

21 July 2023

File Ref: OIAPR-1274023063-3773

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Request for information 2023-168 and 2023-169

I refer to your two requests for information dated 25 June 2023, which were received by Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) on 25 June 2023. You have requested the following information in 2023-168:

“In relation to a LGOIMA request made to PCC on 27 July 2021, and subsequently transferred (in part) by PCC to GWRC, and in respect of a discharge of untreated wastewater to the Onepoto arm of Porirua Harbour on or about 18th and 20th July 2021. A previous request for information by me to GWRC was refused by Mr A Cross (GM - Environment Group) dated 16/08/2021. Mr Cross indicated that the information couldn't be provided because (at that time) the discharge was the subject of investigation with related collation of documents and correspondence by GWRC. I note that is now more than 2 years ago, so I presume that GWRC has collated the relevant necessary for a prosecution. So in relation to this investigation by GWRC, I hereby request the following information:”

(a) a copy of the documents and correspondence GWRC has collated; and,

(b) if GWRC has come to a conclusion about prosecution under the RMA, a copy of the document that records: what the conclusion was, who came to that conclusion, the date, the reasons why, and the document that records that the person making that conclusion has the required delegation under the RMA.

(c) if GWRC has not come to a conclusion about prosecution under the RMA, a copy of the document that records the reasons why a decision has not yet been made.”

And the following information requested in 2023-169.

“1. Has GWRC concluded its investigation.

2. *If it hasn't concluded its investigation please provide me with the reasons and the expected time frame.*
3. *If GWRC has concluded its investigation what has the outcome of that.*
4. *If GWRC has concluded its investigation will it be proceeding with prosecution*
5. *If GWRC has concluded its investigation and is not proceeding with prosecution, the reasons why*
6. *If GWRC has concluded its investigation and is not proceeding with prosecution, a copy of all information that GWRC has relied upon in coming to this conclusion.*
7. *If GWRC has concluded its investigation and is proceeding with prosecution, information so I can understand the current status of those proceedings."*

Greater Wellington's response follows:

An investigation commenced in relation to the Paremata waste water pipe incident that took place on 17 July 2021. On 23 September 2021 Wellington Water submitted an Emergency Works Report along with confirmation that it was their belief that the works were undertaken in accordance with the emergency provisions of section 330 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). These provisions allow a network utility operator to undertake works for the purpose of preventative or remedial action under certain circumstances. The investigation was subsequently de-prioritised. Following the receipt of the Emergency Works Report, the overseeing officer raised some concerns with the use of section 330 RMA emergency provisions in this instance, however it appears that the officer responsible at the time opted to not pursue any further enforcement action in relation to this incident. Subsequently, we engaged with Wellington Water on the use of section 330 RMA emergency provisions.

No further action, including an enforcement decision has been made in relation to this investigation and we can confirm we are able to release to you any relevant information we hold.

In regard to the specific information you requested in 2023-168 and 2023-169 please see the following answers:

2023-168

(a) a copy of the documents and correspondence GWRC has collated; and,

Please see **Attachment 1** which contains emails from Wellington Water alerting and updating Greater Wellington about the burst wastewater main as well as **Attachment 2** which contains emails between Greater Wellingtons Environmental Protection Officer and Wellington Water requesting further information on the event and **Attachment 3** which contains an email from Wellington Water

informing Greater Wellington that they are considering using section 330 Emergency Works of the RMA.

(b) if GWRC has come to a conclusion about prosecution under the RMA, a copy of the document that records: what the conclusion was, who came to that conclusion, the date, the reasons why, and the document that records that the person making that conclusion has the required delegation under the RMA.

The investigation did not result in a prosecution so these documents do not exist. Therefore, we are refusing this part of your request under section 17(e) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) on the basis that the document alleged to contain the information does not exist or, despite reasonable effort to locate it, cannot be found.

(c) if GWRC has not come to a conclusion about prosecution under the RMA, a copy of the document that records the reasons why a decision has not yet been made."

The investigation did not result in a prosecution being considered or discussed so these documents do not exist. Therefore, we are refusing this part of your request under section 17(e) of the (LGOIMA) on the basis that the document alleged to contain the information does not exist or, despite reasonable effort to locate it, cannot be found.

Before refusing a request under section 17(e) of the LGOIMA, we are required to consider consulting the requester before making that decision. In this instance we concluded that consulting you would not change the outcome of our decision.

2023-169

1. Has GWRC concluded its investigation.

Yes, Greater Wellington has concluded the investigation.

2. If it hasn't concluded its investigation please provide me with the reasons and the expected time frame.

Not applicable, as Greater Wellington has concluded the investigation.

3. If GWRC has concluded its investigation what has the outcome of that.

No formal enforcement action was taken in relation to the incident. As noted above, we have subsequently engaged with Wellington Water in relation to their use of section 330 RMA emergency provisions.

4. If GWRC has concluded its investigation will it be proceeding with prosecution

No further enforcement action, including prosecution, will be pursued in this instance.

5. If GWRC has concluded its investigation and is not proceeding with prosecution, the reasons why
The investigation was deprioritised to allow the investigating officer time to focus on another important prosecution. When this officer left the Environmental Protection Team in late 2022 it was concluded that Greater Wellington would not continue with the investigation. It appears, although not documented, the officer accepted the use of section 330 (emergency provisions) in this instance.

6. If GWRC has concluded its investigation and is not proceeding with prosecution, a copy of all information that GWRC has relied upon in coming to this conclusion.

Greater Wellington decided not to take enforcement action over the sewage spill into Porirua Harbour. We are refusing this part of your request under section 17(g) of the LGOIMA on the basis that there are no documents concluding the investigation or the decision around not to proceed with a prosecution. It appears the officer at the time concluded that section 330 RMA could apply and therefore a defence might exist. We therefore decided to engage with Wellington Water on the appropriate use of section 330 going forward for incidents such as this.

Generally, the decision whether or not the prosecute is informed by referring to the solicitor general's guidelines ([SOLICITOR-GENERAL'S Prosecution Guidelines](#)).

7. If GWRC has concluded its investigation and is proceeding with prosecution, information so I can understand the current status of those proceedings."

Greater Wellington is not proceeding with enforcement action including prosecution.

If you have any concerns with the decision(s) referred to in this letter, you have the right to request an investigation and review by the Ombudsman under section 27(3) of the LGOIMA.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request will be published shortly on Greater Wellington's website with your personal information removed.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Lian Butcher
Kaiwhakahaere Matua Rōpū Taiao | Group Manager Environment

Renee Coffey

From: Glenis Bruin <Glenis.Bruin@wellingtonwater.co.nz>
Sent: Sunday, 25 July 2021 8:43 pm
To: Customer Support Team; Enquiries; Ashley Gore; Jean Hunter; Leeanne Chapman; communications@porirua.govt.nz; PNCC Afterhours; David Down; Ian McSherry; Roadprotectionteam@pcc.govt.nz; Wendy Walker; mayor@pcc.govt.nz; Darren Varcoe (Capital Journeys); Paul Gardiner; Steve Hutchison; Alistair Cross; James Snowdon; helmut.modlik@ngatitoa.iwi.nz; Waipuna Grace; Naomi Solomon; Danielle McEveney
Cc: * All Senior Leaders; COG – Group Leadership Team; Steve Watt; Alistair Forsyth; Sean de Roo; Sheena O'Brien; Damus Ogle; Royce Haxton; John Baines; Dirk Naish; Paul Davison; Megan Chenxu Wang; Paul Winstanley; Brian Gosper; Ben Hemara; Martin Gronback; Brandon Dittmer; David Henry; Walter Alexander; Glenn Rangji; Daniel Paulo; Samuel Daniel; Iain McAfee; Jan Christensen; Ajesh Sharma; Grant McLachlan; Tony Jaegers; Laurence Edwards; Gary O'Meara; HUB Team; GRP: Communications; Emergency ECC; Erin Ganley; Garry Butler; Network Performance; centralfirecommunications@fireandemergency.nz; Notifications; events@waicomply.co.nz; Environmental Protection; healthprotection@huttvalleydwb.org.nz; David-Jordan Kee-Sue-Tairea; Alexander van Paassen; Vanessa MacFarlane; Robert Mackie; Robyn Wilson
Subject: UPDATE 19 20.30 25/07/2021 - BURST WASTEWATER RISING MAIN - SH1 Paremata

UPDATE 19 20:30 25 July 2021

Good Evening

The team were successful in completing the repair this evening and the rising main is now operational. Our team will be monitoring the repair overnight. Note that we will still have some carparks coned off in the turning circle of the carpark due to machinery being onsite for monitoring purposes. Please see the picture below for approximate location of pumps (in blue) and carparks in red.



