

# **Beachlands WWTP – Wastewater Discharge Consent Project Stakeholder Engagement Report**

12 June 2024

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

Watercare Services Limited (“**Watercare**”) is responsible for the provision of potable (drinking) water and wastewater services in Auckland. Watercare is a Council-Controlled Organisation of the Auckland Council. The company’s vision is to be “trusted by our communities to deliver exceptional performance every day”.

Watercare is continually reviewing its activities and identifying maintenance, replacement, upgrading and new infrastructure projects to ensure it meets customer’s needs, business objectives, statutory requirements, and growth projections.

In this context, Watercare proposes to facilitate the growth of the Beachlands and Maraetai communities through the upgrade of the Beachlands Wastewater Treatment Plant (“**WWTP**”), subsequently requiring an increase in the discharge of treated wastewater. To do so, Watercare needs to determine the most appropriate wastewater treatment and discharge solution for the service area and seeks resource consent and other approvals to provide for the Beachlands WWTP upgrade and service the projected growth of the Beachlands and Maraetai communities.

Over the past seven months (October 2023 – April 2024), a comprehensive consultation exercise has taken place to inform and seek feedback from Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki (as Mana Whenua), key stakeholders, and members of the community to determine the Best Practicable Option (“**BPO**”) for the treated wastewater discharge from the Beachlands WWTP. Thirty two different discharge options were initially considered. Through a series of technical workshops, these options were refined to five Short-Listed options with a diffuse discharge to the Te Puru Stream being selected as the BPO for the discharge of treated wastewater discharge from the Beachlands WWTP.

Engagement with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki, the iwi who hold mana whenua status over the Beachlands-Maraetai are, including Te Puru Stream and its tributaries, a, has been integral in the process to develop the resource consent application. Watercare is committed to ongoing and meaningful engagement with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki throughout the application process and, where granted, the detailed design process and the implementation and operation of any resource consents for the Beachlands WWTP.

Watercare organised two community information sessions, with local residents and interested parties attending over the two sessions in October and December 2023. To endeavour to engage the entirety of the Beachlands and Maraetai communities, direct emails were sent from a database of 2660 community email addresses, including follow up emails, inviting residents to attend. The information sessions were also advertised within the Pohutukawa Coastal newspaper, posts on the Pohutukawa Coastal Grapevine and Maraetai Group social media pages, and letters sent directly to the landowners potentially affected by one of the Short-List options.

Following confirmation of the BPO, Watercare emailed to those parties who registered to be kept updated on the project via the Watercare Beachlands WWTP email.

This report provides a summary of the engagement activities with the Local Board, mana whenua, key stakeholders and the wider community. The outcomes of these engagement activities are set out in the Appendices.

Watercare will continue to engage with Ngāi Tai ki Tamaki and key stakeholders post lodgement – records will be maintained through the Engagement Register.

## 1.1 Purpose of this Report

This Stakeholder Engagement Report provides a summary of the stakeholders involved, the engagement activities and the feedback received through the consultation and engagement process undertaken to support the re consenting of the Beachlands WWTP operations including the discharge of treated wastewater from the WWTP.

While not a specific requirement under the Resource Management Act 1991 (“RMA”), Watercare recognises that consultation and engagement is an important way to inform and involve Mana Whenua, stakeholders and the community in a project, help identify effects on the environment and parties, and provide a process for developing appropriate mitigation and management measures.

Stakeholder engagement on major projects is also strongly supported by Watercare’s Statement of Intent 2023 – 2026 (“SOI”), prepared in accordance with Section 64 and Schedule 8 of the Local Government Act 2002. The SOI outlines the company’s strategic direction, activities, intentions and objectives. It reflects Watercare’s commitment to engage with mana whenua and affected and interested parties in an open manner to address concerns of those parties where feasible.

## 1.2 Project Objectives

The Project Objectives have been specifically developed for the Beachlands WWTP project and have been used to inform the development of the criteria for assessing the potential discharge options for treated wastewater from the WWTP and assist in identifying the Preferred Option.

The Project Objectives include to work in partnership with the Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki (as Mana Whenua) and engage with stakeholders and the community to identify the BPO to provide wastewater services for the Beachlands and Maraetai community. The BPO must:

- Recognise the significance of the Hauraki Gulf and the historic, traditional, cultural, and spiritual relationship of tangata whenua with the Hauraki Gulf and its islands<sup>1</sup>.
- Give effect to Te Mana o te Wai<sup>2</sup>.
- Keep our communities healthy.
- Protect the health of our environment, particularly the life supporting capacity of land, air, and water.
- Provide a solution that caters for planned growth that keeps the overall costs of service to customers (collectively) at sustainable levels.
- Be sustainable and resilient and minimise whole-of-life carbon emissions and optimise resource recovery<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Section 3 (Purpose) of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act

<sup>2</sup> Policy 1 NPS-FM, Water Services Act

<sup>3</sup> Watercare initiated their ‘40/20/20’ vision for their capital works programme (reduce infrastructure carbon by 40 per cent, reduce cost by 20 per cent and have a 20 per cent year-on-year improvement in health and safety outcomes). This bullet recognises the carbon component of 40/20/20.

### 1.3 Project Timeframe & Stages

Engagement with mana whenua, stakeholders and the public was undertaken over three stages of the project to inform the BPO selection:

1. Long long-list assessment;
2. Long-list assessment; and
3. Short-list assessment

Figure 1 below and the following provides a summary of the Options Process (refer to the BPO Report provided as part of the Application Package for a full summary of the process):

1. The Long Long-List assessment, which identified 20 potential management options for the treated wastewater discharge, and involved a Fatal Flaw Assessment conducted by Watercare to identify options with clear significant defects, which were then removed from further consideration. During this stage Watercare met with and emailed Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Governance to provide overview of option selection process and timeline.
2. A Traffic Light Assessment which ‘scored’ the surviving long list options against various criteria, and a “BPO Test No.1” which compared the preliminary Short-List against the BPO definition, project objectives and relevant policy. Consultation with the community was undertaken for this stage, which included a Community Information Session and an Online Survey, to help determine which criteria the community most valued, to help determine how much weight each criterion was given within the Traffic Light Assessment. The Community Information Session and Online Survey provided the opportunity for the community to identify potential alternative management options, concerns, and initial preferences of management options.
3. The Short-List assessment then involved a Comparative Assessment, Multi Criteria Analysis (“MCA”), and “BPO Test No.2” which compared the best scoring option from the MCA against the BPO definition, project objectives and relevant policy. Consultation with the community was undertaken at this stage through Community Information Session 2, in which attendees and those on the emailing list could voice comments and questions, and vote on their most and least preferred options. Landowners directly affected by one of the short-listed options were directly sent a letter informing them about the implications of this option and informing them about the Community Information Session where this could be discussed at length.

On 1 March 2024, Option 2a being a diffuse discharge via an overland flow system to a tributary of Te Puru Stream, was chosen as the technical Preferred Option for the discharge of treated wastewater from the Beachlands WWTP scheme. Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki and interested stakeholders were immediately informed of the chosen technical Preferred Option.

The engagement / consultation process with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki, stakeholders and interested parties is an ongoing one that will continue as the application progresses through the relevant RMA statutory phases.

