Dear Resident,

The third and final Mayoral Taskforce report went to the Council today. The Council has approved funding for further short-term flood defence measures in the hardest hit areas of Christchurch and will consider potential mitigation options for the Central City.

The Taskforce outlined flood mitigation options completed, underway or planned to help the most vulnerable households until long-term solutions are decided.

Several area-wide solutions and maintenance measures, designed to mitigate flooding during heavy rain events, will be funded from available Council budgets and integrated into existing work programmes.

An additional funding increase of $1.75 million (from $4.35 million to $6.1 million) for the Tay Street Drain Pumping Station was also approved. The pump station is expected to be completed by November.

Taskforce leader John Mackie says the Council’s decision to approve the planned works would provide further measures to minimise flooding risk.

“The total cost of works completed, in progress or scheduled is $10.7 million, bringing flood mitigation benefits to 65 per cent of the most vulnerable households. Being able to progress further work gives us additional measures to prevent flooding in the hardest-hit areas of Christchurch.”

Work proposed and currently underway includes:

- Major waterway channel widening and deepening
- Temporary pumping solution in Flockton
- Reinstatement of stop-banks in some areas
- Installation of backflow prevention mechanisms on drains
- The repair of flap gates in the Avon and Heathcote rivers
- Removal of sediment, vegetation and debris from waterways.
- Bridge and culvert removals
- Raising the height of the sides of timbered drains
- Installation of the Tay Street Drain Pump Station, Kensington Avenue.

Mr Mackie says that while the area-wide solutions will benefit many residents, there was still work to be done with other agencies on funding individual house defences, worth $6.1 million, for residents whose properties were not protected by wider solutions.

“We need to work with the Government and our other partner agencies to identify potential funding avenues for house tanking or raising. The individual solutions would act as interim flood defence measures for these residents while long-term options are investigated. There’s still work to be done on the longer-term measures and the future costs”

Council requested staff prepare a report on flooding issues in the Central City and potential defence options for residential and commercial properties in this area.

“We will be contacting SCIRT to inform them of this report, allowing us to capitalise on any cost saving opportunities and ensure alignment with projects currently underway,” says Mr Mackie.

Council is also supporting the establishment of community flood defence plans, linking community groups and organisations with metropolitan and civil defence planning.

The two long-term proposals for Dudley Creek will be reassessed in light of the temporary work completed and planned. A timeframe on the recommendations will be presented to Council at the end of October.

Council staff will also review the floodplain management options for the Lower Heathcote to be included in the 2015 Long Term Plan and consider the possibility of permanent or temporary relocation or retreat.

Yours sincerely,

John Mackie
Taskforce Leader

To view the final report and for the answers to many flood questions go to: www.ccc.govt.nz/floodmitigation

Update on Declaratory Judgement on Flood Prone Properties

In our last newsletter we mentioned that the Earthquake Commission has sought declarations from the High Court on questions about the EQC’s coverage of properties now at greater risk of flood damage due to the Canterbury Earthquakes.

The High Court hearings are due to start on 28 October and are expected to last a week, then the Judge will announce the decision later in the year. The High Court has agreed to process this matter urgently because the declaratory judgement (the Judge’s decision) affects many homeowners in Canterbury, including many who have been affected by flooding.

Three other parties joined the proceedings with further queries of their own, namely:

- The Insurance Council of New Zealand
- Christchurch City Council
- Southern Response Earthquake Services Ltd (which issues AMI insurance policies)
Post-earthquake flood protection timeline

**September 2009 - 2009**
Surface Water Strategy outlines the Council’s vision for surface water management. It aims to ensure management of Christchurch and Banks Peninsula’s springs, streams, lakes, and stormwater. It will guide the Council’s asset management and planning processes and the Council’s long-term approach to stormwater and flood protection.

**November 2010**
Avon temporary stop bank
Emergency temporary work to re-establish stop banks along the Avon River.

**September 2009 — 2039**
Surface Water Management Strategy

**2013**
Dudley Creek dredging

**2014**
Limwood Canal dredging

**2019**
Styx River dredging

**0 — 3 months**

**March 2014**
Dudley Creek Feasibility Report goes to Council — the report includes options for long-term flood mitigation for Dudley Creek and surrounding areas.

**6 — 12 months**

**December 2014 — May 2015**
Ongoing planning and implementation of Taskforce recommendations.

**2014**

**February 2014**
Mayoral Flood Taskforce Final Report delivered to Council, including a section on Lyttelton.

**5 June 2014**
Mayoral Flood Taskforce delivers its second progress report to the Council. The report outlines further recommendations to protect the areas identified as vulnerable to flooding. Short-term mitigation work ongoing.

