

7 July 2020

Dear Upper Selwyn Huts Resident

I am writing to update you on the initial decisions the Council has made in relation to Upper Selwyn Huts following consultation on our Annual Plan for 2020/21.

First, I want to acknowledge and thank all those residents and licence holders from the Huts community who submitted on our Annual Plan, both through written submissions and those who presented their submissions in person.

Our Council appreciated the open and direct way that all submitters presented their views, and we acknowledge the significant personal investment that residents have in the future of the settlement.

It was also evident from the submissions that there is a range of views represented across the wider Huts community. We recognise that open two-way communication will be important as we work with you to resolve the challenges facing the Huts over the coming months and years.

We have committed to continuing our discussions, and we will undertake to arrange an open forum with Huts residents within the next two months. This will be an opportunity to discuss with the community the range of issues and questions that have arisen, including:

- Why a new wastewater system is required
- Whether there are any other wastewater system options, apart from what's been proposed, that can be consented and are affordable
- The wastewater consenting process, regional council requirements and timeframes
- Licence and fees
- Building consents issued in the vicinity of the Huts

We will review the information we have previously provided, and confirm a time in the near future to respond more fully to the concerns raised by submitters.

In relation to the wastewater systems options, the Council has affirmed it wants to provide security to residents over the medium-term future of the settlement, and will continue to work with the community to identify a cost-effective, consentable solution.

In relation to the licence and other charges, the Council has agreed to defer implementing the cash bond for hut removal at this time. The licence fee from 1 July 2020 was proposed to be \$977 per year. As a result of deferring the bond, this charge is reduced to \$855 per year from 1 July 2020. We will be holding over the existing licence and its conditions until 31 October 2020 as part of the review process.

Yours sincerely



Sam Broughton
Mayor