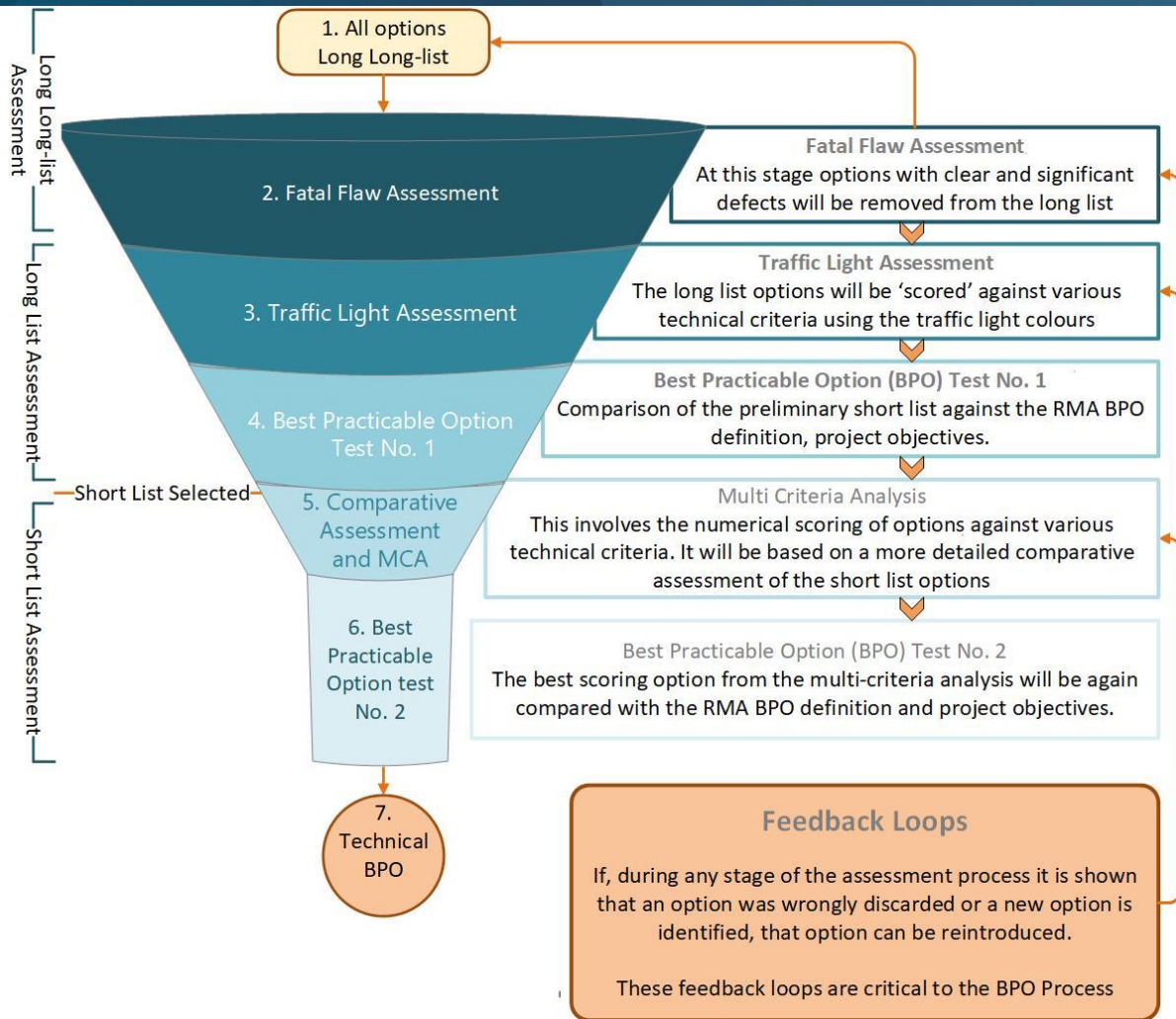


Figure 1. Beachlands Options Process.

## 2 ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

The overall purpose of the engagement strategy has been, and continues to be, to ensure that the project objectives (Refer to Section 1.2) are achieved.

This purpose has been supported through the various types of engagement undertaken with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki as Mana Whenua, relevant stakeholders, those potentially affected by the project on the options being considered for the consenting of the discharges from the Beachlands WWTP and the public.

### 2.1 Types of engagement

There are different types of engagement between Watercare, mana whenua, stakeholders and the public, each serving a different purpose:

- **Inform** – Purpose is to provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions. Promise to the stakeholder ‘We will keep you informed’.
- **Consult** – Purpose is to obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions. Promise to the stakeholder ‘We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influences the decision. We will seek your feedback on drafts and proposals’.
- **Involve** – Purpose is to work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure the public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered. Promise to the stakeholder ‘We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision’.
- **Collaborate** – Purpose is to partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution. Promise to the stakeholder ‘We will work together with you to formulate solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decision to the maximum extent possible’.

### 2.2 Resource Management Act 1991

The consultation process outlined in this document will contribute to the development of the project and will support the requirements of the RMA.

The RMA states that an Assessment of Effects on the Environment submitted in support of a resource consent application should include an identification of the persons affected by the proposal, the consultation undertaken, if and any response to the views of persons consulted (Schedule 4 RMA).

Section 36A of the RMA clarifies that consultation is not mandatory by either an applicant or the local authority with respect to a resource consent application. However, best practice would



normally incorporate consultation within project development and pre-application stages, particularly for large projects such as the Beachlands WWTP project.

The RMA provides for consultation with tangata whenua under sections 6(e), 7(a) and 8. Section 6(e) requires an applicant to recognise and provide for the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga. Section 7(a) requires an applicant to have particular regard to kaitiakitanga. Section 8 requires an applicant to take into account the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.

### 3 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Table 1 below identifies project stakeholders and their level of engagement throughout the duration of the project.

**Table 1: Beachlands WWTP – Wastewater Discharge Consent Stakeholders and Type of Engagement**

Individual and Group	Level of Engagement			
	Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate
	Engagement Commitment: <i>'We will keep you informed'.</i>	Engagement Commitment: <i>'We will keep you informed, listen to, and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influences the decision. We will seek your feedback on drafts and proposals'.</i>	Engagement Commitment: <i>'We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision'.</i>	Engagement Commitment: <i>'We will work together with you to formulate solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decision to the maximum extent possible.'</i>
Mana Whenua	✓	✓	✓	✓
Local Board	✓	✓		
Landowners	✓		✓	
Media	✓			
Residents	✓	✓		
Wider Community	✓	✓		
Watercare internal staff and project team members	✓	✓	✓	✓

#### 3.1 Stages of Project and Engagement Required

Table 2 below identifies the stages of project engagement required with relevant stakeholders.