The principal of Paremata School has been advised that we will have Station Road open with traffic management operators on site to assist parents at pick-up and drop-off time.

Below is a media statement which is being released at approximately 21:00.

Attribute to Steve Hutchison Chief Advisor Wastewater, Wellington Water

Our crews have completed the repair to the burst wastewater main between the Aotea turnoff and Paremata.

While the repair has been successful and has enabled us to begin reusing the main, our investigations have shown that it remains in a very poor condition. We are continuing to investigate the extent of this while exploring options for a permanent replacement or repair.

As the bursts caused wastewater to overflow, on Saturday 24 July, a rāhui (ritual prohibition) was put in place by Ngāti Toa, banning the taking of shellfish or fish in and around Porirua harbour. It will be in place for two weeks.

State Highway One, northbound, will remain reduced to one lane while work to clear the site continues. Traffic management will be in place, off peak, while we do this. Some car parks at the end of Station Road, by the service station, will also be coned off while pumps remain on site, as a contingency. Please avoid the area if possible.

Further information on recreational water quality is available at lawa.org.nz.

We'd like to thank the public for their continued patience while we work to fix this issue.

Media contact: media@wellingtonwater.co.nz or 021 302 259

Kind regards
Glenis

UPDATE 18 12:30 25 July 2021

Good afternoon

The team are working hard on the repair today and works are progressing well. Because of the complex nature of the repair it is anticipated we will be working into the evening.

Overnight there was no discharge into the harbour. The rising main was kept in operation and excess flow was well controlled by the use of sucker trucks. The rising main has had to be taken offline to make the repair today and we are using sucker trucks to minimise overflow although there has been some discharge to the harbour.

Traffic Management remains in place and we are liaising with Capital Journeys. Currently the carpark at the railway station is closed and we will advise when this is open for use again.

A further update will be provided in the early evening.

Thank you for your patience and we apologise for the inconvenience.

Kind regards
Glenis

UPDATE 17 11:25

Good morning

Unfortunately there has been a delay in the arrival of the specialised fittings from Auckland, which will now arrive after 21:00 (9pm) tonight. Consequently we are putting today's work on hold. Sucker trucks have been mobilised to assist with minimising overflows at peak times and work will resume tomorrow morning.

Thank you for your patience and we apologise for the inconvenience.

Kind regards
Glenis

UPDATE 16 11:10 24 July 2021

Good Morning

Works are continuing today at the Rising Main repair on SH1 Paremata. Repairs today consist of replacing a longer (12 meter) section of pipe in the area with specialist internal reinforcement joints which have been sourced and flown in from Auckland to enable connection to the fragile pipe. This work is expected to continue into the evening.

Flows were contained overnight with no overflows to the harbour. Leakage from the repair site was contained by the use of sucker trucks. We anticipate there may be some overflows today while the repair work is underway. Sucker trucks have been mobilised to reduce the overflow, however there are likely to be some overflows during peak times today.

Ngati Toa are planning to place a Rahui on the harbour area which will be conducted at the Titahi Bay Boating Club at 1pm today.

Sampling is continuing and we are liaising with GWRC to keep recreational water advice updated on lawa.org.nz.

A media release will be going out at 11:30 (see below).

Attribute to Steve Hutchison Chief Advisor Wastewater, Wellington Water

Our crews are continuing to work on a repair to the burst wastewater main between the Aotea turnoff and Paremata.

State Highway One, northbound, will be reduced to one lane over the weekend while work continues.

Traffic management is in place and we encourage the public to avoid the area if possible.

Our investigations have shown the pipe, which has failed twice this week, is in a very poor condition. Staff and machinery were on site overnight to monitor the situation.

We are continuing to investigate the cause and extent of the degradation while exploring options for a permanent replacement or repair.

Due to the complexity of the repair, and fragile nature of the pipeline, we expect there to be some additional overflow today. We are working to minimise this as much as possible.

To reduce potential wastewater overflow, we ask residents in Whitby, Paremata, Plimmerton, Pukerua Bay, and in the northern parts of Papakowhai to minimise water use as much as possible.

We ask members of the public to avoid contact with water in the area and to not gather shellfish in the area. Health warning signs are in place.

Further information on recreational water quality is available at lawa.org.nz.

We'd like to thank the public for their continued patience while we work to fix this issue.

Media contact: media@wellingtonwater.co.nz or 021 302 259

Kind regards
Glenis

UPDATE 14 – 20:15 – 23 July 2021

Good Evening

Due to the complexity of the job, fragility of the pipe and the fact that several different options have considered and tried today, our team have made a temporary repair to hold the pipe overnight whilst they arrange for resources to enable a more robust repair to be undertaken tomorrow.

The majority of the teams have been stood down for the night but we have people on site to monitor the situation throughout the night. Some leakage is expected from the temporary repair and we will endeavour to contain that using sucker trucks.

One lane of the State Highway northbound will remain closed.

We will provide a further update tomorrow morning.

Thank you for your patience and we apologise for the inconvenience.

Kind regards
Glenis

UPDATE 13 - 17:45 – 23 July 2021

Good Evening

Work to repair the wastewater main between the Aotea turnoff and Paremata is continuing.

Traffic management has remained in place through rush hour and the disruption has been manageable.

Due to the condition of the pipe and the complex repair it's taking longer than anticipated to complete. We do not expect to be able to complete a permanent repair this evening and will evaluate whether work will continue tomorrow depending on the effectiveness of the repair tonight.

Close attention is being paid to fatigue of our staff and contractors.

We will update you further later this evening.

Kind regards

Glenis

UPDATE 12 – 14:00 23 July 2021

Good afternoon

Repair work on the rising main is progressing but has not yet completed. We are liaising with Waka Kotahi to get the site clear as soon as possible for the afternoon peak traffic flows.

Please note that the repair work is complicated and we may have to continue work tomorrow depending how the repair holds.

We will provide a further update following the next status meeting later this afternoon.

Kind regards

Glenis

UPDATE 11 – 09:30 23 July 2021

Good Morning

Work continued overnight in preparation for repair of the Paremata rising main and enabled us to be track for repair today. Crews are now established on site to commence excavation and sucker trucks deployed at key sites to minimise discharge during the course of repairs. Due to the fragile nature of this pipe the repair is complicated and further failures are possible. We will make all efforts to contain wastewater however expect some overflow is likely to occur.

The leaking rising main was kept in limited operation overnight and with the assistance of sucker trucks working through the night contained further wastewater discharge from the stormwater network overflow point beneath the Paremata railway bridge crossing.

The cross harbour pipeline was put into emergency operation for a short period overnight which identified a leak further south towards Onepoto which required recommissioning to be abandoned. An overflow into the adjacent stormwater sump did occur for a short period, pumping was ceased which stopped the overflow and the site cleaned up and signage placed. This fault is being investigated today and repair work will be undertaken when possible.

North bound traffic is currently reduced to one lane on SH 1 while repairs are being undertaken. We are asking residents in the area to minimise water use to assist with our efforts to minimise overflows.

We are sending the below update at 9.45am to media and uploading to our website and social media platforms.

Attribute to Steve Hutchison Chief Advisor Wastewater, Wellington Water

Our crews are making further repairs this morning to the burst wastewater main on State Highway One, northbound, between the Aotea turnoff and Paremata.

To reduce potential wastewater overflow, we ask residents in Whitby, Paremata, Plimmerton, Pukerua Bay, and in the northern parts of Papakowhai to minimise water use as much as possible.

We are making all efforts to contain wastewater, but due last night's heavy rain fall there was some overflow into the harbour.

