

# Heathcote River Floodplain Management and Low Stopbanks

Webinar - July 2022

# Introductions and webinar format

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Kevin  
McDonnell

**Your presenter this evening**

## **Format for the session**

Thanks for your questions – these will be answered in the presentation

Mics and videos are off to keep the session flowing

We'll pause for questions throughout the presentation

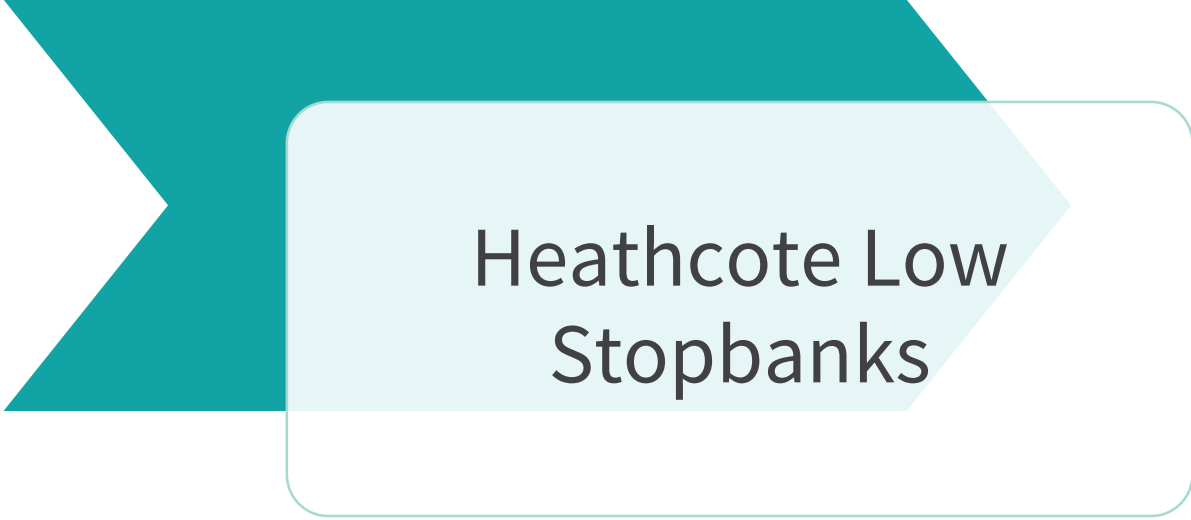
Mop-up questions at the end

# What we're going to cover

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Heathcote River  
Floodplain  
Management



Heathcote Low  
Stopbanks

# Heathcote River Floodplain Management Plan | *Approved Nov 23 2017*



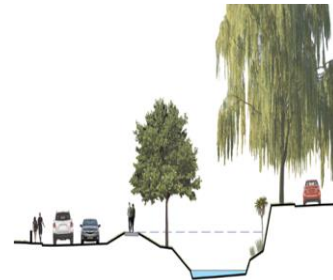
Storage –  
Curletts - 100%  
Wigram – 95%  
Eastman – 60%  
Cashmere -  
60%