**Table 2: Stages of Project Engagement**

Project Stage	Stakeholder	Communication	Timing
<b>Long long-list assessment</b>	Internal Watercare Staff & technical specialists		August 2023
	Ngāi Tai ki Tamaki	Meeting and email with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Governance to provide overview of option selection process and timeline.	September 2023
<b>Long list assessment</b>	Mana Whenua	Project Options posted on the Mana Whenua Kaitiaki Forum.	October 2023
	Wider community	Direct Email to 2660 email addresses in database. Community Information Session 1. Online survey.	October 2023
<b>Short list assessment</b>	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki	Representatives present at the two Short List Workshops	November and December 2023
	Wider community	Direct Email to 2660 email addresses on database. Advertisement on Pohutukawa Coast newspaper. Social Media post on Pohutukawa Coast Grapevine and Maraetai Group. Community Information Session 2.	November 2023
	Key Stakeholders	Where offer to meet was accepted, individual meetings held with stakeholders to go through the 5 Short-List options and the options process to date.	November 2023
	Potentially Affected Landowners	Letters sent directly to affected landowners. Community Information Session 2.	November 2023
<b>BPO Preferred Scheme</b>	Potentially affected landowners	Email and letter sent directly to landowners.	March 2024
	Interested parties	Email sent directly to interested parties registered on the contact list.	March 2024
	Wider community	Update Watercare website for the Beachlands project .	March 2024
	Mana Whenua	Direct email to Ngāti Tai ki Tāmaki. Update Mana Whenua Kaitiaki Forum.	February 2024
	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki	Mana Whenua preparation of a Cultural Impact/Values Assessment.	Ongoing

Prepare Resource Consent	Potentially affected landowners	N/A as Watercare is the land owner for the WWTP	N/A
	Wider community and stakeholders	Public notification of the consent application.  Opportunity to provide a submission on the consent application.	TBC following lodgement

### 3.2 Ngā Iwi Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau

Watercare regards their relationship with Ngā Iwi Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau as a collaborative partnership which recognizes the local iwi or hapū as kaitiaki or guardians of the land.

The Mana Whenua Kaitiaki Forum was established in 2012 to encourage discussion and guidance, and to share views on the management of water and wastewater. The forum’s focus has widened to all Watercare projects affecting the strategic interests of mana whenua across the Auckland region. Watercare recognises and has offered each of the mana whenua entities an opportunity to be involved in projects directly outside the forum or working group.

Watercare has kept iwi groups informed of the project through the updates to the Kaitiaki Forum, which includes nominated representatives of all 19 mana whenua groups of the Auckland area. Watercare initially added the project to the Mana Whenua Kaitiaki Managers' List in September 2023 under the title “Beachlands Wastewater Treatment Plant Discharge Renewal”.

Since addition to the list:

- Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki registered interest in the project in September 2023, a summary of this engagement is set out below. Direct engagement with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki is ongoing and will continue beyond the lodgement of the application.
- Ngaati Te Ata Waiohua communicated with Watercare in mid-December 2023 that they wish to be updated on all projects in their rohe. Watercare will continue to update Ngaati te Ata as the project progresses.

In summary, engagement has occurred through the Kaitiaki Forum, and directly with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki. Parties will continue to be updated and actively involved in the engagement and consenting process.

#### 3.2.1 Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Engagement Summary

During an engagement hui in April 2024, Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki requested of Watercare to record that Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki are the iwi taketake (original inhabitants) of the area and Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki do not recognise or accept any other iwi or hapū Cultural Impact Assessments / Cultural Values Assessments or registration of interest that may be submitted on this kaupapa.

Ngai Tai ki Tāmaki have communicated that they wish to formally respond the application by way of a cultural statement however, this will occur following lodgement of the application. Acknowledging this, to date Ngāti Tai ki Tāmaki have provided informal input on cultural values and potential impacts related to the project/resource consent application via optioneering workshops, site visits and ongoing hui. The engagement with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki has been summarised in **Appendix A** and has included:

- **September 2023** - Early hui with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Governance to introduce the project, extend invite to BPO workshops and discuss the proposed Long-Long List options to identify any cultural concerns with those options in the Long-Long List.
- **1 November 2023** - Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Taiaomaurikura representative attended a site visit to the WWTP to see the current operations and discuss the future options
- **7 November 2023** – Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Taiaomaurikura representative attended the BPO Workshop 3 to discuss the initial findings of the technical assessments of the short-list options.
- **5 December 2023** – Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Taiaomaurikura representatives attended the BPO Workshop 4 to discuss the final findings of the technical assessments of the short-list options and work through the technical preferred option; to gain a more detailed understanding of the different shortlisted options to inform future feedback they would be able to provide; and also to inform the technical team of the association, values and interests of Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki with the affected area and perspectives (in a general sense) on wastewater discharges and treatment options.
- **22 February 2024** - Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Taiaomaurikura representatives attended a site visit to the WWTP to see the current operations and discuss the future options. Watercare and Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki discussed informal commentary from Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki on opportunities at the site for the expansion of the overland flow area and plantings options and potential opportunity for a water supply to a Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki nursery project.
- **27 February – 1 March 2024** – Watercare provided Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Taiaomaurikura representatives with a draft of the proposed Public Notice Statement on Watercare announcing the technical preferred option to the public. Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki provided suggested amendments to the statement which Watercare adopted as part of the final version of the Public Notice issued on 1 March 2024.
- **18 March 2024** – Hui with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Taiaomaurikura representatives. Discussions included further options for the discharge of treated wastewater to the increased land application field and planting options through this area. Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki also identified the desire for a reliable water source for a nursery to be developed on the Waste Management Whitford landfill site. Watercare committed to further investigate the feasibility of the water supply and provide a co-design role in the overland flow system detailed design phase.
- **2 April 2024** - Hui with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Taiaomaurikura representatives. – continuation of the engagement process between Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki and Watercare to progress discussions on key themes and opportunities related to the project. Discussions included an update on the proposed lodgement timeframe, summary of cultural commentary in the project Engagement Report, update on the preliminary work on the overland flow system, update on the response from ARPH re the use of water for the nursery, and discussed the process for provision of a response to the application.
- **15 April 2024** – Hui with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Taiaomaurikura representatives – Further korero on the 2 April matters. Watercare will continue to have regular hui with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki following lodgement of the application. This will include working together to develop a cultural statement on the application.

While no formal feedback has been provided by Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki, Watercare have understood that the key themes communicated by Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki include:

- The cultural significance for Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki of Te Puru Stream, the surrounding whenua and wider cultural landscape and Te Marae-o-Tai / Tāmaki Strait and Tikapa Moana / Hauraki Gulf.
- The historical grievance caused by the lack of engagement with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki on the original decision to place the discharge from the WWTP into the tributary of Te Puru Stream and Te Ruangaengae / Ruangaingai Stream (pumpstation location).
- Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki has a preference for land based discharges of treated wastewater.
- Opposition to conveyance of wastewater out of the Beachlands service area for treatment and discharge in the rohe of another iwi.
- Opposition to a marine discharge and construction of any new structures within the coastal marine area of the Hauraki Gulf.
- Opposition to a direct discharge to Te Puru Stream and other waterways within the Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki rohe.
- Subject to further investigation and support of the opportunities identified for co-design of the overland flow system and provision of water supply for a proposed nursery, Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki provided a generally supportive response to the technical preferred option involving diffuse discharge (via overland flow system) to Te Puru Stream.

Watercare has been guided by the above themes in the selection of the BPO for the discharge application.

