

Report No:	RCN12-02-03
File No:	
Date:	16 February 2012
Decision Required	

REPORT SUMMARY

Report to: Full Council
Meeting Date: 23 February 2012
Report Author: Adrian Humphries, Regulatory Services Manager
Subject: Tasman District Recovery from December 2011 Rainfall Event.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following the December 2011 flood events there is a need for an organised and coordinated recovery plan to get the affected areas of the Tasman and Nelson District back to a stable condition as soon as possible. Initially a joint Nelson/Tasman Recovery Office (NiTRO) was set up to create a Recovery Action Plan (RAP) and to facilitate the recovery. The RAP has been produced and is available on request. The NiTRO team disbanded on 3 Feb 2012 and in order to continue the recovery effort a Tasman District Council Recovery Team has been created and it had its first full meeting on 6 Feb 2012. The Terms of Reference for the Team are attached.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Tasman District Council receives this report and sanctions the raising of a loan in order to support any gaps in funding that would otherwise significantly delay the recovery effort, with expenditure subject to the appropriate Committee approval or delegated authority where works can be covered under maintenance.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

THAT the Tasman District Council receives the report RCN12-02-03; and
Sanctions the raising of a loan of \$xxx in order to support any gaps in funding that would otherwise significantly delay the recovery effort, with expenditure being subject to the appropriate Committee approval or delegated authority where works can be covered under maintenance.

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1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the recovery efforts following the flood events of December 2011.

2. Background

- 2.1 The rain event on the 14-16 December caused extensive damage to some parts of the District. The worst damage occurred around Pohara, Ligar Bay and Wainui in Golden Bay with significant damage also caused in Clifton and Tata Beach and parts of the Richmond Hills (especially Aniseed Hill). Seven houses were damaged so severely that they were made uninhabitable and six others were classified as dangerous buildings under the Building Act due to geotechnical issues. Significant damage has been caused to many Tasman District Council assets, some of the most significant are:

1. The Pohara Water Treatment Plant,
2. Stormwater systems in Ligar bay, Pohara and Abel Tasman Drive,
3. Roads throughout the affected area i.e. Richmond Road, Pohara Valley Road and Abel Tasman Drive at Wainui.

Tasman District Council staff worked throughout the Christmas and New Year period in order to maintain essential services, co-ordinate the recovery effort and to keep residents informed of the situation. Public meetings were held in all of the affected areas and periodic updates sent via email to residents

3. Present Situation

- 3.1 Tasman District Council has formed a Recovery Team in order to oversee work in the District which will re-establish normality in flood affected areas. A significant part of their role is to establish the scope of required works and actions to achieve recovery and to prioritise such projects.

4. Financial/Budgetary Considerations

- 4.1 Funding for the recovery will come from several sources including normal maintenance budgets, Civil Defence funding, Council insurance (LAPP), Tasman District Council Disaster Fund, the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) and in some cases private landowners. There will be a gap between available funding and what is required to achieve all of the necessary work. Detailed costings will be presented at the Full Council meeting for Council consideration.

5. Options

- 5.1 Option 1 - Allocate additional loan funding to carry out all of the required works.
- 5.2 Option 2 - Delay some work over a longer period to allow the recovery of some assets in slower time.

6. Pros and Cons of Options

- 6.1 Option one allows quicker recovery and also attracts additional financial support from agencies such as NZTA. It will require raising of additional capital to achieve the necessary work. Repayment of this loan funding would need to be achieved through the rating system.
- 6.2 Option 2 allows the rating increase to be delayed. It will mean slower recovery, potentially allow further deterioration of some assets (hence additional costs) and will not allow additional funding from NZTA.

7. Significance

- 7.1 This work is very significant to the members of the affected communities and ongoing consultation will be carried out with these communities. This decision may also trigger one or more thresholds of the Council's Significance Policy dependant on the level of additional finance required.

8. Recommendation/s

- 8.1 Council is advised to take Option 1 as affected areas of the district will recover sooner and it will be significantly cheaper in the medium to longer term.

9. Timeline/Next Steps

- 10.1 Council staff will investigate raising a capital loan to cover the gap in finances.

10. Draft Resolution

THAT the Tasman District Council receives the report RCN12-02-03; and

Sanctions the raising of a loan of \$xxx in order to support any gaps in funding that would otherwise significantly delay the recovery effort, with expenditure being subject to the appropriate Committee approval or delegated authority where works can be covered under maintenance.

Appendices:

Terms of reference – Tasman District Council Recovery Team