

Beachlands South and Wastewater Treatment Plant – Meeting Summary

Date: 12 May 2026

Time :11:00-12:00pm

Attendees:

Watercare - Anna Jennings, Andrew Deutschle, Andrew Schunke, Clemence Carlinet, Haydee Allan, Hamed Mohajerkouhestani, Glen Hughes, Rua Tipoki, Shabneez Hussain, Skye Kimura.

Russell Group- Brett Russell, Graeme Harvey, Khai Azizi, Vijay Lala, Nick Roberts, Bill Loutit, Chris Maday, Marno Raath, Peter Quilter.

Apologies : Helen Shaw, Tanvir Bhamji,

Purpose of the Meeting

To continue discussion on the Beachlands South wastewater servicing strategy, including interim arrangements, long-term options, and alignment with Watercare infrastructure planning and interim solutions.

Updates from Russell Group

Wastewater Network Design

- The proposed wastewater reticulation network for Beachlands South comprises a gravity-driven system with nine pump stations (PS).
- The network has been designed in accordance with Watercare engineering standards, including provision of 24-hour emergency storage capacity.
- Engagement has been undertaken with the Watercare Networks team to confirm alignment with operational and asset standards.

Interim Wastewater Strategy

- The interim servicing strategy is designed to support the majority of Stage 1 development.

- Initial development staging for the school is proposed to include delivery of the primary school between 2027 and 2028, followed by the secondary school by 2030.
- The configuration includes three pump stations conveying flows to a private wastewater treatment plant (WWTP).
- The discharge field for Stage 1 is currently being designed by GWE. The interim solution is expected to operate for a duration of approximately 3–4 years prior to implementation of a permanent solution.
- An estimated servicing capacity of approximately 80 residential dwellings can be supported under Russell Groups's existing discharge consent and treatment capacity.

Private Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)

- The proposed WWTP will be enclosed within a fully weatherproof structure.
- The treatment process is based on biological (non-chemical) processes and includes UV disinfection.
- Mechanical components requiring maintenance are limited to pumps, inlet works, and UV systems.
- The system is approved for use within New Zealand and accepted by Auckland Council.
- Comparable installations include one operational plant in Waikato and two under construction within Auckland.

Long-Term Wastewater Servicing Options (T&T Assessment)

- Tonkin & Taylor have assessed a range of long-term discharge options.
- Land disposal was discounted due to infeasibility at anticipated discharge volumes (1,000–4,000 m³/day).
- Stream and channel discharges were deemed unsuitable and Wetland discharge presented risks to downstream harbour environments.
- Ocean discharge has been identified as the preferred option, subject to further assessment of ecological impacts, including potential effects on mussel beds. Ngāti Tai have provided initial support for this option.
- An approximately 3.5 km rising main connection to the Watercare wastewater network remains a potential alternative long-term servicing option.
- All servicing options will be progressed through the fast-track consenting pathway, with application lodgement now targeted for early June 2026.

Ocean Outfall Pipeline

- Outfall pipeline solution is being further assessed.

- Geotechnical investigations have been completed, and a trenchless installation method (pipe thrusting) is proposed beneath the EPAN reserve to the coastal outfall location.
- Initial feedback from Auckland Council is positive

Watercare Update

Interim Solutions Under Assessment

- A containerized wastewater treatment unit will likely be relocated from Clarks Beach to Beachlands to provide interim capacity.
- The unit is designed to service up to approx 3,000 population equivalent (PE).
- Key enabling works include power supply upgrades, discharge consent approvals, and allocation of funding.
- A supplier site inspection is scheduled to assess the condition and suitability of the existing infrastructure.
- A Board paper is scheduled for submission in June 2026
- Ongoing engagement with Ngāti Tai and Auckland Council is required, particularly in relation to cultural and environmental considerations and the Watercare connection option.

Long-Term Watercare Solution

- Planning for a permanent Watercare-led upgrade will be progressed in parallel with the interim solution, with an indicative delivery timeframe of approximately seven years.
- The discharge consent application will be progressed to cover both interim and permanent operational scenarios.

Actions and Information Sharing

Russell Group

- To provide detailed information on the combined works plant to WSL.
- Tonkin & Taylor assessment report to be shared with WSL.

Watercare

- To prepare and provide a technical letter for inclusion in the fast-track consenting application.

The next meeting will be scheduled as further progress is made, likely following lodgement of the Fast-track application.

DRAFT