### 3.3 Local Board

Watercare, through its dedicated Stakeholder Liaison team, has undertaken direct engagement with central government, Auckland Council and the Franklin Local Board. This engagement has been summarised in the table below.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
30.1.2024	Update to Elected Members re: final BPO February 2024
30.1.2024	Update to MP Judith Collins’ office re: final BPO February 2024
30.1.2024	Email to Franklin Local Board re: final BPO to be available February 2024
24.11.23	Email from Priyan Perera (Head of Strategy and Planning) & Tanvir Bhamji (Resource Consenting Manager) re Community Information Sessions
23.11.23	Community Information Sessions follow up
21.11.23	Franklin Local Board provided an update re Beachlands land purchase letters to going out to the community, notice on social media and the Watercare webpage for Beachlands discharge consent renewal drop-in session.

13.11.23	Elected Members invited to 22 November Community Information Session
30.10.23	Final draft Beachlands Servicing Strategy & presentation to Franklin Local Board support team
27.10.23	Thanks to MP Judith Collins for attending Community Information Session
27.10.23	Email of Beachlands Servicing Strategy to Franklin Local Board Democracy Advisor
25.10.23	Email requesting attendance confirmation
17.10.23	Elected Member FYI re drop-in sessions at Beachlands
16.10.23	Elected Member update re process and timelines
26.9.23	Email to Elected Member re use of land for the Pony Club and a developer
26.9.23	Update to Franklin Local Board, Councillor & MP Judith Collins
22.9.23	Update from Helen Jansen, Stakeholder Liaison Advisor to the Franklin Local Board
19.9.23	Elected Member asking Tanvir Bhamji to follow up Pony Club question
18.9.23	Update provided to the Franklin Local Board from Tanvir Bhamji
11.9.23	Question from Malcolm Bell (Franklin Local Board) and resolution from business meeting on the Beachlands Servicing Strategy

### 3.4 Key Stakeholders

A range of stakeholders have been involved in this project, with diverse interests and influence. The level of engagement with these groups varied depending on the stakeholder and their interest. Details of the level of consultation with stakeholders is set out in Table 1 and Table 2 above. Those stakeholders engaged with by Watercare to date are:

- Environmental Defence Society;
- Hauraki Gulf Forum; and
- Auckland Regional Public Health.

Through the process, the project team communicated with local interested individuals, as they became involved during the process. People would either request to be sent information following a newsletter, respond via Watercare's website or would leave their contact details at a Community Information Session. A stakeholder engagement register and a stakeholder contact register is set out in **Appendix A and Appendix B** of this report.

### 3.5 Potentially Affected Landowners

Ahead of the Community Information Session 2, letters (Refer to **Appendix C**) were couriered and posted directly to 22 potentially affected landowners notifying them of the short-listed options,

including that their land would be potentially affected if the final BPO was the land application discharge method. The notice invited parties to attend the Community Information Session 2 and also provided a direct contact person for any queries on the proposed options. Watercare acknowledged that, mailing complications meant some landowners received the letter after the information session was held. Twenty two potentially affected landowners were sent a letter with a number contacting Watercare directly. A summary of the feedback from the potential affected landowners was:

- Concerns over the acquisition of land for the discharge purposes;
- If the preferred option, how would land owners be compensated; and
- Requests to be updated as the BPO decision process progresses.

### 3.6 Public and Community interests

Community groups, businesses and the wider community were engaged at several times during the project. The community groups included the Pohutukawa Coast newspaper and Maraetai social media groups.

Primarily, groups were kept informed through social media, email updates, the Watercare website and community letters. The main opportunity for people to provide feedback to Watercare on the option selection process was through Community Information Sessions and the survey, which are described in more depth below. Additionally, the feedback channel on the Watercare Beachlands webpage was always open through a dedicated email address that was monitored and managed by the project team.

Two drop-in community information sessions provided both Watercare and the local community an opportunity for open communication around the project as it progressed, throughout the engagement stage. This provided an opportunity for Watercare to explain the project and the various options, and enabled the community to ask the project team questions, voice their concerns and rank the options from most to least preferred, in a more informal environment.

#### 3.6.1 Community Information Session 1

Local businesses within the area were first contacted on 17 October 2023 via hand-delivered invitation posters and flyers for the Beachlands Community Information Session 1 which were delivered to local shops, kindergartens, restaurants and cafes. The wider community was also contacted on 20 October 2023, via emails sent to the database of approximately 2660 email addresses for the wider community inviting them to the Beachlands Information Session 1, with information on the Long-list of options and a survey link which enabled feedback on the Long-list options.

The Community Information Session 1 was held on 26 October 2023 at Te Puru Community Centre, a local well-resourced venue, to discuss the Long-list options. A total of 13 community members volunteered their contact details and a higher number attended the event. The following community comments were raised about the options (**Note: the options below are described in detail in Section 6.1 of the Alternatives Assessment Report**) :

##### Option 2a (diffuse discharge to tributary of Te Puru Stream)

- General opposition.



- Concerns regarding discharges polluting the stream.
- Concerns around the recreational impacts as Te Puru Stream is regularly used for swimming.
- Increased monitoring will be required in Te Puru Stream and the gulf if chosen.

**Option 2b** (direct discharge to tributary of Te Puru Stream)

- General strong opposition.
- Concerns surrounding Te Puru Stream flooding, and the protection of the Te Puru Sports Facility and surrounding properties.
- Concerns regarding the existing quality of the stream.
- Increased monitoring will be required in Te Puru Stream and the gulf if chosen.

**Option 3** (100% irrigation to land)

- Mixture of support and opposition.
- Uncertainty surrounding the location of the discharge, potential soil type, ecology, and how it will impact groundwater.
- Support of this option as it does not discharge to the coastal environment or freshwater.
- Concerns surrounding how this will affect the aquifer and great need for monitored aquifers.

**Option 3a** (Irrigation to land and stream discharge)

- Mixture of support and opposition.
- Support of this option particularly in winter and during heavy rainfall events, given potential limited land soakage.
- Concerns surrounding the cost and who pays.

**Option 4ae** (Hauraki Gulf – Tāmaki Strait Mid)

- General opposition.
- Concern associated with the cost to develop.
- Concerns associated with the pollution in the coastal environment.

Some general comments also included:

- That housing development should be restricted to limit the need for an increase in discharges.
- The need to maintain water quality.

### 3.6.2 Online Survey

As part of the initial community wide email to the database of 2660 community email addresses, an online survey link was sent for the community to fill out, to help Watercare better understand the community concerns of the suggested options. A total of 61 respondents started the survey, with 23 respondents completing the survey and 38 respondents partially completing it. In summary the following information was gained from the survey:

- There was no concern from respondents regarding whether a potential option may have been missed when creating the long list. One respondent however noted that there was a lack of contextual information associated with each option, which made it difficult to make an informed decision on which is best.

- Three respondents noted that cultural values and mana whenua consultation and participation considerations are missing and would help to better assess the quality and feasibility of the options. Identifying which option has the lowest carbon footprint was also identified as a missing consideration.
- The Natural Environment and Public Health Protection, followed by Resilience and Financial Implications were identified as criteria that should have the most influence over the decision.
- The most preferred Short-List option by the respondents was the Hauraki Gulf Tāmaki Mid option (Option 4ae), while the least preferred was the land and stream option (Option 3a). The top four options however present very similar rank distribution scores.
- Various comments and concerns were raised by the respondents including:
  - There are multiple concerns of wastewater entering the Gulf and Te Puru Stream..
  - The opportunity for the discharge land to be used as an irrigation resource for livestock farming, however acknowledging a direct discharge option makes sense during winter when soil is already saturated.
  - One respondent notes that the soil is not free draining and is very muddy in winter.
  - Two respondents highlight that Mana Whenua needs to be directly involved in decision making.