Due the complexity of the repair, and fragile nature of the pipeline, we expect there to be some additional overflow today. We are working to minimise this as much as possible.

Traffic management is in place and we encourage members of the public to avoid the area.

We also advise members of the public to avoid contact with coastal water in the area.

The latest advice on recreational water quality can be found at lawa.org.nz

Thank you for your patience and we apologise for the inconvenience.

Kind regards
Glenis

UPDATE 10 - 19:05 22 July 2021

Good evening

Below is a media release regarding a further burst on the 525mm main.

Attribute to Steve Hutchison Chief Advisor Wastewater, Wellington Water

We are currently responding to a burst wastewater main on State Highway One, northbound, between the Aotea turnoff and Paremata.

Traffic management is in place and we encourage members of the public to avoid the area if possible.

This pipeline previously burst last Saturday and a repair was carried out on Sunday evening.

Despite the repair, our investigations showed the pipeline was in a fragile condition, and this evening's heavy rainfall has caused a further failure.

Some wastewater is overflowing into the harbour and work is underway to minimise this overflow.

Our crews will be preparing throughout the night to undertake a further repair in the morning.

We advise members of the public to avoid contact with coastal water in the area.

The Incident Response team will be meeting later this evening and further updates will be provided.

Kind regards

Glenis

UPDATE 9 17:45 21 July 2021

Good Evening

The clean-up of the walking track has been completed today. Contractors will continue working on the walking track and Station Road tomorrow to enable us to conduct a CCTV investigation of the Cross-Harbour Pipeline. The walking track will be reopened to the public once contractors have finished their machine works.

Arrangements have been made to transition the current portable pump set up at Station Road to align with the Cross-Harbour Pipeline being offline and its effect on the existing pump stations. This will be done before the school holidays end this weekend to minimise impact on the Paremata School. The school has a side entrance off Station Road.

The next update will be provided once pressurised testing has been completed.

Kind regards

Glenis

UPDATE 8 – 15:48 Tuesday 20th July

Good afternoon

In taking pressure off the Paremata rising main, we recommissioned the cross-harbour pipeline from Station Road to Onepoto. In doing this, a blockage occurred on the walking track (Onepoto side), resulting in overflow into the Harbour for under two hours. In response, the pumps were turned off and the flow diverted back to the rising main.

This means that the rising main continues to operate under stress and we are monitoring the situation. We have ordered additional fittings to enable further repairs.

We will also work towards making the cross-harbour pipeline serviceable by pressure testing with potable water, as a viable alternative to the Paremata rising main should it be needed.

The walking track has been temporarily closed.

Kind regards

Glenis

UPDATE 7 – 15:05

Good afternoon,

We have now completed the repair and backfilled the excavation, which has contained the discharge of wastewater.

It has been identified that the condition of the AC main is in very poor condition and likely to fail at some stage in the near future.

To manage this risk, we are arranging for specialised repair fittings and pipe to be available on site.

Temporary mobile pumps have been established in Station Road to manage any high wet weather overflows that may occur.

The two north bound lanes on State Highway 1 will be open this afternoon by 3:30pm.

Thank you for your patience and we apologise for the inconvenience.

Kind regards

Josh

UPDATE 6 – 15:45

Good Afternoon

We've made good progress on the repair to the wastewater pipe in Paremata with the pipe excavated and the new pipe being installed now.

The work involves digging a trench in the SH1 median strip, removing the damaged section, and replacing it with a new pipe, then infilling and cleaning up the area ready for north lane of SH1 to be reopened.

While we're expecting to be able to complete the repair today, we're going to need to revisit the site to complete some tidy up work. This will be carried out in the next week and during off peak traffic.

A further update will be provided approximately 18:30 this evening.

Thank you for your patience and we apologise for the inconvenience.

Kind regards
Glenis

UPDATE 5 – 13:15

Good Afternoon

We currently have 4 pumps on site at Station Road pumping to the stormwater over flow point, Station village pump station pumping through the Cross Harbour Pipeline as well as 12 Wastewater tanker trucks carting from upstream to Porirua City Centre pump stations. This has enabled us to control the flow of wastewater at the burst site sufficiently to commence repairs.

We are now starting on the excavation work in preparation for the repair of the pipe.

Further updates will be provided as the work progresses during the afternoon and early evening.

Kind regards
Glenis

UPDATE 4 – 11:10

Good Morning

We've had sucker trucks on site helping to reduce the overflow to Porirua Harbour and keep contaminated water away from Paremata school. Overnight they have managed to keep up with the flow with less rain and stormwater infiltration into the network.

Work continued overnight on diverting the wastewater flow through an emergency line underneath the harbour. This line was successfully opened, and some wastewater diverted through it to relieve the pressure on the broken main. As the main could not be fully isolated repair work was unable to be completed. Additional pumps are being installed to assist with the diversion of the flow.

This work has been challenging due to heavy rainfall and high levels of stormwater infiltration into the wastewater network.

Today:

Contractors are on site again today working towards an urgent repair on the Rising Main.

This involves digging a trench in the SH1 median strip, removing the damaged section and replacing it with a new pipe.

As we need the pipe to be drained when we do this, the timeframe is dependent on the weather and the amount of infiltration we experience due to rainfall.

We hope to complete the permanent repair completed today before the rain starts again later tonight.

Works are expected to go into late evening tonight. A no swimming notice has been put up onsite near the harbour entrance which will remain in place for 48 hours after the overflow stops.

We're also asking residents in Whitby, Paremata, Plimmerton, Pukerua Bay, and in the northern parts of Papakowhai to minimise water use as much as possible.

To work on the repair, State Highway 1 has been reduced to one lane north bound (between the Aotea turnoff and Plimmerton, 200 meters north of Aotea intersection).

We're asking people to find alternative routes or delay travelling if possible.

The Incident Response Team is meeting regularly and I will be sending out updates as the work progresses today.

Thank you for your patience and we apologise for the inconvenience.

Kind regards
Glenis

UPDATE 3 – 17:30

Good Evening

Our crews have been onsite all day working to fix the burst rising main on SH1. This work has been challenging due to the continued heavy rainfall. We are currently undertaking temporary works to direct the wastewater flow from the main through the Cross Harbour Pipeline as an alternative path to the treatment plant outfall.

Our teams will be working through the night to carry out a temporary repair of the rising main with the aim to implement the permanent repair tomorrow once the rain has eased.

Traffic is very congested currently in the affected area of SH1 (between the Aotea turnoff and Plimmerton, 200 meters north of Aotea lagoon).

We're asking people to find alternative routes or delay travelling if possible.

Signs have been placed to warn people to avoid swimming in the Porirua Harbour and Social Media has warnings for pedestrians to avoid any local areas with surface flooding as this could contain some wastewater overflow.

We'd like to thank the public for their continued patience while we work to fix this issue.

Kind regards
Glenis

UPDATE 2 – 15:30

Hi All

Work continues on the burst wastewater rising main. Contractors are on site and sucker trucks are operating to assist in reducing the overflow. Below is the media release sent out at 15:30 this afternoon.

Update – 3.30pm

Further investigation by Wellington Water around the burst wastewater main on SH1 in Paremata has found that the incident has also caused a wastewater man hole to overflow wastewater on to Station Road, Paremata Crescent and on some areas near the entrance of the Paremata Primary School grounds.

We are asking pedestrians to take extra care and avoid these areas.

We have a team on the ground who have cordoned off these areas with cones and people on site with signage. We also have suction trucks working in this area to control flows.

ENDS

The Incident team will be meeting again approximately 16:30 and we will provide a full update following that meeting.

Kind regards
Glenis

UPDATE 1 – 11:30

The Incident Response Team has met and work is underway to excavate and repair the broken pipe. A media release is going out now and is shown in it's entirety below:

Media Release

Wastewater main burst on State Highway 1 in Paremata

Public are being asked to expect delays on State Highway 1 (SH1) in Paremata and avoid swimming in the Paremata harbour due to a burst wastewater main between the Aotea turnoff and Plimmerton, 200 meters north of Aotea lagoon.

Wellington Water was called out to a burst wastewater main on SH1 around 8am today.