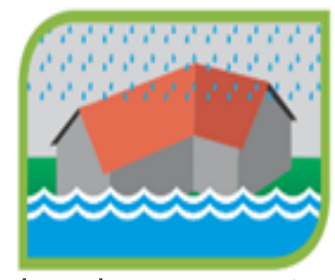
Dredging –  
Completed



Stabilisation –  
Completed

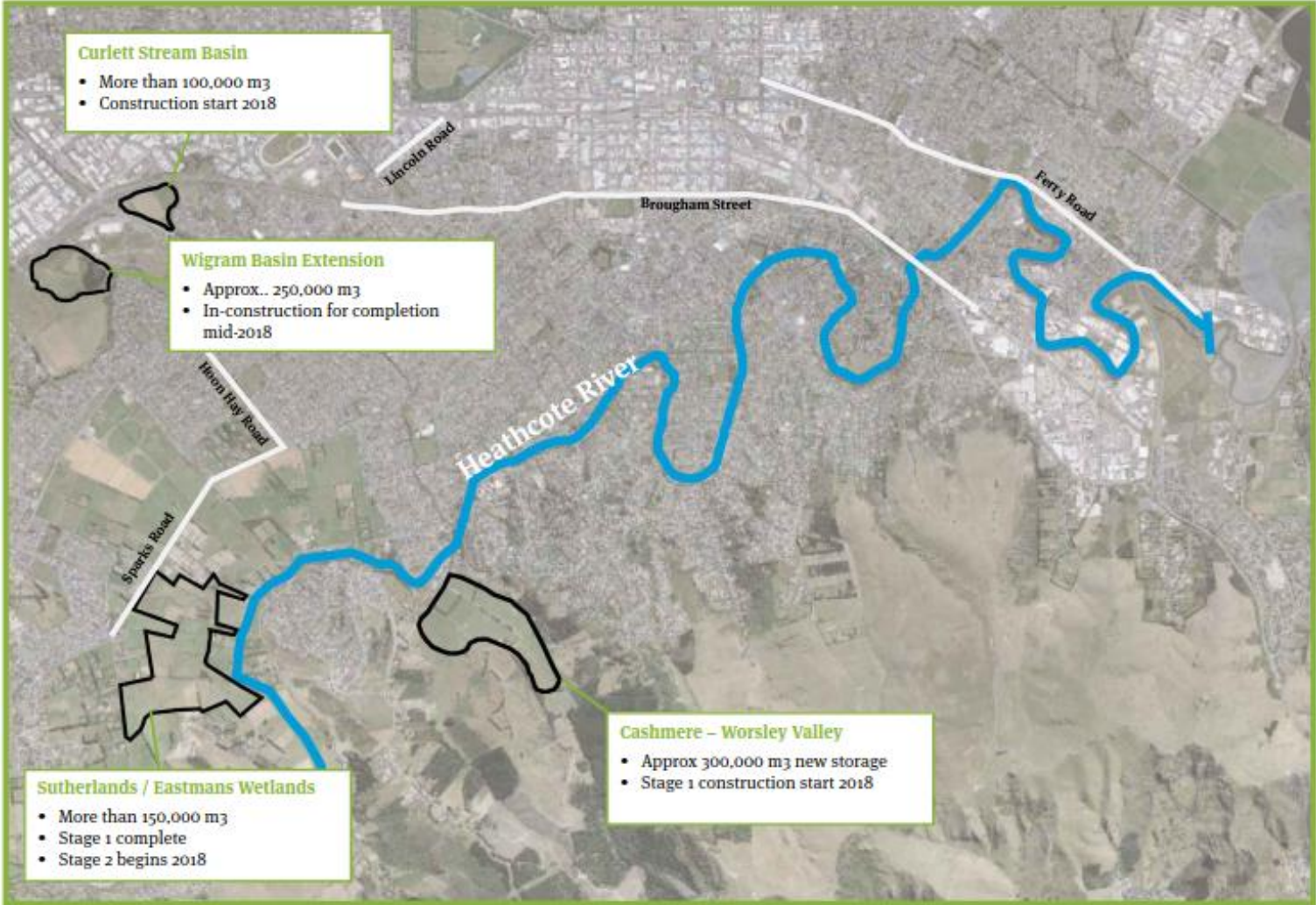


Stopbanks –  
Feasibility  