### 3.6.3 Community Information Session 2

On 13 November 2023, direct emails were sent to the database of 2660 community email addresses and social media posts in the Pohutukawa Coast Grapevine and Maraetai Group were made that invited the community to the Community Information Session 2. Follow-up reminder emails were sent and social media posts made on 21 November 2023.

On 17 November 2023, Watercare also published a ¼ page ad and public notice in the Pohutukawa Coast newspaper advertising for the Community Information Session 2.

The Community Information Session 2 was held on 22 November 2023 to discuss the five Short-List options. A total of 13 community members volunteered their contact details however, a higher number attended the event. By way of summary, a mixed response was received in terms of what parties considered the BPO to be for the discharge of treated wastewater.

### 3.6.4 Website

The 'Projects around Auckland' section on Watercare's website houses specific web pages on current and proposed infrastructure projects that Watercare is involved in. The web page designated to the Beachlands WWTP discharge consent renewal<sup>4</sup> contains an overview of the project, a description of the consenting process, including the Long-List workshop and Short-list workshop outcomes and maps and descriptors depicting the five short-list options. The web page was progressively updated as the BPO process advanced.

The website provided details of the proposed resource consent process and confirmed that the resulting resource consent application will be publicly notified to allow the iwi, stakeholders and community to make a formal submission on the application if they choose. For immediate feedback

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<sup>4</sup> [Watercare - Beachlands WWTP discharge consent renewal](#)

related to the Beachlands WWTP discharge consent or if people wanted to get in touch with the project team, a direct email address for the project was also included.

### **3.6.5 Social Media**

As identified above, social media was an important engagement tool. The primary platform for communicating with local residents about upcoming meetings or community information sessions was the private Pohutukawa Coast Grapevine and Maraetai group pages on Facebook.

## **3.7 Engagement Summary**

A summary of the engagement undertaken to inform the resource consent application is provided as **Appendix A** below.

## 4 ISSUES AND RESPONSES

Based on the engagement and analysis of options undertaken to date, the following are the key issues identified. Watercare's response to these issues are provided also.

### 4.1 Land acquisition

**Option 3 (100% land irrigation – ground soakage)** - would require Watercare to acquire approximately 750 hectares of privately owned land, if chosen as the preferred option. As outlined above, Watercare directly notified 22 potential affected landowners within the 750 hectare footprint.

As part of this notification, Watercare provided landowners with the opportunity for a one-on-one meeting to discuss the project, the Short-List options and the BPO process. A number of landowners accepted this meeting (Refer to **Appendix A**)

A number of those notified landowners accepted the invite to meet. Of those who were met with, they communicated with Watercare, via email, phone call or videocall, that they strongly opposed Option 3, identifying it as their least preferred option. The themes of the landowner feedback included:

- Opposition to being removed from their homes and land when there were other more viable options.
- Landowners identified concerns over investment into their properties which may not be recovered if land is acquired through the Public Works Act as well as property devaluation if there are discharges areas located close to their properties.
- One landowner identified that they have just undergone the resource consent process to subdivide their land and the option selection process has since halted the Sale and Purchase Agreement of one of their properties, potentially resulting in a real cost associated with the logistics of the private sale, which would otherwise not have been necessary.
- Another landowner identified that they have recently spent \$100,000+ on a resource consent and plans to build a new house. Another landowner had questions over the process of land acquisition if Option 3 was the preferred option.

Following the completion of the BPO selection process, Watercare communicated with the landowners via email or phone call that Option 3 was the least BPO of the Short-List options and it would not be progressed as part of the new resource consents for discharges from the Beachlands WWTP site.

### 4.2 New discharges and coastal structures in Tikapa Moana / Hauraki Gulf

**Option 4ae – Hauraki Gulf – Tamaki Mid** identified the discharge of treated wastewater to the Hauraki Gulf through a new coastal outfall structure.

Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki did not support this option. This position based on the impacts of the coastal environment a new coastal outfall structure, including the disturbance and loss of seabed habitat and the occupation of seabed within the Hauraki Gulf. Opposition was raised in respect of increasing the volume of a direct discharge of treated wastewater in the Gulf environment from an environmental and cultural perspective.

Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki also identified that a coastal outfall and discharge activity would also mean that a number of other iwi and hapū entities would invite further interest to a proposal of that nature.

This option was also not supported by key stakeholders, including the Hauraki Gulf Forum and the Environmental Defence Society.

This feedback was taken into account as part of the Short-List workshop process and helped to guide the decision making process against the project criteria.

### **4.3 Direct discharge to the tributary of Te Puru Stream**

Option 2b – Direct Discharge to Te Puru Stream - identified the direct discharge of treated wastewater to a tributary of Te Puru Stream or Te Puru Stream.

This option generated opposition from Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki. The opposition was based on the impacts of a direct discharge of treated wastewater being discharged into a tributary of Te Puru Stream which is culturally significant to Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki. Opposition was raised in respect to of increasing the volume of a direct discharge of treated wastewater into the tributary of Te Puru Stream and Te Puru Stream from an environmental and cultural perspective. The discharge to a land area planted with appropriate species with high water uptake prior to any discharge to a waterbody was discussed as an alternative option.

The feedback from Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki was taken into account as part of the Short-List workshop process and helped to guide the decision making process against the project criteria and the selection of the BPO.

## 5 SUMMARY

In order to inform the resource consent application for the discharge of treated wastewater from the Beachlands WWTP and to ensure the project objectives are being met, Watercare has undertaken a range of engagement with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki, other iwi groups, stakeholders and the public. The nature and outcomes of this engagement are summarised within this report.

Watercare is committed to continue to engage with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki through the application, lodgement and post granting of any consents for the discharge activities to ensure that cultural values and interests are appropriately provided.