“This has caused wastewater to overflow across SH1 and into the Paremata harbour. State Highway 1 is currently down to one lane north bound and people should expect delays,” says Sam Lister, Wellington Water’s Manager Customer Planning.

“There are nine wastewater tanker trucks on site which is helping to reduce the overflow on SH1 and crews are planning to do an urgent repair.”

Works are expected to go into late evening tonight. A no swimming notice will be put up onsite near the harbour entrance which will remain in place for 48 hours after the overflow stops.

“With the heavy rainfall likely to cause more overflows, we’re also asking residents to conserve water as much as possible.

“We’d like to thank the public for their patience as we work to repair the burst.”

ENDS

Further updates will be provided as work progresses on the repair.

Kind regards
Glenis

BURST WASTEWATER RISING MAIN

Response: Level 4
Response Lead: Sam Lister
Supported by: Service Delivery Team

Kia Ora Koutou

The 525mm diameter Wastewater Rising Main on SH 1 has ruptured. At this stage we are planning to do an urgent repair. There is currently a flow of wastewater across the State Highway. The burst main has caused an overflow and will continue to do so until repaired.

The Incident Response team is being formed to manage the response. A further update will be provided approximately 10:30.

Kind regards
Glenis

Glenis Bruin – Incident Coordinator
Customer Experience Team



Ph 04 912 4470 Mob 021 346 438

Private Bag 39804, Wellington Mail Centre 5045
Level 4, IBM House, 25 Victoria Street, Petone, Lower Hutt

www.wellingtonwater.co.nz

From: [Paul Gardiner](#)
To: [James Snowdon](#)
Cc: [Notifications](#); [Steve Hutchison](#); [Lucy Baker](#)
Subject: Paremata Wastewater Riser Break - emergency works notification (s.330A(1))

Hi James,

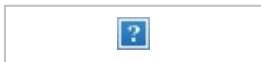
I've left a message on your phone related to this, but we have made several decisions pursuant to s.330 emergency works since last Saturday morning. We are pulling together the documentation for the event and decision-making sequences – as I'm sure you can appreciate this has been a complex and evolving situation, which is still ongoing.

Can you please confirm that the notifications and updates so far have been recorded as notification of the use of emergency powers?

Nga mihi,

Paul

Paul Gardiner ([he/him](#)) **Manager (RMA, Consents and Environment)**



Tel 04 912 4400 **DDI** 04 912 4506 **Mob** 021 445 024

Private Bag 39804, Wellington Mail Centre 5045

Level 4, IBM House, 25 Victoria Street, Petone, Lower Hutt

www.wellingtonwater.co.nz

PROACTIVE RELEASE

From: [Richard Williams](#)
To: [James Luty](#)
Cc: [James Snowdon](#); [Rubie McLintock](#); [Paul Gardiner](#)
Subject: RE: BURST WASTEWATER RISING MAIN - SH1 Paremata
Date: Thursday, 23 September 2021 5:05:13 pm
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[Paramata Water Quality Monitoring - To GWRC.xlsx](#)
[Emergency Works - Paremata Wastewater Pipe - 17 July 2021 - Final to GWRC.pdf](#)
[Paremata Wastewater Riser Break - emergency works notification \(s.330A\(1\)\).msg](#)

Tēnā koe James

Please find attached the Emergency Works Report in relation to the Paremata wastewater pipe event on 17 July 2021.

Thanks again for your patience on receiving this report.

Please get in touch with us if we can clarify any of the attached information.

Ngā mihi

Richard Williams Senior Advisor (RMA, Consents and Environment)



Mobile 021 582 968

From: Richard Williams

Sent: 22 September 2021 5:01 PM

To: James Luty <James.Luty@gw.govt.nz>

Cc: James Snowdon <James.Snowdon@gw.govt.nz>; Rubie McLintock <Rubie.McLintock@gw.govt.nz>; Paul Gardiner <Paul.Gardiner@wellingtonwater.co.nz>

Subject: RE: BURST WASTEWATER RISING MAIN - SH1 Paremata

Tēnā koe James

We have just received a comprehensive internal review and respectfully request until the end of tomorrow to update the document.

Again, we apologise for the delay and will use this situation as a learning opportunity with our teams.

Ngā mihi

Richard Williams Senior Advisor (RMA, Consents and Environment)



Mobile 021 582 968

From: James Luty <James.Luty@gw.govt.nz>

Sent: 17 September 2021 1:35 PM

To: Richard Williams <Richard.Williams@wellingtonwater.co.nz>

Cc: James Snowdon <James.Snowdon@gw.govt.nz>; Rubie McLintock <Rubie.McLintock@gw.govt.nz>; Paul Gardiner <Paul.Gardiner@wellingtonwater.co.nz>

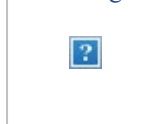
Subject: RE: BURST WASTEWATER RISING MAIN - SH1 Paremata

Thanks for the update Richard.

I look forward to receiving your document by 5pm on Wednesday 22 September 2021.

Ngā mihi,

makaurangi



James Luty [*he/him*]

Kaiāpiha Taiao | Senior Environmental Protection Officer

Greater Wellington | Te Pane Matua Taiao

M: 027 254 2230

From: Richard Williams <Richard.Williams@wellingtonwater.co.nz>

Sent: Friday, 17 September, 2021 1:28 PM

To: James Luty <James.Luty@gw.govt.nz>; Paul Gardiner <Paul.Gardiner@wellingtonwater.co.nz>

Cc: James Snowdon <James.Snowdon@gw.govt.nz>; Rubie McLintock <Rubie.McLintock@gw.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: BURST WASTEWATER RISING MAIN - SH1 Paremata

Tēnā koe James

Unfortunately we have been unable to finalise the emergency works document for your review.

Please accept our apologies for the delay.

We will endeavour to send it to you early next week.

Ngā mihi

Richard Williams Senior Advisor (RMA, Consents and Environment)



Mobile 021 582 968

From: James Luty <James.Luty@gw.govt.nz>

Sent: 09 September 2021 9:33 AM

To: Richard Williams <Richard.Williams@wellingtonwater.co.nz>; Paul Gardiner <Paul.Gardiner@wellingtonwater.co.nz>

Cc: James Snowdon <James.Snowdon@gw.govt.nz>; Rubie McLintock <Rubie.McLintock@gw.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: BURST WASTEWATER RISING MAIN - SH1 Paremata

Thanks Richard.

I look forward to hearing from you by next Friday.

Ngā mihi,

makaurangi



James Luty *[he/him]*

Kaiāpiha Taiao | Senior Environmental Protection Officer

Greater Wellington | Te Pane Matua Taiao

M: 027 254 2230

From: Richard Williams <Richard.Williams@wellingtonwater.co.nz>

Sent: Thursday, 9 September, 2021 9:31 AM

To: James Luty <James.Luty@gw.govt.nz>; Paul Gardiner <Paul.Gardiner@wellingtonwater.co.nz>

Cc: James Snowdon <James.Snowdon@gw.govt.nz>; Rubie McLintock <Rubie.McLintock@gw.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: BURST WASTEWATER RISING MAIN - SH1 Paremata

Tēnā koe James

Thanks for the follow up request.

I have prepared the draft notification summary, however, we were awaiting some information from our operations team to complete the report.

I'll finalise the report and provide for your review a.s.a.p.

Thanks again

Ngā mihi

Richard Williams Senior Advisor (RMA, Consents and Environment)

Mobile 021 582 968

From: James Luty <James.Luty@gw.govt.nz>

Sent: 09 September 2021 9:24 AM

To: Paul Gardiner <Paul.Gardiner@wellingtonwater.co.nz>

Cc: James Snowdon <James.Snowdon@gw.govt.nz>; Rubie McLintock <Rubie.McLintock@gw.govt.nz>; Richard Williams <Richard.Williams@wellingtonwater.co.nz>

Subject: RE: BURST WASTEWATER RISING MAIN - SH1 Paremata

Hello Paul and Richard,

It has been six weeks since the first agreed deadline for the provision of this material. I accept that the initial response to this event took priority and that Covid has been a difficult time.

However we need this material to progress our investigation. As you know, this matter is of public interest.

