



Topical issues from recent reports and inquiries

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The 2018-28 LTPs show significant forecast capital expenditure compared with previous LTPs, and could lead to funding challenges.

There is a need for continued leadership between central and local government to deal with climate change.

Councils need to do more to better understand the performance and condition of their most critical assets.

It's timely for the Department of Internal Affairs and the local government sector to discuss and review the required content for LTPs, to ensure that they remain fit for purpose.



The sector faces a number of challenges

- Challenges that local and central government must work together on
- National problems require national solutions
- Need to confirm the future role of local government before determining what an appropriate funding and financing model looks like

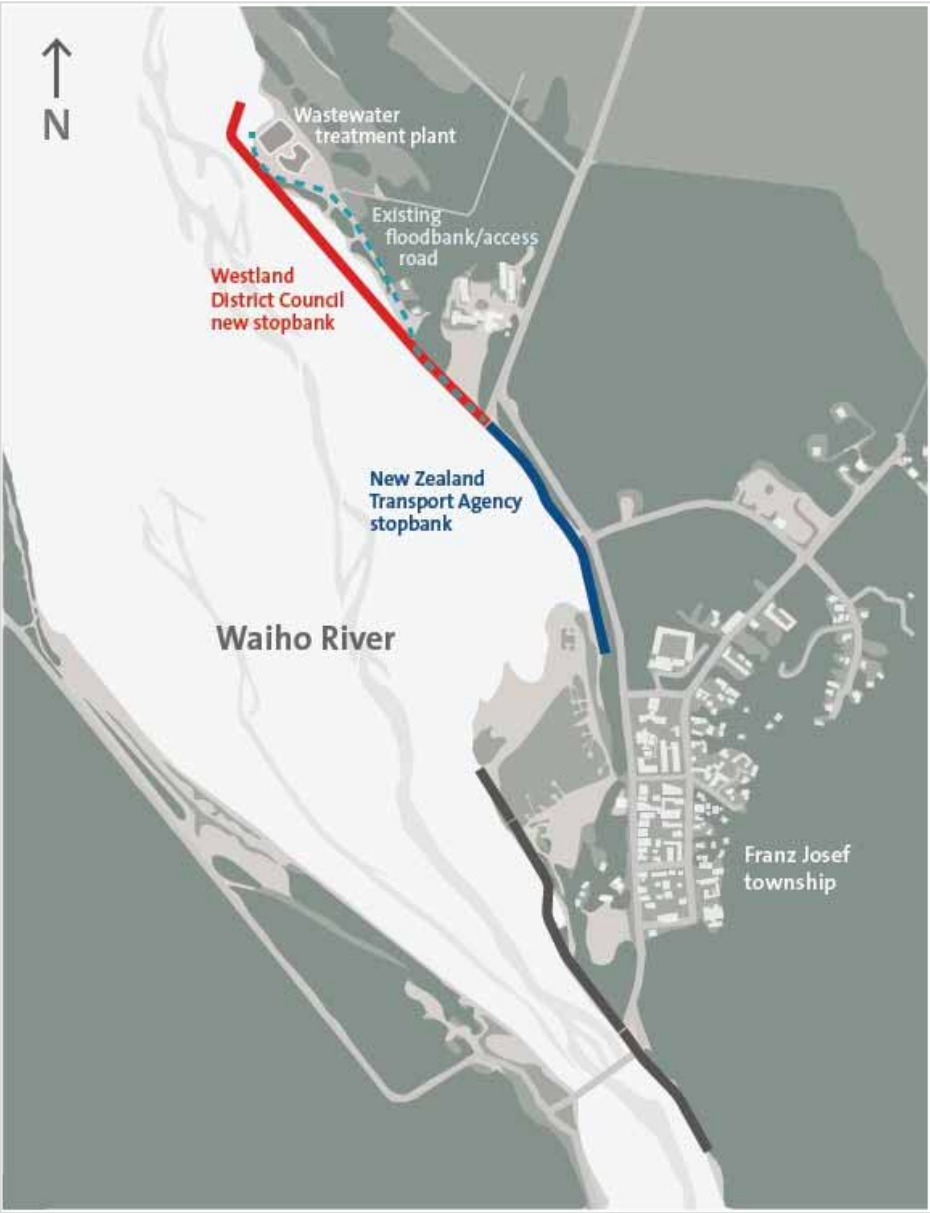
Our water management work





Westland District Council: Procurement of works at Franz Josef





Messages

- How a perceived risk (flooding) was addressed
- Losing sight of role (need to govern, not manage)
- Lack of expert input, no assurance about right solution
- Apparent disregard for legislated decision-making
- Lack of clear contracting arrangements
- Question about whether work was authorised
- Take care to manage conflicts of interest
- “The end does not justify the means”

Waikato Institute of Technology



- Allegations about overseas travel expenses
- Additional assurance work
- Executive travel expenses
- Severance / redundancy

Messages

“... in many cases Wintec has been unable to provide an account of how it has spent public money. This is unacceptable for a public entity charged with the stewardship of public resources ...”

“While we have not found direct evidence of serious wrongdoing, we have found weaknesses that provide an increased opportunity for the misuse of public money. Because of the problems outlined above, we are unable to provide assurance that all expenditure was appropriate or not of a personal nature.”

An observation or two...