## Appendix A. Stakeholder Engagement Register

Date	Stakeholder	Correspondence Method	Communication	Comment
21.9.23	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki – Governance	Hui	Early hui with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Governance to introduce the project, extend invite to BPO workshops and discuss the proposed Long-Long List options to identify any cultural concerns with those options on the Long-Log List options	Feedback received that Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki do not support the options that consider wastewater to be conveyed out of the Beachland catchment for treatment.
22.9.23	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki – Governance	Email	Summarised the matters discussed at the 22.9.23 hui and provided BPO methodology.	
17.10.23	Pine Harbour eatery Pepperjacks restaurant – Pine Harbour Pine Harbour ferry terminal building Beachlands (BL) Montessori Ambrosia café Beachlands superette Beachlands post office BL Wakeline Bakery Sunkist Bay - Reserve toilets Sunkist Bay - Jetty BL Medical Centre BL Pharmacy BL Super Liquor BL Barbershop BL Bakery BL SPCA BL Franklin vet BL o2bee café BL Sushi BL Countdown BL Mitre 10 Maraetai (M) lucky takeaways M Bakery café	Posters / flyers	Beachlands Info Session 1 invitation	



Date	Stakeholder	Correspondence Method	Communication	Comment
	M Wines M Fruit Farmers M Dairy M Beach Boat Club M Beach Café M Foreshore Restaurant M Beans on Beach Te Puru community centre			
20.10.23	Public / Wider Community	Approximately 2660 emails sent	Advertising community info session 1 and survey link.	
26.10.23	Priscilla Nisbet Simone Bealy David Briscoe Trevor Nisbet Lindsay Makintosh Lyn and Steve Melrose Reece Moody Judith Paul Cheshire Alison Terry Kerry and Theresa Stanaway	Community Information Session 1	In person information session on the project long list options.	
1.11.23	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki – Taiaomaurikura representatives	Site visit to Beachlands WWTP	Watercare team held a site visit at the WWTP for a Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Taiaomaurikura team member. An overview of the current operations and the options being considered was provided. The group also went to where the Te Puru Stream discharge to the coast and Ngāi Tai shared some of the cultural kōrero of the area and the importance of the stream, the surrounding land and coastal area.	Site visit was held ahead of the BPO Workshop 3.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Correspondence Method</b>	<b>Communication</b>	<b>Comment</b>
2.11.23	Environmental Defence Society (EDS)	Teams Meeting	Watercare Team provided a summary of the 5 Shortlist Options and the process to date to EDS representatives.	Meeting was followed up with a summary email of the Options selection process and each of the 5 options remaining. EDS requested to be kept informed as to the Preferred Option.
6.11.23	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki – Taiaomaurikura representatives	Email	Pre-circulation of the BPO Workshop 3 information and agenda	
7.11.23	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki – Taiaomaurikura representative	Attendance at the BPO Workshop 3		Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Taiaomaurikura representative provided a brief cultural overview of the Beachlands / Maraetai area and informal commentary on the options being considered.
10.11.23	Auckland Regional Public Health (ARPH)	Teams Meeting	Watercare Team provided a summary of the 5 Shortlist Options and the process to date to EDS representatives.	Meeting was followed up with a summary email of the Options selection process and each of the 5 options remaining. ARPH requested to be kept informed as to the Preferred Option.
13.11.23	Wider Community	Social media post in Pohutukawa Coast Grapevine and Maraetai group	Advertising community info session 2.	
13.11.23		Direct emails sent to database and wider community. Sent to 2660 emails.	Advertising community info session 2.	
17.11.23		1/4pg ad in Pohutukawa Coast newspaper	Advertising community info session 2.	

Date	Stakeholder	Correspondence Method	Communication	Comment
17.11.23		Public notice in Pohutukawa Coast newspaper	Advertising community info session 2.	
20.11.23		letters couriered / sent to directly affected stakeholders	Advertising community info session 2.	
22.11.23	Carolyn Brooke Murray and Ros Stevens Dennis Bartlet Susan Browndouglas Paul Hebditch Jaap Groenewegen Maraget Sturt Dr Tony Booth Judith Clarke Glenn and Christine Gribble J Riddick Z Maxwell-Bulter R Butler	Community Information Session 2	In person information session covering the project Short List options	
25.11.23	Richie Han – Landowner at 781 Whitford Maraetai Rd	Email	On 25/11/23 I just received your letter dated 21/11/23 which informed me there is a community open day on 22 November which means I will never have a chance to attend the open day.  For the record we do not approve any option that the WWTP will go through our land.  Please kindly choose other options which do not affect our land.	Sent email update on Workshop 4 outcome on 11.12.23 – setting out that Watercare communicated with the landowners that Option 3 (land acquisition option) was the least BPO of the Short-List options and it would not be progressed.
30.11.23	Public	WSL webpage update.	Short-List options identified and updates on where to from here.	

Date	Stakeholder	Correspondence Method	Communication	Comment
29.11.23 & 1.12.23	Barbara Greive – Landowner at 5 and 11 Waikopua Rd, Whitford	Email	Concern regarding potential sale of property and how the release of info re the identification of land for WWTP land option has created issues with process. Thank you for talking to me on Wednesday. It allayed some initial concerns about the prospective impact and timing of the Options Assessment and subsequent process notified to us by Watercare, however we do not yet know what action the buyer of 5 Waikopua Road will take, so the concerns I raised with you remain current. You will appreciate that we have had little time to respond and put together information on the Options. However, please find attached the Feedback / Submission to Watercare from Barbara Grieve, Robin Grieve and Karen Edwards, joint owners of Nos 5 and 11 Waikopua Road on the proposed Short List Option 3, that would involve the compulsory acquisition of our property.	
5.12.23	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki – Taiaomaaurikura representatives	Attendance at BPO Workshop 4		Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Taiaomaaurikura representatives provided a further cultural overview of the Beachlands / Maraetai area and the importance of Te Puru Stream and provided informal commentary on the options being considered.
6.12.23	Daniel Kuruppu	Email	Requested a copy of the discharge consent.	Forwarded at approval by Tanvir Bhamji.
7.12.23	ARPH	Email	Provided update on BPO Process and proposed a further hui date in Jan 2024	Hui booked for 16.1.24
7.12.23	Hauraki Gulf Forum (HGF) – Alex Rogers	Email	Watercare contacted HGF to provide a summary of the 5 Shortlist Options and the process to date.	A meeting was arranged for 25 January 2024 to talk through the options in detail. HGF identified their opposition to any new structures and discharges into the Hauraki Gulf.

Date	Stakeholder	Correspondence Method	Communication	Comment
9.12.23	Grant Bowring – Landowner at 90 Okaroro Rd	Email	Concerns raised over Watercare taking land and he has recently spent 100K plus on RC process and plans for a new house. Not sure whether to progress with the build now.	Sent email update on Workshop 4 outcome on 9.12.23 – that Option 3 (land acquisition option) was the least BPO of the Short-List options and it would not be progressed.
11.12.23	Stella – Landowner at 509 Whitford Maraetai Rd	Phone	Concerns raised over Watercare taking their land. Wanted to discuss what are the options for opposition.	Provided an update over Workshop 4 outcome that Option 3 (land acquisition option was the least BPO of the Short-List options and it would not be progressed) to Stella over the phone and she requested a follow up phone call once BPO confirmed.
18.12.23	Barbara Greive – Landowner at 5 and 11 Waikopua Rd, Whitford	Email	Request for an update on BPO.	Email sent - social media update.
18.12.23	Barbara Greive – Landowner at 5 and 11 Waikopua Rd, Whitford	Email	Receipt of LGOIMA request re BPO outcome.	Forwarded to governance team to manage.
19.12.23	Steven Kitchener (Mauri Farms)	Email	Received email asking why we did not inform this lessee of the options for potential land acquisition for the extension of the WWTP.	<p>Watercare response - Apologises I didn't come back with a reply. Spoke with Steven on 19 December after a few attempts trying to catch each other. We spoke for approx. 12 minutes. His company leases/grazes approx. 500 hectares across Beachlands. He currently has a lease at our site for 47.5 hectares. He does not live in the area and so wasn't aware of the drop-in/open days. I explained to him that the letters were sent to the properties owners to inform them of the process we are following. We expect to have a confirmed option by early February. I apologised for not getting in touch with him in respect to the area he leases on our WWTP land. He was polite and very understanding.</p> <p>Action – We agreed that the best way to keep him informed is to include Steven details to the stakeholder register. @Helen Jansen can you please include him to the list.</p>