confirmed



Flood Intervention  
Policy –  
22 houses purchased

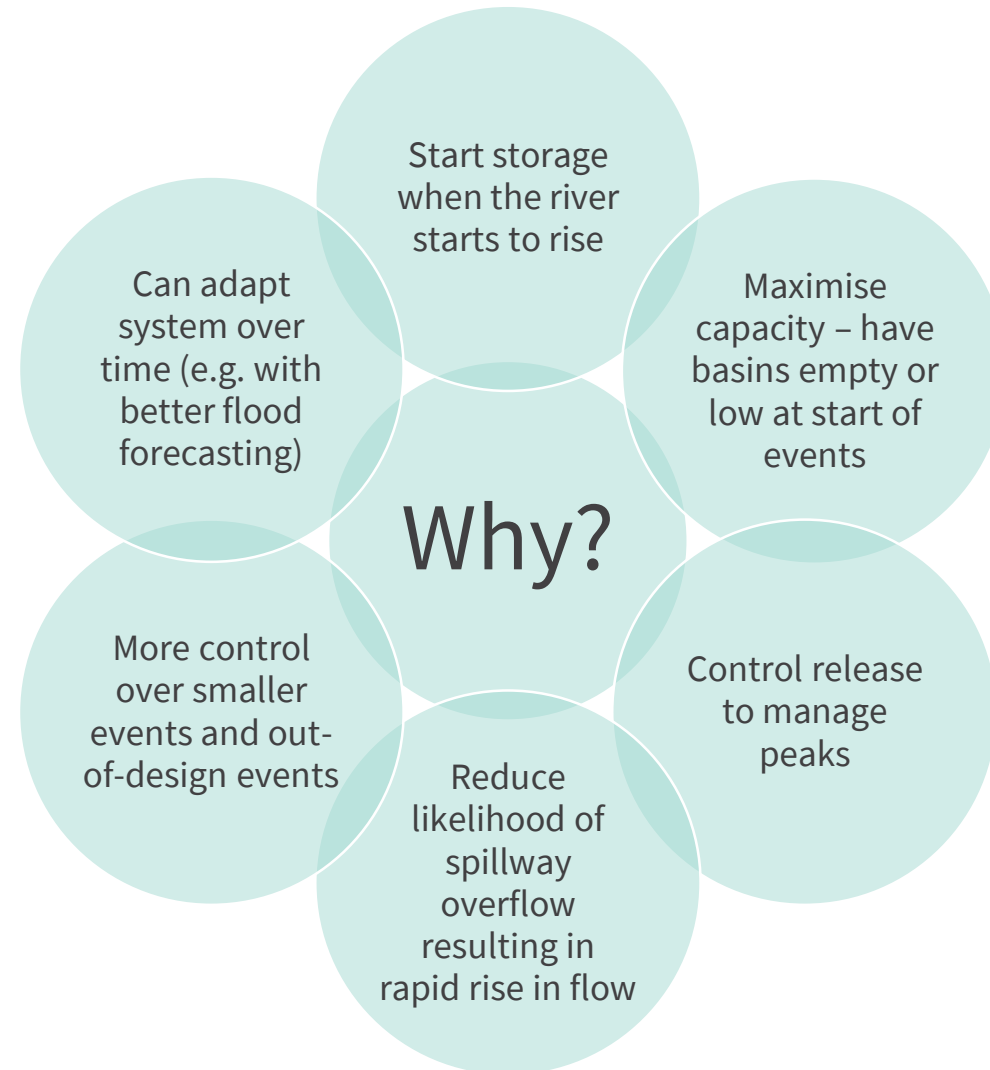
# Part 1: Heathcote River Floodplain Management - \$130M



