

Council's Long Term Plan and you



Council is currently asking for public input into its draft 2012 - 2022 Long Term Plan. The plan outlines what the Council intends to provide to the community over the next ten years and beyond.

We want your opinion on the preferred option for:

- Proposed new sewerage scheme for Dobson, Taylorville and Kaiata.
- Water supply upgrades to comply with current standards.

Water and sewerage are funded from targeted rates, which means the choices made here have a direct impact on the rates payable by you

This flyer contains information on only a small part of what is contained in our complete draft Long Term Plan. You can view a copy of the full plan or summary version of the full plan by either:

- Visiting our website: www.greycdc.govt.nz
- Picking up a printed copy from Council's main office in Greymouth

A written submission can be made on the draft long term plan up until 5.00 pm on 28 May 2012

Proposed Sewerage Scheme



background

For some years now, Council and the communities of Dobson, Taylorville and Kaiata have been looking at options for providing a sewerage scheme for the communities.

The existing on-site systems have, in many cases, become problematic and are posing a risk to the health of people and a risk to the environment.

proposed scheme

After on-going discussions with the Ministry of Health (who provide the subsidy), it has been agreed that the best option

is a combined scheme for Dobson, Taylorville and Kaiata. The sewage would be pumped to Greymouth and treated at the Greymouth treatment plant.

Because of the nature of the scheme, some properties would need to have an on-site pump to pump their waste into the system, as the properties would be too low to gravity feed into the mains. The pumps would be supplied as part of the installation but each property owner would then be responsible for meeting the on-going costs for electricity and repairs and maintenance of the pump.

cost

The total estimated cost for the scheme is **\$7.1M**. There is a 50% subsidy available, which leaves **\$3.54M** to be funded by the community. Of the \$3.54M to be funded by the community, Council intends using \$465,000 from the *Kaiata to Stillwater Infrastructure Reserve*. (this is the total amount

that can be allocated to the benefiting properties). The remaining \$3.1M will be funded from a new loan, and the loan repayments met from the targeted rate (see cost below).

when

A condition of the subsidy is that it must be fully used (i.e. the scheme built by 30 June 2013). Therefore the required rate funding would commence from **01 July 2012**.

There would then be a limited timeframe in which properties would be required to connect to the new system. Typically Council has allowed 18 months from scheme completion.

other costs

Council would provide a lateral to the boundary of your property. It is each property owner's responsibility to connect their wastewater connection to this and decommission their septic tank. This also requires a building consent (the current cost of the building consent is \$557)

options and costs

	additional cost per year, per ratepayer	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
1. Provide a new sewerage scheme for Dobson, Taylorville and Kaiata.	\$954.70*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deals with a long standing problem Subsidy confirmed by Government May increase property values and allow for more 'in-fill' development in the area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High cost (even with subsidy) with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> significant rate increases required. On-site connection costs to new system an additional cost to property owners
2. Do not proceed with new sewerage scheme for Dobson, Taylorville and Kaiata, and let subsidy lapse.	\$0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower cost now 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May not receive another opportunity for Government subsidy in the future. Continuing health and environmental problems from on-site systems Individual property owners may face higher costs to upgrade their on-site systems in the future

* NOTE: Cost accounts for 50% subsidy from Government and \$465,000 funds used from the Kaiata to Stillwater Area Infrastructure Reserve.

Water Supply

Under the latest *Health (Drinking Water) Act* a supplier of water, such as GDC, providing water to a community the size of Dobson and Taylorville has to comply with the Act by 1 July 2014. This includes a duty for us to:

- Take all practical steps to ensure that the drinking water complies with the drinking water standards (DWSNZ);
- Take reasonable steps to contribute to the protection of the **source** of drinking water; and
- Take reasonable steps to supply *wholesome* drinking water.

The Drinking Water Standards are aimed at providing multiple levels of protection through:

- Minimising contamination of the source;
- Removing small particles;
- Disinfection to make any micro-organisms harmless; and
 - Protecting the water in the pipes from any subsequent contamination after treatment.

The most practical options for the Dobson/Taylorville scheme to meet Drinking Water Standards are set out below. Each option has a capital cost (i.e. new plant required) and an operating cost to run and maintain the system. The capital cost is funded from a loan and then repaid over 30 years.. The annual loan repayment plus annual operating and maintenance costs are funded from the targeted rate. The costs signalled below are additional to the current water rate paid.

Both options would supply a similar quality water.

OPTIONS:

1. Upgrade the existing treatment plant to meet new standards - increase in targeted rate of \$170.00 per year

Pros: Retain independent supply

Cons: Higher cost to upgrade and higher on going operating and maintenance cost

2. Connect to the Greymouth Supply (which is being upgraded to meet new standards in 2012/2013) - increase in targeted rate of \$120.00 per year

Pros: Lower cost of the two options

Cons: n/a

Public meetings

To have further discussion on these issues and to answer any questions you may have, public meetings will be held as follows:

- 7.00 pm Tuesday 08 May 2012 - Dobson Community Hall
- 3.30 pm Thursday 10 May 2012 - Kaiata Community Hall

Draft rates search

You can search what your draft rates will be for 2012/2013 on our website www.greydc.govt.nz

Note, that they don't include any increase for water supply upgrade or sewerage renewal as this would not affect rates until 2013/2014

Make a submission

You can make a submission to Council's Draft Long Term Plan on this and any other relevant issue. You can also speak to your submission at a Council meeting to be held on Wednesday 13 June 2012. Please indicate clearly on your submission if you would like speaking rights.

Submissions must be received no later than **5.00PM: Monday 28 May 2012**. please send your submission to:

- Grey District Council, PO Box 382, GREYMOUTH 7840 or
- submissions@greydc.govt.nz

Council will also be polling the ratepayers in the area on their preferred option