

Report 14.533
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Committee Strategy and Policy Committee
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Flood Protection Asset Management Report for 2013/14

1. Purpose

- To advise the Strategy and Policy Committee (the Committee) of the progress made with the Flood Protection Department's asset management system and the overall condition of the department's infrastructural assets.
- To seek endorsement of the 2014/15 budget recommendations made by the Wairarapa River Scheme Advisory Committees.

2. Background

Council is responsible for a variety of infrastructural flood protection assets located on 15 schemes across the region. These assets have a total value of \$262.8 million and provide flood protection to the property and people located on the floodplains of these rivers.

The Flood Protection Department's asset management system identifies the services and strategies required to meet a defined level of service on a sustainable and cost-effective basis, and the expenditure and funding needed to achieve this. Monitoring of these assets over the past financial year is an important component of this system and seeks to re-assure Council that the various assets are being maintained to the required level of service, will perform as designed and, where required, are being enhanced.

3. Asset management system

The organisational focus on asset management within the Council has continued and good progress has been made in a number of improvement plan areas including:

- Reviewing and updating our Asset Management Plan (AMP) for a 30 year period. A particular focus has been on ensuring consistency of information in the AMP, the Long Term Plan and the Infrastructure Strategy.
- Developing and documenting our business processes around our asset information tool SAP Plant Maintenance.
- Involvement in a number of initiatives to improve consistency across Council.

This financial year we will focus on further refining the AMP and improving business process. We will continue to implement our asset management improvement plan subject to resource availability.

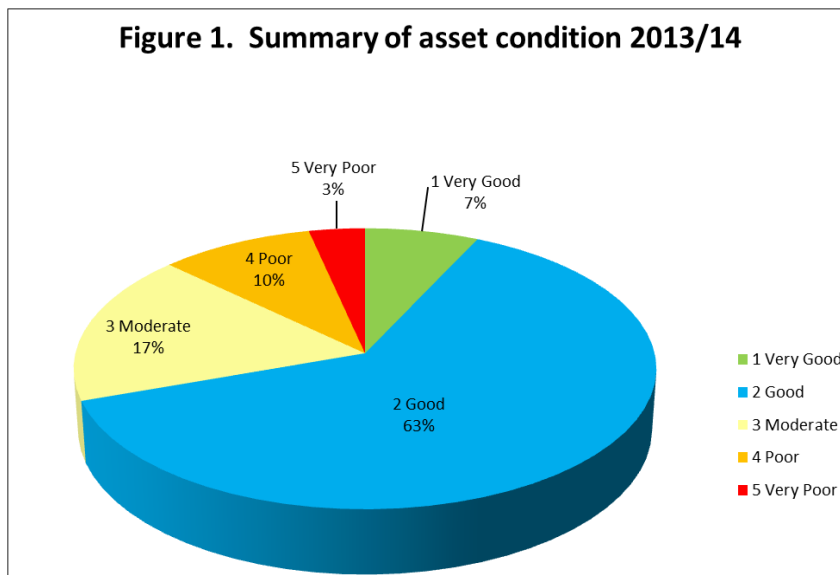
3.1 Asset condition

The annual asset condition assessment process involves grading each individual asset from 1 to 5. An asset graded 1 is in very good condition, while an asset graded 5 is in poor condition and requires upgrade, replacement or should be written off.

The annual process of systematically visiting and assessing asset condition is a fundamental part of our overall asset management system and is continually being improved. Management inspections also provide robustness to this process. When asset criticality is overlaid, this allows maintenance to be prioritised and ensures that Council is maintaining its critical assets.

Overall, 87% of the assets are in a good or moderate condition (rated 1 to 3). In this context, good or moderate condition means that there is only general wear or tear with only minor or moderate maintenance required. 2.4% of the assets that are in poor condition are lengths of stopbanks or floodgates. These are considered to be critical assets and have been included in either maintenance or capital work programmes. The remaining 10.6% of assets that are in poor condition are not critical and are mainly low level erosion protection or vegetative structures.

A summary of the asset condition is shown in **Figure 1**.



87% of assets achieved a 3 or above standard, where no or moderate maintenance is required.

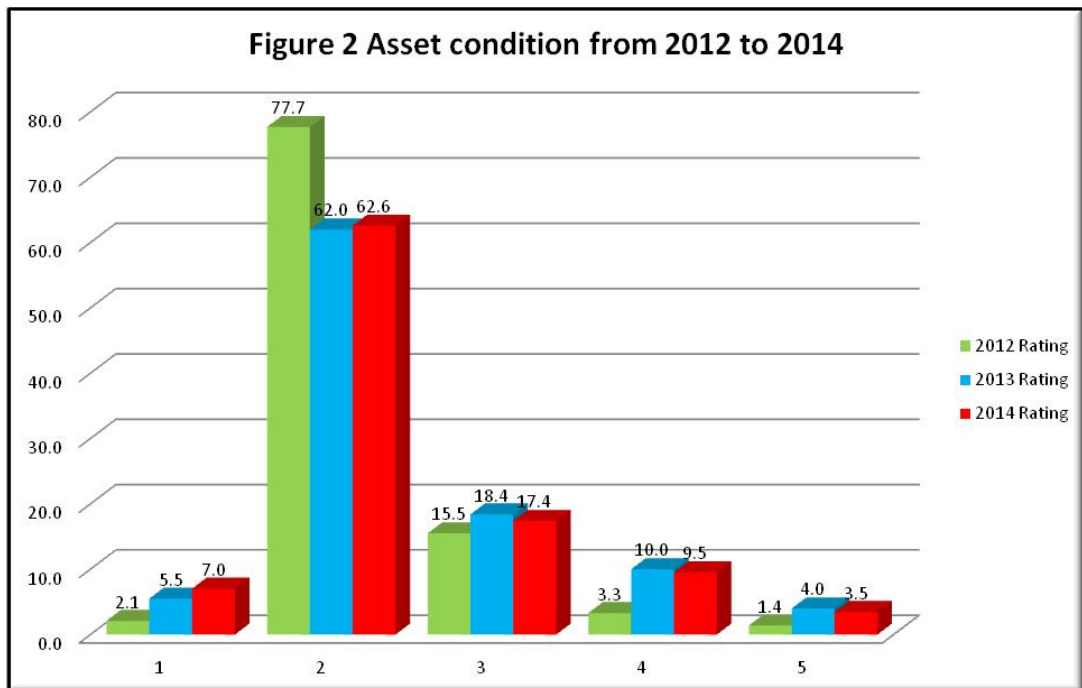
10% of assets achieved a rating of 4. The majority of these assets are non-critical assets such as debris fences and willows that are nearing the end of their useful life. The stopbanks that fall into this category are located on the northern Wairarapa and Otaki Rivers. These stopbanks do not meet current

