

1. **Note** the contents of this report;
2. **Approve** the recommended option 'Option 1', as the basis for a more direct, cost-effective, and timely option, to enable the preparation of a Resource Consent application to be lodged with the Consent Authority for the purpose of a treated wastewater discharge from the Shotover Wastewater Treatment Plant to the Kawarau River;
3. **Direct** the Chief Executive to undertake further investigations into long term disposal options (alternative options) that includes:
 - a. Further identification and assessment of reasonably practicable wastewater disposal options, including land-based and hybrid land-water options that may minimise the extent of the discharge of treated effluent to water and the provision of that information to mana whenua and the community;
 - b. Hui with Kāi Tahu Rūnaka leaders;
 - c. Further community engagement;
 - d. The preparation of a further report for Councillors to be considered in March 2027 for a final decision on the long term solution including whether to retain the primary option, or shift to an alternative option, or a combination of both.
4. **Note** that for the Shotover Wastewater Treatment Plant:
 - a. Council notes that option 1 includes the installation of the tertiary filtration system;
 - b. Council supports the development of a recycled water reuse scheme;
 - c. Council notes that the installation of the Calamity Pond will continue as part of the existing project.
5. **Agree** that Option 5 is not reasonably practicable and should not be considered further.
6. **Approve** application for a 35 year consent and proceed

with the application to meet the court ordered deadline of 31 May 2026, noting that the consent can be superseded by a different consent in the future; and

7. **Note** that preliminary design development of the recommended option will continue in parallel with the consent application process to ensure implementation by December 2030 in line with the Environment Court Enforcement Order, but substantive works will not be procured and commenced until after March 2027.
8. **Note** that the Water Services Council Controlled Organisation will hold a statutory role in the future decision-making process around the long term disposal options.

Speaking to the motion, Councillor Bartlett noted that it approved Option 1 as a pragmatic interim solution, whilst rejecting Option 5 as not being practicable and directing further community engagement to explore alternative options, balancing environmental values, iwi relationships and legal obligations.

Concern was expressed that proceeding with Option 1 (deemed the most cost-effective option), would effectively rule out the identification of any other alternatives. Other members observed that continuously advancing technology meant that alternatives could arise at any time and the Local Government Act 2002 required consideration of all possible options.

Those speaking in support of the motion considered that this approach represented a practical but inclusive directive. To ensure its ultimate delivery, proceeding in this direction needed to be included in the Council's Statement of Expectations to the new Water Services council-controlled organisation.

Motion carried 9:2:1 (with Councillors Belk and Gladding voting against the motion and the Mayor abstaining from voting).