Date	Stakeholder	Correspondence Method	Communication	Comment
20.12.23	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki – Taiaomaorikura representatives	Email	Provision of minutes and Powerpoint slides from the BPO Workshop 4	
21.12.23	Public	WSL webpage updated.	Latest update of the BPO.	
8.1.24	Lyn Gribble	Email	Email received requesting context as to why the (obvious) solution to pipe wastewater to Mangere, which is currently under capacity, was not considered. She requested info on the ranking for the short-listed options. She also indicated that she has had issues with her tank water quality.	Watercare responded with links to webpage and informed that the options all options were considered as part of the BPO process including piping wastewater to different WWTPs. Advised Watercare do not supply potable water and to discuss concerns/issues with AC.
10.1.24	Public	Press release in Pohutukawa Coast Times	BPO release of updated information.	
16.1.24	Manbir – Landowner at 16 Clifton Rd	Phone	Raised questions over the process of land acquisition if Option 3 was the Preferred option	Provided update on process and advised that Option 3 (land acquisition option) was the least BPO of the Short-List options and it would not be progressed).. Said that updates could be found on the Watercare website and to get in touch if further questions came up.
16.1.24	ARPH Representative	Teams meeting	Watercare provided an update on the outcomes of the BPO Workshop 4 and confirmed that a BPO was still being worked through with a decision to be made Feb 2024. Update also provided on feedback from Open Day 2.	No specific comments provided by ARPH.  Watercare provided email summary of the meeting on 16.1.24.  ARPH were added to the stakeholder register so they would receive direct updates from Watercare as the process continued.
22.1.23	Angela Leung – Landowner at 415, 435, 465, and 467 Whitford-Maraetai Road, Whitford	Email	Advised they “strongly oppose to Option 3 and 3a of the Beachlands Wastewater Treatment	22.1.24 – Watercare responded with offer to meet online or in person.

Date	Stakeholder	Correspondence Method	Communication	Comment
			Plant's Options Assessment.” For reasons set out in 22.1.24 email.	Meeting held on 25.1.24 on update on Workshop 4 outcome (that Option 3 (land acquisition option) was the least BPO of the Short-List options and it would not be progressed). Email sent on 25.1.24 following meeting to summarise matters discussed.
24.1.24	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki – Taiaomaurikura representatives	Email	Watercare seeking to confirm a further hui to continue the korero on the BPO for Beachlands WWTP	
25.1.24	HGF Representative	Teams Meeting	Watercare provided an update on the outcomes of the BPO Workshop 4 and confirmed that a BPO was still being worked through with a decision to be made Feb 2024. Update also provided on feedback from Open Day 2.	HGF confirmed that the main opposition to coastal discharge option was the new structure and confirmed that iwi groups were aligned with this position.  HGF were added to the stakeholder register so they would receive direct updates from Watercare as the process continued.
26.1.24	EDS Representatives	Teams Meeting	Watercare provided an update on the outcomes of the BPO Workshop 4 and confirmed that a BPO was still being worked through with a decision to be made Feb 2024. Update also provided on feedback from Open Day 2.	EDS asked questions around the options process and the alignment with statutory direction.  EDS were added to the stakeholder register so they would receive direct updates from Watercare as the process continued.
29.1.24	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki – Taiaomaurikura representatives	Email	Watercare seeking to confirm a further hui to continue the korero on the BPO for Beachlands WWTP	
5.2.24	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki – Taiaomaurikura representatives	Email	Sent Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki a hui request for a site visit on 22 February 2024.	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki accepted hui time and date

Date	Stakeholder	Correspondence Method	Communication	Comment
22.2.24	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki – Taiaomaurikura representatives	Site visit to Beachlands WWTP		Watercare team held a site visit for a Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Taiaomaurikura team members. The group started at where the Te Puru Stream discharge to the coast and Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki shared some of the cultural kōrero of the area and the importance of the stream, the surrounding land and coastal area. The group then went to the WWTP site and discussed the options being considered and talked through some informal commentary provided by Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki on opportunities at the site for the expansion of the overland flow area and plantings and potential reuse options for a water supply to a Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki nursery project. Watercare said it would like to further discuss opportunities with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki and further hui were proposed.
27.2.24 – 1.3.24	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki – Taiaomaurikura representatives	Emails	Correspondence between Watercare and Ngāi Tai regarding the Public Notice Statement on Watercare announcing the technical preferred option to the public.	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki provided suggested amendments to the statement which Watercare adopted as part of the final version of the Announcement issued on 1 March 2024.
1.3.24	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki, stakeholders and public	Public Notice	Watercare release a Public Notice informing parties of the technical Preferred Option for the project being Option 2a	
14.3.24	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki – Taiaomaurikura representatives	Teams Meeting	Watercare provided an overview of the BPO selection process from the start of the process in August 2023 up to the confirmation of the preferred technical option. Discussions included further options for the discharge of treated wastewater to the increased land application field and planting options through this area. Ngāi Tai also identified the desire for	Watercare to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Progress conversations with ARPH about the use of treated wastewater for nursery supply</li> <li>- Investigate the feasibility of providing a reliable water supply to the nursery</li> </ul>



Date	Stakeholder	Correspondence Method	Communication	Comment
			a reliable water source for a nursery to be developed on the Waste Management Whitford landfill site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continue to provide a co-design role for Ngāti Tai ki Tāmaki in as the overland flow system detailed design process continues.</li> </ul> <p>Next hui booked in for 2 April at Ngāti Tai offices.</p>
27.3.24	ARPH	Email	Sent query requesting comments from ARPH on the opportunity proposed by Ngāti Tai ki Tāmaki to use treated wastewater as a water supply for their nursery.	<p>ARPH provided initial comments via email dated 28.3.24 informing that use of water for nursery irrigation should be satisfactory give sufficient reliable treatment; there may be a standard or requirement for water for nurseries, e.g. mineral/solute content (e.g. nitrate, phosphate) or contaminant levels; and the nursery site will need to have an entirely separate potable water supply, whether from Watercare or a roof/tank or bore.</p> <p>Watercare communicated this with Ngāti Tai ki Tāmaki.</p>
2.4.24	Ngāti Tai ki Tāmaki – Taiaomaurikura representatives	Hui	Watercare provided an update on the proposed lodgement timeframe, summary of cultural commentary in the project Engagement Report, update on the preliminary work on the overland flow system, update on the response from ARPH re the use of water for the nursery, and discussed the process for provision of a CIA / CVA on the application.	<p>Ngāti Tai ki Tāmaki were generally supportive of the timing for the application lodgement and wanted to provide a comment in the Engagement Report (Refer to Sec 3.2.1 above) on the status of mana whenua and not recognising other iwi or hapū within the project footprint and this commentary should be clear in the AEE and application. Watercare agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continue to provide Ngāti Tai ki Tāmaki a role in the co-design of the overland flow system</li> </ul>