I am now officially requesting this information. The new deadline for the provision of this information is 17 September 2021. If we do not receive this information by this new deadline then we will have to consider how best to engage over this.

Please feel free to email me if you have any concerns or questions.

Ngā mihi,



James Luty *[he/him]*

Kaiāpiha Taiao | Senior Environmental Protection Officer

Greater Wellington | Te Pane Matua Taiao

M: 027 254 2230

From: James Luty

Sent: Monday, 26 July, 2021 4:51 PM

To: paul.gardiner@wellingtonwater.co.nz

Cc: James Snowdon <James.Snowdon@gw.govt.nz>; Rubie McLintock <Rubie.McLintock@gw.govt.nz>

Subject: BURST WASTEWATER RISING MAIN - SH1 Paremata

Hello Paul,

Thank you for your time on the phone just now. I have attached the email chain from the incident. As far as I know, this is the extent of the information that GWRC has been provided to date (please let me know if I have missed anything).

I understand that the discharge has ceased and that you are currently reviewing the response and going through “lessons learnt” process to inform the next steps for WWL. You stated that you are hoping to have some information relating to the incident available by the end of this week and that you are happy to share this with GWRC. Thank you very much, I look forward to receiving it.

If possible, it would be helpful if this information pack included the following:

- A timeline outlining the incident, the cause, the response and the decision making which informed the response
- Any monitoring or sampling relating to the incident (include reports, sample data, photos etc.)
- Any assessment of the actual or potential effects
- The steps taken to mitigate or remedy any actual or potential adverse effects on the environment

As a guideline, the documentation we have received following the Jervois Quay stormwater

pipeline collapse has been excellent. If you have the time, I would suggest reaching out to GHD and the contractor involved in these works as they have been excellent at providing us the data to inform our investigations for this project.

I am happy to meet to discuss the information that you provide this week. In the event that there are any gaps we can talk these through face to face.

I have cc'd in Rubie McLintock who will be assisting me with this investigation. Please keep her and Mr Snowdon in cc if you can.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Ngā mihi,



James Luty *[he/him]*

Kaiāpiha Taiao | Senior Environmental Protection Officer

Greater Wellington | Te Pane Matua Taiao

M: 027 254 2230

100 Cuba Street, Te Aro

PO Box 11646, Wellington 6011

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Aotea pipe break/Paramata overf

	18/07/2021	19/07/2021	20/07/2021	21/07/2021	22/07/2021	23/07/2021	24/07/2021	25/07/2021
	Final	Final	Final	Final	Final	Final	Final	Final
Wi Neera Drive boat ramp	3100	770	180	2100	4500	220	65	76
Pauatahanui Inlet Paremata Bridge	1300	980	320	130	44	560	48	16
Pauatahanui Inlet Water Ski Club	1200	1100	530	60	96	690	20	8
Plimmerton South Beach	1500	1100	400	120	1100	450	36	56
Karehana Bay Cluny Road (control site)	610	940	160	20	110	190	12	4
Plimmerton Beach @ Bath St						450	92	58
Takapuwahia Stream Outlet @ Te Hiko St						140	190	230
Porirua Harbour at Rowing Club						630	24	12

Weather

Overcast Overcast Rain Clear Clear Clear

PROACTIVE RELEASE

flow Enterococci monitoring (cfu/100mL)

26/07/2021	27/07/2021	28/07/2021	29/07/2021	30/07/2021	31/07/2021	1/08/2021	2/08/2021	3/08/2021	4/08/2021	5/08/2021	6/08/2021
Final	Final	Final	Final	Final	Final	Final	Final	Final	Final	Final	Final
410	640	120	48	84	4	8	20	12	20	560	69
68	150	73	12	8	8	4	8	40	4	48	4
48	190	38	8	4	19	8	4	56	65	4	200
46	76	16	350	8	84	180	20	50	600	12	160
20	100	4	4	4	4	4	4	12	4	4	100
23	410	12	28	24	16	16	92	150	12	8	8
430	3400	110	38	40	220	12	12	3000	54	510	210
54	190	24	20	4	20	4	4	110	4	8	100

Rain

Rain

Clear

Clear

Clear

Clear

Partly cloudy

Clear

Rain

Overcast

Overcast

Overcast

PROACTIVE RELEASE

Emergency Works

(RMA s330 and s330A)

PROACTIVE RELEASE

RMA s330 and s330A Emergency Works Report

1. Report Background

- This report provides information related to a ruptured pressure wastewater pipeline in Porirua.
- The report describes the work completed in the context of s330 and s330A of the Resource Management Act.
- The report is prepared for Greater Wellington Regional Council.

2. Background information

- A 0.525m diameter trunk pipeline conveys wastewater from the communities of Paremata, Camborne, Hongoeka, Plimmerton, Pukerua Bay and Whitby to be treated at the Porirua Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- The Paremata pump stations (including Station Road Pump Station) collect the wastewater from these communities and pump the wastewater through the pipeline. Accordingly the wastewater is conveyed along the main trunk pipeline under pressure and also flows by gravity in sections between the pump stations and Porirua Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- The Wellington Region was experiencing a high intensity rainfall event at the time (See Attachment D)
- The pipeline unexpectedly ruptured around 8.00 a.m. on Saturday 17 July 2021.

3. Site and Event Description

- The pressure wastewater pipeline connects the Paremata Pump Stations and Porirua Central Pump Station. The pipeline is firstly located under Paremata Crescent, and Papakowhai Road, and then transverses underneath State Highway 1 approximately 650m northeast of the Whitford Brown Avenue (Aotea/Papakowhai) intersection. The pipe continues across and then parallel to State Highway 1 until the Porirua City Centre Pump Station near the Porirua railway station.
- The pipeline failed (ruptured) between the carriageways on State Highway 1, approximately 600m north of Whitford Brown interchange. (See Figures 1 and 2 in Attachment A)
- Wastewater from the break (rupture point) travelled southwest along the State Highway 1 median and entered a stormwater culvert approximately 400m from the pipe failure. The wastewater then discharged to Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour (See Attachment B, Figure 3).
- The wastewater also flowed onto the two north bound State Highway 1 lanes.
- In order to avoid damage to property, avoid creating a traffic and health hazard, and to facilitate the repair work of the ruptured pipeline in a safe manner, the Pumping Stations in Paremata were turned off. These pump stations are directly 'upstream' of the rupture, and intercepts all the wastewater from the surrounding communities that flows through the main trunk pipeline towards the city centre. The wastewater then backed up within the wastewater system and overflowed at Station Road and Paremata Crescent into the stormwater system which then flowed into Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour at Paremata (See Attachment B, Figure 4).

- In addition, due to the capacity of the stormwater system, some wastewater ponded onto Paremata School until additional mobile pumps could be deployed. These pumps transferred the overflowing wastewater to the stormwater network, which then flowed into Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour at Paremata (See Attachment C, Figure 7).
- To protect property and avoid creating a health hazard, the cross harbour pipeline between Paremata and Whitireia Park Reserve was utilised to convey wastewater (See Attachment C, Figure 8). This pressure pipeline had previously been inspected through creating small openings at Onepoto and Whitireia Park Reserve, and unbeknown to Wellington Water, these inspection points remained open when the pipeline began to convey wastewater under pressure. These openings resulted in discharges of wastewater to Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour at Onepoto and Whitireia Park Reserve.