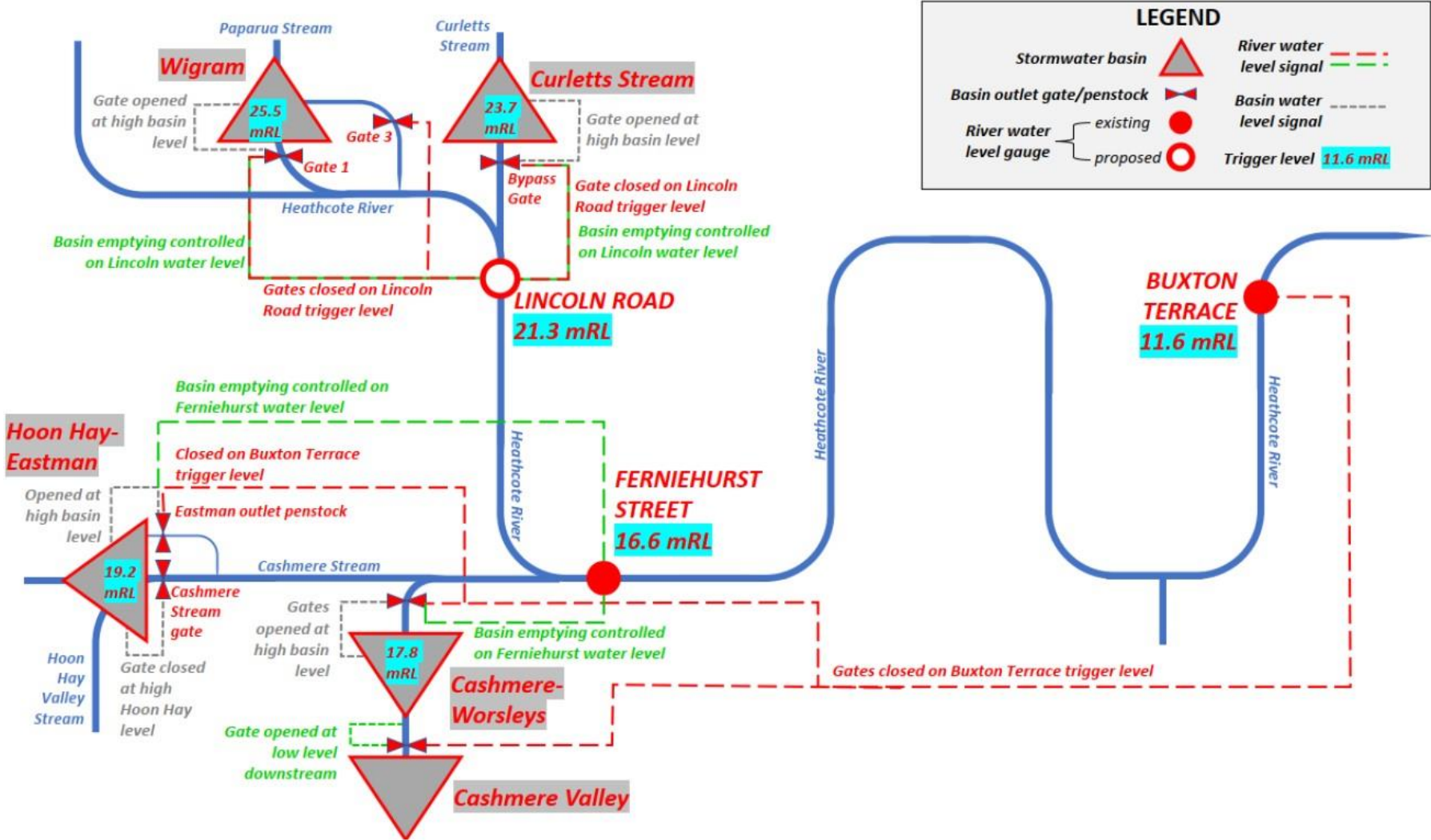
# Objective of Upper Heathcote Storage System

Implement a resilient control system for the outflows from four storage basins in the upper Heathcote River catchment to minimise flood risk downstream