Date	Stakeholder	Correspondence Method	Communication	Comment
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide a draft copy of the Engagement Report for review of the cultural sections</li> <li>- Resource the development of the CIA / CVA for the project</li> <li>- Continue to work with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki on the nursery water supply opportunity.</li> </ul> <p>Next hui planned for 15 April 2024.</p>
15.4.24	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki – Taiaomaurikura representatives	Hui	Hui to further progress matters discussed at the 2 April hui.	<p>Further korero on the 2 April matters.</p> <p>Watercare will continue to have regular hui with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki following lodgement of the application on 19 April 2024. This will include working together to develop a cultural statement.</p>

## **Appendix B. Stakeholder Contact Database**

Group	Organisation	Contact Name	Title
Mana Whenua	Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki	Revell Butler / Zaelene Maxwell Butler	Taiaomaurikura
Stakeholder	Environmental Defence Society	Gary Taylor	Chief Executive
Stakeholder	Auckland Regional Public Health	Leslie Breach	Health Protection Officer
Stakeholder	Hauraki Gulf Forum	Alex Rogers	Executive Officer
Landowner	509 Whitford Maraetai Rd	Stella	
Landowner	90 Okaroro Rd	Grant Bowring	
Landowner	781 Whitford Maraetai Rd	Richie Han	
Landowner	16 Clifton Rd	Manbir	
Landowner	415, 435, 465, and 467 Whitford-Maraetai Road, Whitford	Angela Leung	
Landowner	5 and 11 Waikopua Rd, Whitford	Barbara Grieve	

## **Appendix C. Examples of Watercare Engagement Information**

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSION FLYER

# Your voice helps shape our wastewater future



The communities of Maraetai and Beachlands are growing so we need to service this projected growth.

Join us at a drop-in session 2 to learn and provide feedback on the different options for the wastewater discharge locations: **Refining the short-list.**



**Wednesday 22 November 2023 – 5pm to 7.30pm**

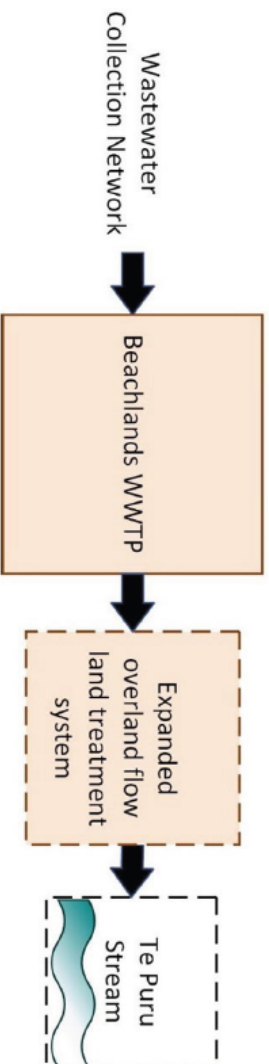
**Te Puru Community Centre – 954R Whitford  
Maraetai Road, Beachlands Auckland**

**Watercare** 

# Beachlands Wastewater Scheme – long list of options

## Receiving environment option – 2a

Option	Option name	Description of option	Summary of infrastructure components
2a	Te Puru Stream – direct discharge (Upgrade existing system)	<p>Maintain the existing indirect discharge to Te Puru Stream via the existing overland flow land treatment system expanded to accommodate increased flows – with or without the pond.</p> <p><b>Key treatment parameters</b> To be confirmed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgraded Beachlands Wastewater Treatment Plant</li> <li>• Expanded overland flow treatment system</li> </ul> <p><b>Appropriate treatment processes</b> To be confirmed</p>



## EXAMPLES OF DISPLAY MATERIALS USED







## EXAMPLE OF LETTERS SENT TO LAND OWNERS

[Date]

[insert name of landowner and property address]

By Email [where known]: [insert]

Dear [insert]

### **Beachlands Wastewater Treatment Plant – Options for the Discharge of Treated Wastewater**

Watercare Services Limited (Watercare) operates a wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) on Okaroro Drive in Beachlands.

Resource consents associated with the WWTP are due to expire in 2025 and 2026. Watercare therefore intends to apply, next year, to Auckland Council for the resource consents it needs to allow the WWTP to continue operating, and to be upgraded to service Beachlands' growing population. Those resource consents include a consent to discharge treated wastewater from the WWTP into the environment (Discharge Permit).

Watercare currently discharges highly treated wastewater from the WWTP into a tributary of the Te Puru Stream, from a location on its WWTP site on Okaroro Drive. Watercare is in the process of assessing different possible options for the discharge of treated wastewater from the WWTP, one of which will be chosen and form the basis of the resource consent applications it lodges with Auckland Council next year.

Watercare initially prepared a long list of 17 possible options, which has now been narrowed down to 5 possible options (short list). A summary of the five different options is included as Annexure 1 to this letter.

### **Potential discharge option affecting your property**

Watercare is writing to you as one option on the short list - Option 3 - involves discharges of treated wastewater to several hundred hectares of land near the WWTP across a number of different properties, including your property. The other options on the short list do not affect your property.

A map showing the extent of land that, under Option 3, would be required for land based disposal of treated wastewater is included as Annexure 2 to this letter.

The next stage in the project is for Watercare to progress from its short list of 5 options to a final preferred option, which will be the subject of an application to Auckland Council for a Discharge Permit. If Watercare's preferred option requires the acquisition of any land Watercare does not already own, this would be subject to a separate process under the Public Works Act 1981.

### **Providing your views**

Watercare is keen to hear your views on the different options in the short list, and to explain to you what Option 3, if chosen as Watercare's preferred option, would mean for you and your property.

Please contact us on [insert details] if you would like one of our staff to arrange a meeting in person with you.

You can also find out more about the project and the different options on the short list by:

- (a) Visiting Watercare's website: Watercare - Beachlands Wastewater Treatment Plant consent renewal;
- (b) Attending a community open day that will be held on Wednesday 22 November from 5pm-7:30pm at the Te Puru Community Centre.

You are able to provide feedback to Watercare on forms that will be provided at the community open day or by email to [Watercare to insert details].

Please be aware that, depending on the option that is ultimately chosen, Watercare may be required under clause 6(1)(f) of Schedule 4 of the Resource Management Act 1991 to provide a summary of your feedback to Auckland Council, and that this may be made public through the RMA consenting process.

Yours sincerely

Priyan Perera

Head of Strategy and Planning

Watercare Services Limited

## **BPO ANNOUNCEMENT NOTICE**

After careful consideration and evaluation of a range of discharge options, we have identified *option 2a - a diffuse discharge to a tributary of Te Puru Stream* as the preferred technical option for the future discharge from the Beachlands Wastewater Treatment Plant site.

While the diffuse discharge option (option 2a) is our preferred technical option, we remain committed to consulting with Mana Whenua, Ngāi Tai ki Tamaki, to further refine and develop the preferred option for the discharge of wastewater from the Beachlands Wastewater Treatment Plant.

We will now undertake the necessary in-depth technical assessments and reporting required as part of our resource consent application.

We appreciate the ongoing collaboration and input from all stakeholders as we continue to prioritise public health of the Beachlands and Maraetai community, environmental outcomes, cultural wellbeing, and the requirements of the community in our decision-making process.