Attachment A: Site Location Map

RMA s330 Emergency works and power to take preventative or remedial action

<u>Clause</u>	<u>Assessment</u>
(1) Where—	
(a) any public work for which any person has financial responsibility; or	The financial responsibility is borne by Porirua City Council (PCC) as the pipeline asset owner, however Wellington Water manages the network on behalf of PCC and therefore could be considered an agent of PCC and this subsection may be applied.
(b) any natural and physical resource or area for which a local authority or consent authority has jurisdiction under this Act; or	Not applicable – Wellington Water is not a local authority or consent authority.
(c) any project or work or network utility operation for which any network utility operator is approved as a requiring authority under section 167; or	Not applicable – Wellington Water is not a requiring authority.
(ca) any service or system that any lifeline utility operates or provides—	As stated in section 330 (5) RMA, a lifeline utility is defined in section 4 of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002. As stated in Section 4, Interpretation, of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002, a lifeline utility is described in Part B of Schedule 1. Part B (4) states “An entity that provides a waste water or sewerage network or that disposes of sewage or storm water”. Wellington Water operates the wastewater network in Porirua. Wellington Water is therefore considered a lifeline utility. The emergency works relates to the operation of

	the wastewater network which is a lifeline utility, and therefore, it is considered that this section applies.
is, in the opinion of the person, authority, network utility operator, or lifeline utility, affected by or likely to be affected by—	
(d) an adverse effect on the environment which requires immediate preventive measures; or	In a broad sense, the rupture of the wastewater pipeline created an adverse effect on the environment which required the preventative measures to repair the pipeline and avoid on-going wastewater discharge.
(e) an adverse effect on the environment which requires immediate remedial measures; or	In a broad sense, the rupture of the wastewater pipeline created an adverse effect on the environment that required immediate remedial measures to repair the pipeline and avoid on-going wastewater discharge.
(f) any sudden event causing or likely to cause loss of life, injury, or serious damage to property—	The wastewater network (lifeline utility service) was affected by a sudden event (the rupture of the wastewater pressure pipeline), that was likely to cause injury (the illness of personnel working towards repairing the pipe) and caused or was likely to cause serious damage to property (wastewater inundating Paremata School and private property).
The provisions of sections 9, 12, 13, 14, and 15 shall not apply to any activity undertaken by or on behalf of that person, authority, network utility operator, or lifeline utility to remove the cause of, or mitigate any actual or likely adverse effect of, the emergency	<p>In order to mitigate the effect and remove the cause of potential injury to those personnel repairing the pipe and damage to the school and private property, Wellington Water as the lifeline utility operator undertook a number of activities in order to enable repair and mitigate the effects of the rupture.</p> <p>For the purposes of section 330 these activities include a number of discharges (without resource consent) resulting from the repair work (either directly or indirectly). In each case the discharge is considered necessary to facilitate repairs or an unavoidable consequence of actions taken to remove the cause of, or mitigate any actual or likely adverse effect of, the emergency.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wastewater (contaminant) discharge approximately 8.00 am to 10.30 am on 17

July 2021 and approximately 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm on 22 July 2021 at Aotea (See Attachment B, Figure 3). These discharges are a result of the initial and subsequent pipeline ruptures. These ruptures and associated discharges are a result of an unanticipated failure of the pipeline that could not have reasonably been provided against. Wellington Water acted immediately to mitigate the effects of the discharge by deploying vacuum (sucker) trucks and making requests to the public to minimise water use in order to reduce the volume of wastewater being discharged. Wellington Water also sought to minimise the effect of the discharge by shutting pump stations to move the discharge point closer to open water to increase dispersion of potential contaminants. Repairs were completed and normal operation resumed as soon as was reasonably practical.

2. Wastewater (contaminant) discharge approximately 10.30 am on 17 July 2021 to 10.00 pm on 18 July 2021 at Paremata via overflow through the stormwater system (See Attachment B, Figure 4). Approximate volume of discharge – 7,740m³. This wastewater discharge is associated to the decision to restrict wastewater flowing through the pipeline by redirecting the wastewater to the Paremata stormwater network which overflowed and was in some cases pumped into the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour at Paremata. The decision to stop the pumps at Station Road and Paremata Pumping Stations backed up the wastewater network until it flowed into the stormwater network. In addition, mobile pumps were deployed to pump the overflowing wastewater into the stormwater network. This decision ensured that wastewater did not pond on State Highway 1, Station Road and Paremata School which would cause a traffic and health hazard, property damage and ensured the safety of our response crews working to repair the pipeline at Aotea. Vacuum sucker trucks were also

	<p>onsite to transport wastewater around the site to Porirua City Centre Pump Stations. A media notice was further issued that requested the community limit their water use.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Wastewater (contaminant) discharge approximately mid-day on 20 July 2021 to 2.00 pm on 20 July 2021 at Whitireia Park Reserve (See Attachment B, Figure 5). The wastewater discharged from an inspection opening within the pipeline that remained open unbeknown to Wellington Water. The decision to activate the cross harbour pipeline was made to reduce the pressure on the vulnerable pipe repair to reduce the likelihood of further damage to the pipe (property). The decision to utilise the cross harbour pipe was determined to be prudent decision based upon the information Wellington Water held on the suitability of the pipeline to convey wastewater. 4. Accidental wastewater (contaminant) discharge approximately 5.00 pm on 22 July 2021 to 8.00 am on 23 July 2021 at Onepoto (See Attachment B, Figure 6). The wastewater discharged from an inspection opening within the pipeline that remained open unbeknown to Wellington Water. The decision to activate the cross harbour pipeline was made to reduce the pressure on the vulnerable pipe repair to reduce the likelihood of further damage to the pipe (property). The decision to utalise the cross harbour pipe was determined to be prudent decision based upon the information Wellington Water held on the suitability of the pipeline to convey wastewater. 5. Wastewater (contaminant) discharge approximately 8.00 am on 23 July 2021 to 7.00 pm on 23 July 2021 at Paremata (See Attachment B, Figure 4). Approximate volume of discharge – 1,302 m³. This wastewater discharge is associated with the decision to restrict wastewater flowing through the pipeline by redirecting the wastewater to the Paremata stormwater network, which overflowed into the Te
--	--

Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour at Paremata. The decision to stop the pumps at Station Road and Paremata Pumping Stations backed up the wastewater network until it flowed into the stormwater network. In addition, mobile pumps were deployed to pump the overflowing wastewater into the stormwater network. This decision ensured that wastewater did not pond on State Highway 1, Station Road and Paremata School which would cause a traffic and health hazard, property damage and ensured the safety of our response crews working to repair the pipeline at Aotea. Vacuum sucker trucks were also onsite to transport wastewater around the site to Porirua City Centre Pump Stations.

6. Wastewater (contaminant) discharge approximately 7.30 am on 25 July 2021 to 7.00 pm on 25 July 2021 at Paremata (See Attachment B, Figure 4). Approximate volume of discharge – 3,380m³. This wastewater discharge is associated with the decision to restrict wastewater flowing through the pipeline by redirecting the wastewater to the Paremata stormwater network which overflowed into the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour at Paremata. The decision to stop the pumps at Station Road and Paremata Pumping Stations backed up the wastewater network until it flowed into the stormwater network. In addition, mobile pumps were deployed to pump the overflowing wastewater into the stormwater network. This decision ensured that wastewater did not pond on State Highway 1, Station Road and Paremata School which would cause a traffic and health hazard, property damage and ensured the safety of our response crews working to repair the pipeline at Aotea. Vacuum sucker trucks were also onsite to transport wastewater around the site to Porirua City Centre Pump Stations.

RMA 330A Resource consents for emergency works

<p>(1) Where an activity is undertaken under section 330, the person (other than the occupier), authority, network utility operator, or lifeline utility who or which undertook the activity shall advise the appropriate consent authority, within 7 days, that the activity has been undertaken.</p>	<p>Notification was given to the consent authority (GWRC) throughout the event and specifically via email after the event (attached)</p>
<p>(2) Where such an activity, but for section 330, contravenes any of sections 9, 12, 13, 14, and 15 and the adverse effects of the activity continue, then the person (other than the occupier), authority, network utility operator, or lifeline utility who or which undertook the activity shall apply in writing to the appropriate consent authority for any necessary resource consents required in respect of the activity within 20 working days of the notification under subsection (1)</p>	<p>The unauthorised discharge of contaminants was wastewater diluted by stormwater. The primary receiving environment of these discharges was Te Awarua o Porirua (Porirua Harbour). The potential adverse effects on the environment resulting from these discharges include; possible effects on public health as a result of microbiological contamination, ecological health of the harbour, and cultural impact on the values of Mana Whenua. The impact of those discharges were significant at the time of discharge, with gradual reduction of effect within 48 hours (two tide cycles) of the discharges ceasing, as a result of tidal flushing, dilution with coastal water and UV exposure (natural die-off) (see water quality sampling results (attached*)). Outside of this timeframe Wellington Water would not expect any additional public health risk or ecological effect specifically arising from the discharges related to the emergency event. Wellington Water recognises that the cultural impact of these discharges continued beyond the 48 hour time line as evidenced by the placement of the rāhui from 9am Saturday 24th July to 7am on Saturday 7 August 2021. Following the lifting of the rāhui it is considered that the adverse cultural impact of the emergency discharges had ceased.</p>
<p>(3) If the application is made within the time stated in subsection (2), the activity may continue until the application for a resource</p>	<p>No activity continuing.</p>

