# WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH WAIROA'S WASTEWATER?

We all produce wastewater (sewage). Our wastewater ends up at Wairoa's wastewater treatment plant on Whakamāhia Road. Wastewater is treated in oxidation ponds before being discharged into the Wairoa River estuary at the end of Fitzroy Street. The consent to do this expires in May 2019. By the end of this year we need to select the best option to discharge our wastewater, whether it is continuing on the same path or thinking of an alternative system.

We need your input into finding a suitable option for wastewater discharge.



### **Reticulation Network**

Underground reticulation pipes take wastewater from the town to the treatment ponds via pump stations.

- 40 km of pipes
- 5 pump stations that help gravity feed wastewater to the treatment ponds
- Originally built around 1948 with improvements since then
- Capacity limitations

#### **Treatment Ponds**

2 oxidation ponds treat the wastewater using algae and bacteria.

- Built in 1980s
- 2 pond system to treat wastewater
- Primary pond 2,120m<sup>3</sup>
- Secondary Pond 10,970m<sup>3</sup>
- Limited Storage

#### Discharge

Treated wastewater is then discharged into the Wairoa River adjacent to Fitzroy Street at night on a falling tide.

- Built in 1981
- New diffuser installed in 2017
- 150m from river bank
- Can get blocked
- River mouth closures cause issues for discharge

# CONSENTING PROCESS

**PHASE A** Technical Investigations

#### **PHASE B** Consultation & Optioneering

Design & Consenting

#### LODGE CONSENT Application

Application November 2018

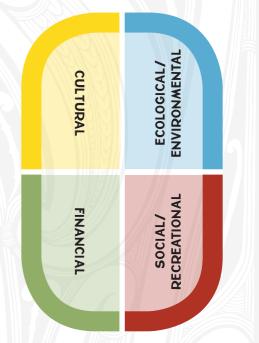
### RECOGNISING THE BIGGER PICTURE

We need to also consider the wider Wairoa River environment. Wastewater discharge only forms a small part of this. This view will ultimately influence the option for wastewater discharge and might mean rather than spending a lot of money on wastewater for small benefit, effort is put into improving the river catchment as a whole.

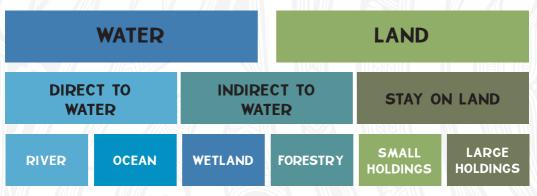
## WHAT'S IMPORTANT - A BALANCING ACT

We need to know what is important to you when it comes to discharging Wairoa's wastewater and the future of the Wairoa River? Tangata whenua, how much can we afford? Areas of recreation? Environmental importance.

### ANY DISCHARGE REQUIRES CONSIDERATION AND BALANCING



### **DISCHARGE OPTIONS**



### **COMBINATION OF LAND & WATER**

### CONTACT

For more information please contact the Wairoa District Council.

⊠ wastewater@wairoadc.govt.nz

🖀 +64 6 838 7309