standards and either have excessive vegetation growth or have been poorly constructed. In all instance the stopbanks have been identified and will be resolved either through the new floodplain management plans (FMP) for the Wairarapa or the existing Otaki FMP.

The flood gates assessed as rating 4 have been identified in works programmes.

3% of assets achieved a rating of 5. These assets are programmed for future work, or will be written off, as they are no longer required. The critical assets in this category are stopbanks in the Wairarapa and will be addressed through the floodplain management planning process.

A comparison of asset condition for the last three years is shown in **Figure 2** below. The noticeable change in asset condition from 2012 to 2013 was as a result of improvements in assessment techniques and not a change in the physical asset condition. Overall, asset condition is improving.



Detailed information on asset condition can be found in **Attachment 1**.

4. Scheme budgets and reserves

Greater Wellington Regional Council manages 15 river schemes across the region, with 9 of these are in the Wairarapa where schemes are funded 50% by benefiting landowners. Given this, staff report to River Scheme Advisory Committees made up of landowners, iwi and stakeholders who confirm whether they are satisfied with the standard of maintenance and recommend any budget changes to Council.

Scheme reserves have been established to enable flood damage repairs to be made following a flood. These reserves are available for floods from a 5 to 25 year return period. For floods greater than a 25 year return period the Major

Flood Investment Reserve can be called upon. The total scheme reserves for the region to 30 June 2014 are \$12.1 million.

This year, all the Wairarapa Scheme Advisory Committees recommended an increase in river scheme rates for 2014/15. Maintenance budgets, together with the scheme reserves, are sufficient to ensure that assets can continue to be maintained to the required service level across the region in 2014/15.

The various Scheme Advisory Committee recommendations are included in **Attachment 1**.

A summary of the individual river schemes and total reserves are detailed in **Table 1** below.

Scheme	Scheme Reserve	Major Flood Investment Reserves	Total Reserves
Lower Valley	1,858,253	1,072,435	2,930,688
Waiohine	621,268	35,370	656,638
Mount Bruce	71,773	8,017	79,790
Te Ore Ore	222,424	8,017	230,441
Gladstone	62,701	8,017	70,718
Waingawa	105,537	23,581	129,118
Waipoua	115,583	23,581	139,164
Kopuaranga	-44,664		-44,664
Upper Mangatarere	31,469		31,469
Taueru	10,500		10,500
Whangaehu	10,237		10,237
Total Eastern River Schemes	3,065,081	1,179,017	4,244,098
Western Rivers	2,527,135	1,179,017	3,706,152
Sub Total of River Schemes Reserves	5,592,216	2,358,034	7,950,250
GW Flood Contingency Reserve	1,388,021		1,388,021
GW Major Flood Investment		2,358,034	2,358,034
Total Reserves of River Schemes	6,980,237	4,716,068	11,696,305
Drainage Schemes	375,870		375,870
Total of All Schemes Reserves	7,356,107	4,716,068	12,072,175

Table 1: River Scheme reserves as at 30 June 2014

5. Summary

Council can be confident that all flood protection infrastructural assets are being adequately maintained to the required level of service. This is demonstrated by:

- The annual condition assessment process and staff inspections has established that the majority of Flood Protection's infrastructural assets are in good to moderate condition.

- Resolutions of the various Wairarapa River Advisory Committees and western river Friends' Groups have confirmed that the schemes are being maintained to their satisfaction.
- Sufficient financial provision has been made available through the maintenance budgets and scheme reserves to ensure completion of the maintenance programmes.

6. The decision-making process and significance

Officers recognise that the matters referenced in this report may have a high degree of importance to affected or interested parties.

The matters requiring decision in this report have been considered by officers against the requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act). Part 6 sets out the obligations of local authorities in relation to the making of decisions.

6.1 Significance of the decision

Part 6 requires Greater Wellington Regional Council to consider the significance of the decision. The term 'significance' has a statutory definition set out in the Act.

Officers have considered the significance of the matter, taking the Council's significance policy and decision-making guidelines into account. Officers recommend that the matter be considered to have low significance.

Officers do not consider that a formal record outlining consideration of the decision-making process is required in this instance.

7. Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. ***Receives the report.***
2. ***Notes the content of the report.***
3. ***Notes the resolutions of the various Wairarapa River Scheme Advisory Committees and the Friends of the Waikanae and Otaki Rivers.***
4. ***Endorses the budget recommendations of the various Wairarapa River Scheme Advisory Committees for the 2014/15 financial year.***
5. ***Confirms that the 15 River Management Schemes in the region have been maintained to the satisfaction of Council.***

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Attachment 1: Supplementary information