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# Overall plans



# Curlett's Basin





# Wigram Basin



# Cashmere - Worsley's Basin



# Hoon Hay - Eastman Basin



# Heathcote River Floodplain Management Plan | *Approved Nov 23 2017*

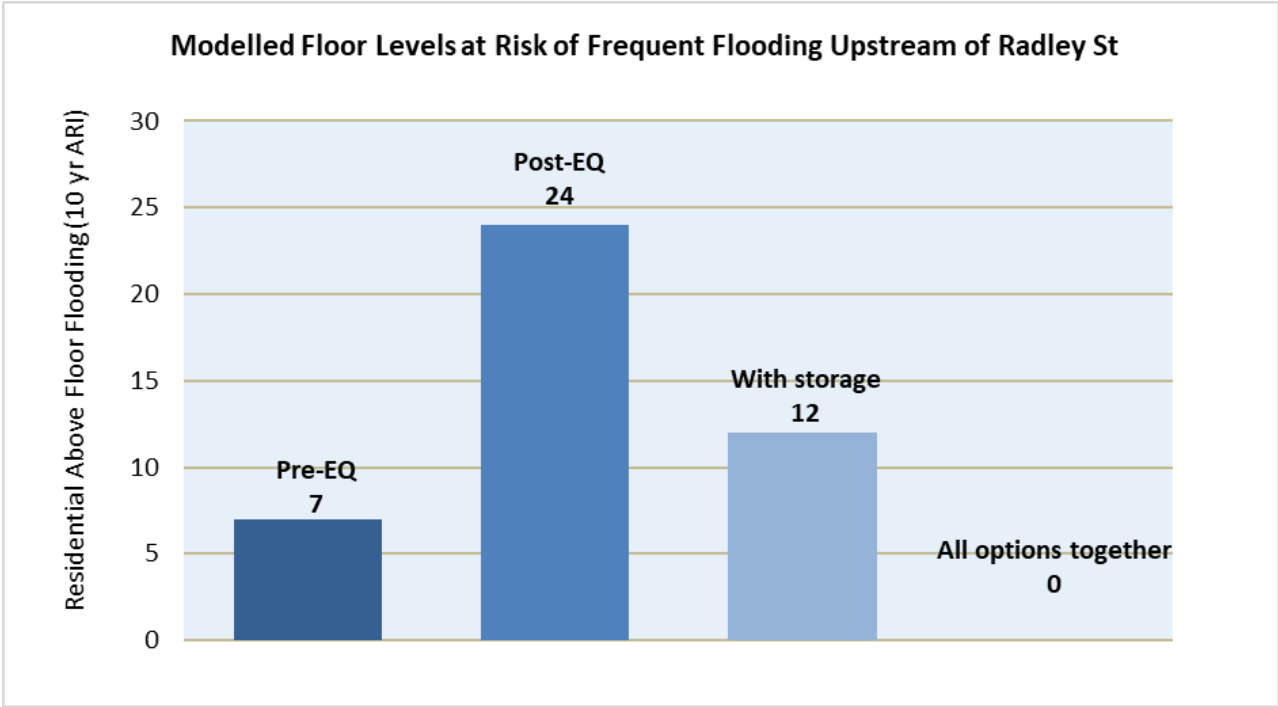


Figure 1 Frequent flood risk along the Ōpāwaho / Heathcote River (10 year ARI, as estimated in November 2017)