consent and any appeals have been finally determined

4. Emergency Action

- Wellington Water Limited took immediate action to eliminate the risk of injury to people.
- Wellington Water attended the site on Saturday 17 July 2021 to access the failure.
- Wellington Water organised vacuum trucks to reduce the volume of wastewater on the carriageway and entering the harbour.
- The Incident Response Team deployed a team to commence repairs including excavating the pipe at 10.00 a.m.
- Traffic management was established on State Highway 1 to provide a safe worksite.
- The Wellington Water Emergency Management Team was activated at 10.30 a.m.
- A media announcement to the Porirua Community was issued at 11.30 a.m. It encouraged communities to limit their water use and recommended avoiding swimming in Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour.
- Wellington Water organised vacuum trucks to Paremata School and Station Road pump station to reduce wastewater entering the pipeline and property.
- To repair the failed pipe adjacent to State Highway 1, the wastewater was diverted to the cross harbour pipeline that directly connects Paremata to Onepoto. (Note: cross harbour pipeline did not convey wastewater as drain valve in pipeline was inadvertently opened).
- The temporary repair of main trunk pipeline commenced Saturday night.
- The temporary repair was not successful as the pipe was too fragile to support the new connector.
- Four sucker trucks were onsite throughout Saturday night to reduce wastewater pressure on pipe.
- Excavation of main trunk pipeline commenced on Sunday (18 July 2021). To replace the pipe, and for the safety of the repair crew, all wastewater conveyed through the pipe must be intercepted. Wastewater was firstly diverted through the cross harbour pipeline (Note: cross harbour pipeline did not convey wastewater as a drain valve in pipeline was inadvertently open). Secondly, four pumps directed wastewater from the Station Road Pump Station to the stormwater overflow in Paremata. Lastly, twelve sucker trucks on-site continuously removed wastewater from the site and transferred the wastewater to downstream pump stations.
- The new section of pipe was installed at 4.00pm.
- During installation, adjacent sections of pipe are shown to be corroded and reinstating the pressure wastewater pipeline is not commenced as there is a high risk of joint failure.
- Further rainfall Sunday night, and the sucker trucks on-site and gravity overflow were overwhelmed. Temporary pumps at Station Road Pump Station in Paremata were turned on to discharge to the stormwater network and harbour at Paremata. This avoided wastewater ponding around Station Road and the school and enabled more mixing to occur in the harbour.
- Pressure Pipe returned to service.
- The inspection on Monday (19 July 2021) morning showed that the main pipeline had visible leaks beyond the repaired section. Stainless steel wrap on leaking area of pipe installed as a temporary solution.

- On Tuesday (20 July 2021), wastewater diverted through cross harbour pipeline. On site observation notes a leak in the pipe and wastewater entering Porirua Harbour. Commenced dye testing to confirm location. Wastewater leak detected in Onepoto Road. Cross harbour pipeline repaired and pressure tested with drinking water.
- On Thursday (22 July 2021) afternoon, the wastewater pipe on State Highway 1 ruptured beyond the joints of the new section of pipe. Wastewater entered the harbour through the culvert and some ponding on State Highway 1 carriageway. Sucker trucks on-site and wastewater directed to the cross harbour pipeline.
- Cross harbour pipeline observed to be leaking. Sucker trucks on-site and pumps at Station Road pumping wastewater to the stormwater overflow in Paremata to limit wastewater ponding on State Highway 1.
- On Friday (23 July 2021) morning, 15 sucker trucks on-site to enable repair of pipe. One break repaired with clamps, however, unable to seal as the pipe is being crushed by the connector.
- On Friday night, a swale was excavated to contain the leaking wastewater and sucker trucks on-site overnight.
- On Saturday (24 July 2021) morning, additional pipe procured, and internal pressure patched to be flown down from Auckland. Patches not picked up at Auckland Airport, and now transported on truck and Wellington Water crew to meet in Taupo.
- On Sunday (25 July 2021) afternoon, pressure patches installed to enable connecting clamps and new section of pipe. Wastewater pipeline pressurised and returned to function at near full capacity.

5. Monitoring

- Monitoring of the discharged water was sampled throughout the emergency event.
- The environmental monitoring is provided in an Excel Spreadsheet. It is noted that there were widespread wet weather overflows of wastewater throughout Porirua during the 17 July storm event and these would be captured in the environmental monitoring.

6. Contact Details

Name: Steve Hutchison
 Position: Chief Advisor - Wastewater
 Phone: 021 306 534
 Email: Steve.hutchison@wellingtonwater.co.nz

Name: Richard Williams
 Position: Senior Advisor (RMA, Consents and Environment)
 Phone: 021 582 968
 Email: Richard.williams@wellingtonwater.co.nz

Attachment A – Site Location



Figure 1: Pipeline Failure (shown in orange)

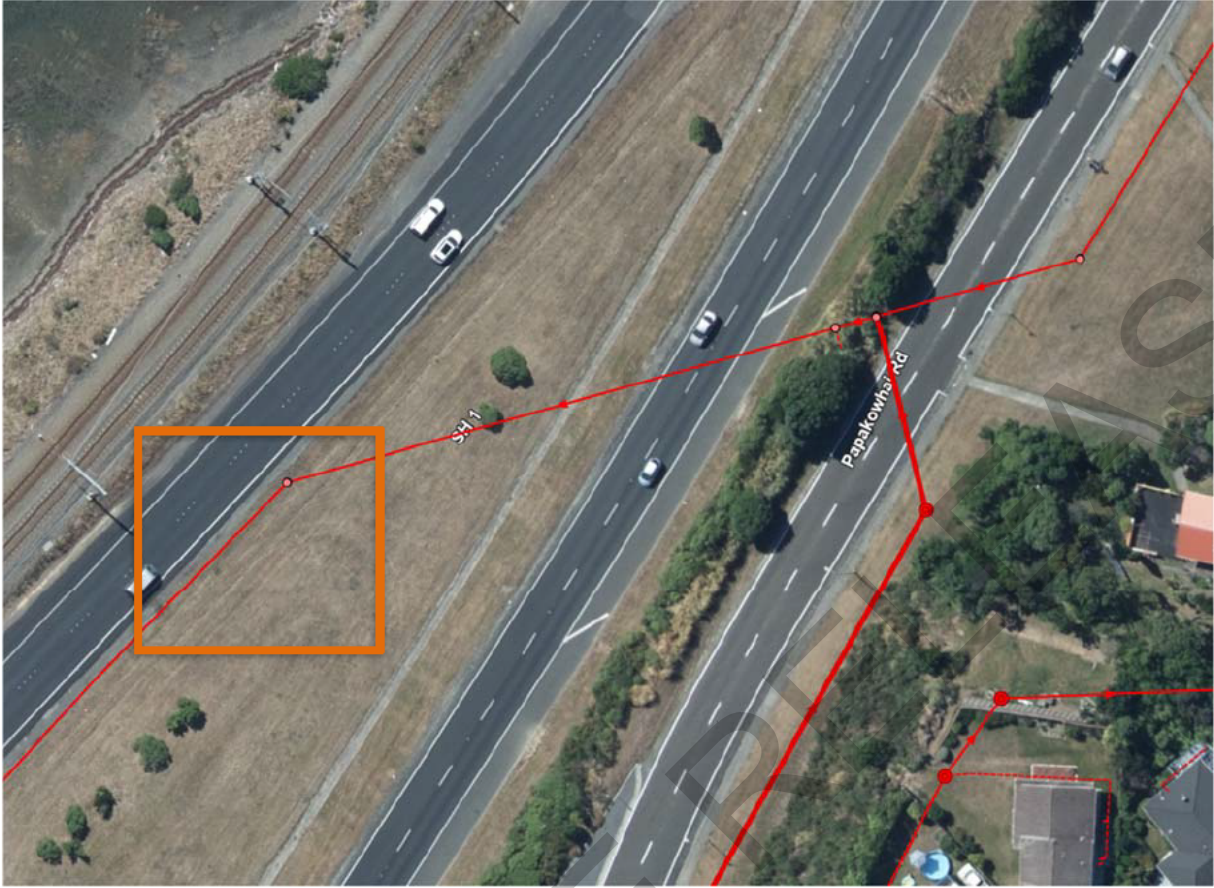


Figure 2: Pipeline Failure (shown in orange)

