Manawatu Mail Centre, Palmerston North 4442.**
- Write your submission as a normal letter and post to the same address as above.
- Email your submission to **[haveyoursay@horizons.govt.nz](mailto:haveyoursay@horizons.govt.nz)**.
- Call freephone **0508 800 800** to have your submission noted down.