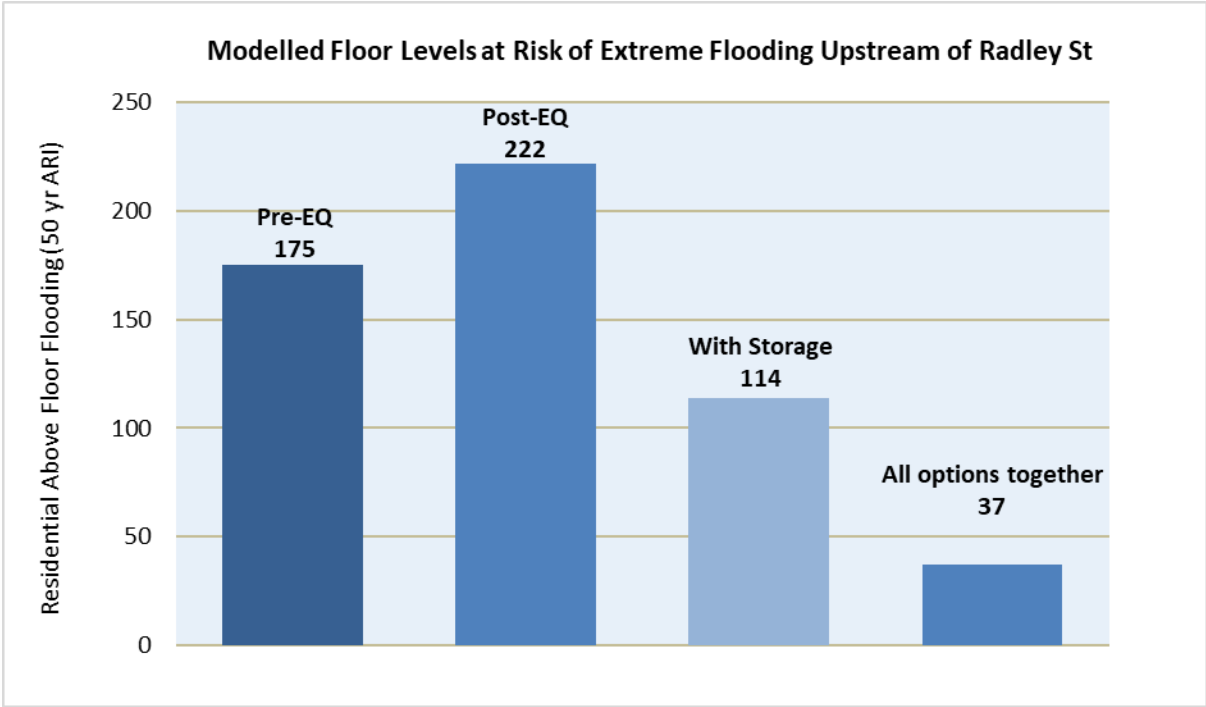


Figure 2 Extreme flood risk along the Ōpāwaho / Heathcote River (50 year ARI, as estimated in November 2017)

Benefits of completed scheme will be similar to original design

## Part 2: Heathcote Low Stopbanks

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Council resolution CNCL/2017/00326  
(23 Nov 2017):

*Approving that staff continue to investigate the technical feasibility of low stopbanks to reduce frequent underfloor flooding, consult with affected communities should technical feasibility be confirmed and report back to the Committee*

# Heathcote Low Stopbanks feasibility report recommendations



## That the Council

Receive the staff investigation concluding that low stopbanks are technically feasible.

Approve that staff do not consult on low stopbank options.

Approve that the project is cancelled and removed from the Long Term Plan, and for the project to be included in future floodplain management projects if it is considered an appropriate response.

# Heathcote Low Stopbanks recommendation 1



Receive the staff investigation concluding that low stopbanks are technically feasible.

Technical investigations show the low stopbanks are feasible

The budget (\$27M in current terms) only allows to address 5-yr ARI flooding without climate change (\$22M)

Many outstanding issues however (trees, interaction with road space, amenity impact)

Only provide protection for lower priority flooding, e.g. street and property flooding (not above-floor flooding) and there is no level of service requirement for this

No reduction in above-floor flooding

# Heathcote Low Stopbanks recommendation 2



Approve that staff do not consult on low stopbank options.

Project deferred to 2041 and is unfunded in LTP

Some of the community may already have an expectation that consultation will take place, however consultation at this time is not meaningful and may raise expectations that the project will proceed in the near term

It is also unlikely that mixed views on the low stopbanks have changed

Staff will inform the community about the outcome following Council's decision



# Heathcote Low Stopbanks recommendation 3



Approve that the project is cancelled and removed from the Long Term Plan, and for the project to be included in future floodplain management projects if it is considered an appropriate response

Not required for implementing floodplain management scheme

Coastal Hazards Adaptation Planning Programme looking at climate change impacts in tidally affected areas – low stopbanks may not be the preferred response

Project can be re-started in future if considered appropriate

# Reporting of Council decision

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Following the Council's decision on the low stopbanks staff will inform local communities about the outcome