**15 August 2014**
Avon River (ARP) dredging 1500cum

**19 April 2014**
Mayoral Flood Taskforce delivers its initial progress report to the Council. The report outlines further recommendations to protect the areas identified as vulnerable to flooding. Short-term mitigation work ongoing.

**30 April 2014**
Styx River dredging 900cum

**18 June 2013**
Wai-iti Stream dredging 300cum

**July 2014**
Temporary pump installed in Dudley Creek ahead of forecasted heavy rains. Culvert and foot bridge reinstatement in Dudley Creek.

**23 June 2013**
Dudley Creek dredging 2000cum

**15 June 2013**
Avon River (Kerrs) dredging 1500cum (to date)

**May 2013**
Avon River (ARP) dredging 1000cum

**August 2014**
Options One and Two are currently being re-assessed in light of the short/medium-term mitigation work the Taskforce has done, such as:
- Tay Street Drain Pump station
- Creek widening
- Culvert and bridge removals

**Land drainage operations, LDRP and Surface Water Management Strategy continue to maintain and improve flood protection.**

**September 2009 — 2009**
Surface Water Management Strategy

**June 2014 — August 2014**
Community engagement, investigations, consulting, design, targeted maintenance, and some physical work. Ratios reduce and Canterbury Earthquake Temporary Accommodation Service assistance.

**December 2014 — May 2015**
Continued repair work to the stormwater and pipe network following the Canterbury Earthquakes across the city.

**February 2011**
Continuous repair work to the stormwater and pipe network following the February 2011 earthquake.

**March 2012**
Continued repair work to the stormwater and pipe network following the March 2012 earthquake.

**July 2012**
Successful ‘House-tanking’ water-proofing pilot.

**May 2012**
Land Drainage Recovery Programme (LDRP) established to understand the consequences of the earthquakes on land drainage networks. The findings will be used to develop a prioritised programme of capital work or adaptive management approaches, with 63 projects identified for investigation.

**September 2012**
The first LDRP report is delivered — looking at the stormwater network in the Port Hills.

**2012**

**March 2012**
Avon temporary stop bank
Emergency temporary work to re-establish stop banks along the Avon River.

**November 2012**
The first LDRP report is delivered — looking at the stormwater network in the Port Hills. Recommendations include work to fix the damaged pipe network.

**July 2012**
Tay Street Drain Pump station constructed.

**September 2012**
12 May. The report outlines short/medium-term mitigation work the Taskforce has done, such as:
- Culvert and bridge removals
- Creek widening
- Tay Street Drain Pump station

**January 2013**
106.6mm rainfall

**June 2013**
106.6mm rainfall

**April 2015**
Mayoral Flooding Taskforce delivers its final report to the Council, including a section on Lyttelton. The report outlines short/medium-term recommendations to protect the areas identified as vulnerable to flooding.

**February 2014**
Installation of a pump station and bypass as well as minor creek widening and deepening.

**Options One and Two**
Installation of a pump station and bypass as well as minor creek widening and deepening.

**September 2013**
Construction of Dudley Creek Catchment Scheme completed, majority of other local area schemes completed.

**February 2014**
Styx River dredging 900cum

**March 2013**
Dudley Creek draft issues and options report with 14 options in total identified, two selected to progress to a feasibility and design report.

**August 2014**
Options One and Two are currently being re-assessed in light of the short/medium-term mitigation work the Taskforce has done, such as:
- Tay Street Drain Pump station
- Creek widening
- Culvert and bridge removals

**November 2013**
107.5mm rainfall

**February 2014**
Emergency temporary work to re-establish stop banks along the Avon River.

**March 2013**
Avon temporary stop bank
Emergency temporary work to re-establish stop banks along the Avon River.

**June 2013**
Temporary pump installed in Dudley Creek ahead of forecasted heavy rains. Culvert and foot bridge reinstatement in Dudley Creek.

**18 June 2013**
October 2013

**15 August 2013**
98.8mm rainfall

**December 2014 — August 2015**
Ongoing planning and implementation of Taskforce recommendations.

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- Tay Street Drain Pump station
- creek widening
- culvert and bridge removals

**December 2014 — May 2015**
Ongoing planning and implementation of Taskforce recommendations.

**January 2014**
1500cum

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