

Waste water

Louise Esse and Warren Slater (Letters, February 17) commented on plans to improve waste water management and consultation with the public on this issue.

To clarify issues each writer raises:

The agenda item discussed by Whangarei District Council on February 11, 2009, was to enable council to include options for waste water management in some detail in the long-term council community plan, for consideration by the public. Detailed information on these options was not initially included in the draft LTCCP. In other words, the agenda item was not about signing off on any particular option at all, merely ensuring the options would be presented to the public for input.

Regarding the \$4 million new pipeline proposed for the Okara area, the proposal is one of four suggested in the LTCCP and expected to solve some aspects of the waste water/wet weather issues we have in the district. No single option will solve all problems at all points in the system, but with its inclusion in the LTCCP the public can examine it and the other options available, assess the different strengths and weaknesses of each and give council strong direction on the preferred options.

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