Attachment B – Discharge Location



Figure 3: Aotea Discharge Location (shown in orange)



Figure 4: Paremata Discharge Location (shown in orange)



Figure 5: Whitireia Park Reserve Discharge Location (shown in orange- approximate)

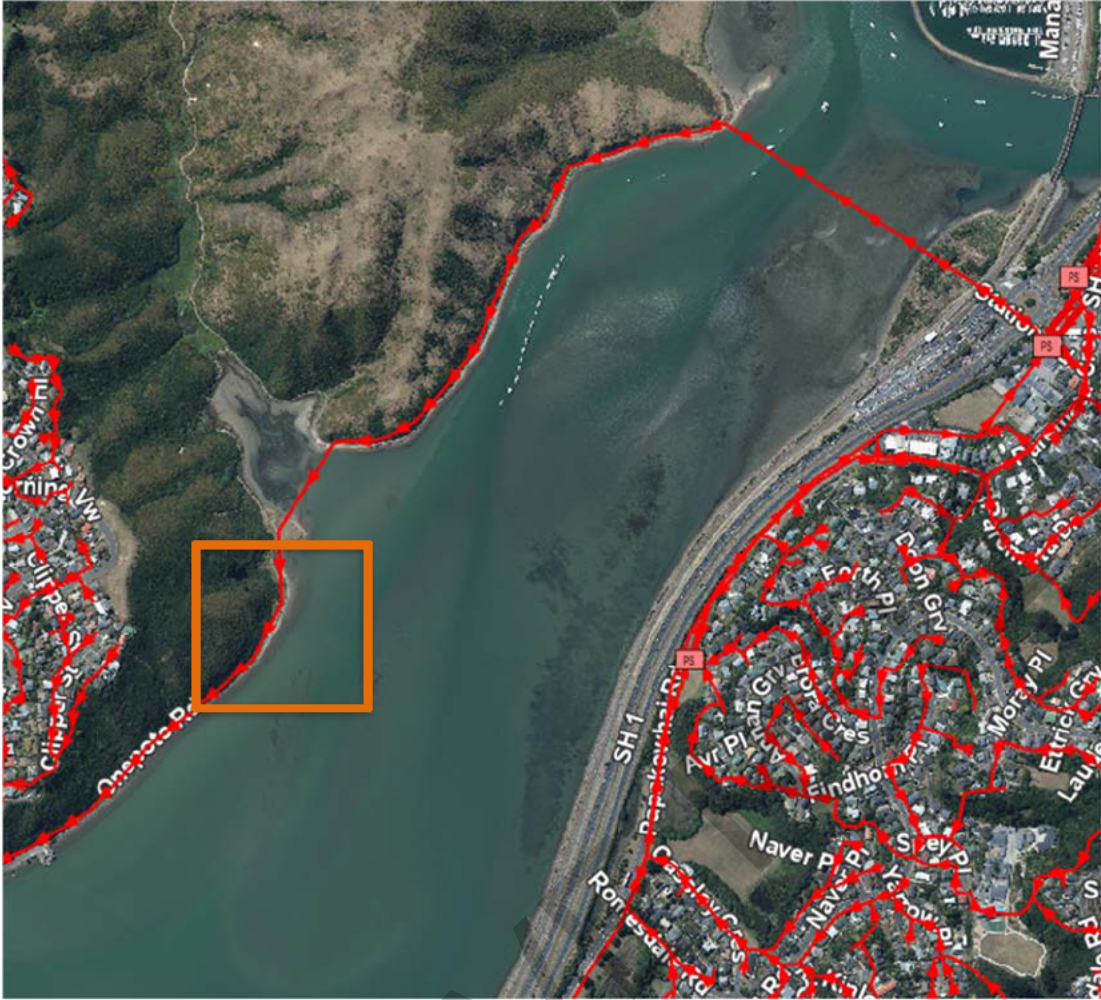


Figure 6: Onepoto Discharge Location (shown in orange - approximate)

Attachment C – Pumping Station and Cross Harbour Pipeline

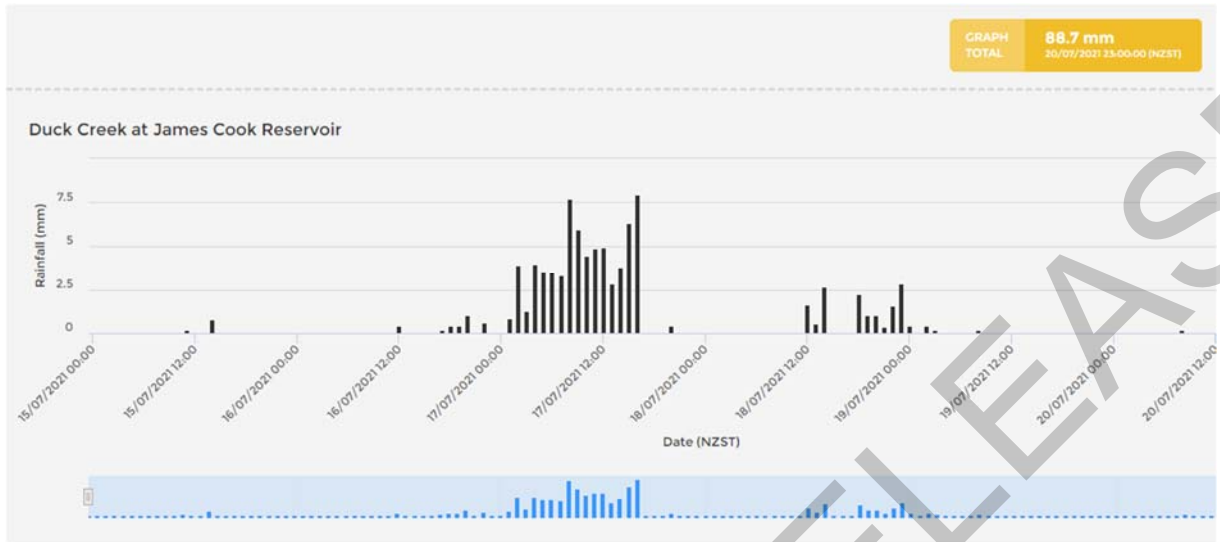


Figure 7: Station Road Pump Station (shown in orange)



Figure 8 Cross Harbour Pipeline (shown in orange)– Paremata to Whitireia Park Reserve

Attachment D – Rainfall Data



From: [Paul Gardiner](#)
To: [James Snowdon](#)
Cc: [Notifications](#); [Steve Hutchison](#); [Lucy Baker](#)
Subject: Paremata Wastewater Riser Break - emergency works notification (s.330A(1))

Hi James,

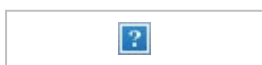
I've left a message on your phone related to this, but we have made several decisions pursuant to s.330 emergency works since last Saturday morning. We are pulling together the documentation for the event and decision-making sequences – as I'm sure you can appreciate this has been a complex and evolving situation, which is still ongoing.

Can you please confirm that the notifications and updates so far have been recorded as notification of the use of emergency powers?

Nga mihi,

Paul

Paul Gardiner ([he/him](#)) **Manager (RMA, Consents and Environment)**



Tel 04 912 4400 **DDI** 04 912 4506 **Mob** 021 445 024

Private Bag 39804, Wellington Mail Centre 5045

Level 4, IBM House, 25 Victoria Street, Petone, Lower Hutt

www.wellingtonwater.co.nz

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