

7 June 2024

Ref: OIA-688

[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Information request for the Memo regarding the Golden Mile

Thank you for your email of 23 May 2024 asking/commenting for the following:

- 1. I assume that the 525ml transition main that runs along Thorndon Quay connects to the two 300 ml potable water mains that run along Lambton Quay , Willis, Manners St and Courtney Place.*
- 2. The 300ml Golden Mike mains all seem to be condition grade 2 or 3, and prima facie don't look like they need replacing.*
- 3. If the water flows from the pumping station opposite the Woolstore and flows towards Courtney Place, wouldn't it make sense to remove risk at the beginning of the flow (which impacts all users of that flow) before removing risk at the end of the flow (which impacts a smaller number of users. (I appreciate that I am asking these questions from a very very limited knowledge of the system)*
- 4. I haven't had a chance to look into the storm and waste water systems along Golden Mile, but at first blush, the storm water systems all look to be reasonably current concrete pipes. The wastewater systems might be a different kettle of fish?*

Any information that you can give me, that helps me understand why \$30m of expenditure is justified along the Golden Mile, but \$0.00(GST inc) is justified along Thorndon Quay would be greatly appreciated.

On 26 May 2024, in response to my letter sent to you on 24 May 2024 regarding the pipes on Thorndon Quay you replied: *I now have a much better understanding of the pipes that run along Thorndon Quay - I don't require any further information on these pipes.* You reiterated the fourth question above:

- Why is there a plan to spend \$30m replacing pipes along the Golden Mile (most of which, for potable water at least, seem to be 1970's condition grade 2&3 pipes), whilst there is no plan to replace a 1911 cast iron condition grade 5 transition main along Thorndon Quay? Can you please supply the memo that was sent to LGWM with the recommendations for Golden Mile pipe upgrades*

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Our water, our future.

Your request for information about the pipes along the Golden Mile is responded to in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA – the Act).

I have interpreted your email of 26 May 2024 as no longer requiring the information to the first three questions you asked on 23 May 2024. However, if there is still an outstanding query from you following the receipt of this response I am happy to provide you with further detail.

The current funding plan is for Wellington City Council (WCC) to spend \$23.3m over five years, with an initial \$6.2m proposed within the triennium is nominally targeted to Lambton Quay. The funding requirements for pipes were developed by the Let's Get Wellington Moving (LGWM) and Wellington City Council teams. Final funding and renewal requirements will be made after decisions about the configuration of the proposed LGWM improvements are agreed which will determine the sections of road that will be worked on, and therefore, the areas where there are impacted pipes. This project is also subject to final Long Term Plan Adoption by WCC.

In response to your fourth question that was clarified on 26 May 2024, please find attached a copy of the memo that was sent to LGWM.

Names in the memo have been withheld under section 7(2)(a) of the Act *to protect the privacy of natural persons*. For your information, an earlier version of the this memo was circulated internally to Wellington Water staff and would be withheld under section 7(2)(f)(ii) – *free and frank expression between employees*.

In accordance with section 7(1) of the Act, we do not consider the withholding of information under the respective section(s) 7 of the Act is outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable, in the public interest, to make that information available.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request will be published shortly at <https://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz/about-us/official-requests/official-information-act-responses/> with your personal information removed.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to email us at official.information@wellingtonwater.co.nz

Nāku noa, nā,



Group Manager
Network Strategy and Planning

MEMO

TO 7(2)(a)

COPIED TO 7(2)(a)

FROM 7(2)(a)

DATE 21 July 2022 (update of memo issued April 2022)

DRAFT FOR COMMENT

Let's Get Wellington Moving – Golden Mile Three Waters Pipe Renewals PriorityBackground

Detailed design is currently underway for the Golden Mile corridor (Figure 1) as part of the Let's Get Wellington Moving programme. There is opportunity for potable water, wastewater, and stormwater pipe renewals in the Golden Mile corridor to be aligned with the construction programme.



Figure 1: Golden Mile corridor

As part of this investigation for aligning renewals, a desktop study has been undertaken to understand the existing assets. A prioritisation for the assets has been created and split into three categories:

1. "Must Do"
2. "Should Do"
3. "Could Do"

It is noted that the programme of works should firstly be assessed against the prioritisation method outlined in the September 2021 Wellington Water board paper 058-10.

Stormwater

The process for defining the stormwater prioritisation criteria included:

- Consultation with stormwater and network engineers at Wellington Water.
- Accessing the Very High Criticality Assets (VHCA) GIS dashboard.
- Calculating total criticality score.
- Calculating asset remaining life.
- Accessing Wellington Water Stormwater GIS data.
- Analysing pipe material.
- Including potential asset repairs (pending engineering investigation), such as asset WCC_SWP007449 on Lambton Quay.

The pipe renewal process has been prioritised into the following criteria:

Priority	Criteria
1 – “Must Do”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All pipes with condition grade 5 - All pipes with condition grade 4 + high criticality score - VHCA Dashboard identified pipes with very high criticality and poor condition
2 – “Should Do”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Condition 4 pipes - EW and BR pipes with less than 10 years remaining life
3 – “Could Do”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ovoid + high criticality pipes - Pipes with less than 10 years remaining life - EW built before 1980 - Brick and high criticality pipes

Wastewater

The process for defining the wastewater prioritisation criteria included:

- Consultation with wastewater and network engineers at Wellington Water
- Accessing the VHCA GIS dashboard
- Calculating asset remaining life
- Accessing Wellington Water Wastewater GIS data
- Analysing pipe material

The pipe renewal process has been processed into the following criteria:

Priority	Criteria
1 – “Must Do”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All pipes with condition grade 5 - All pipes with VHCA dashboard condition grade 5 - VHCA condition grade 4 and very high criticality - CI Pressure pipes
2 – “Should Do”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Condition 4 pipes - EW pipes with less than 10 years remaining life
3 – “Could Do”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pipes with less than 10 years remaining life - EW Pipes built before 1980 - Very High VHCA criticality

Blockage data was also analysed using the COG heat map. This was taken into consideration but did not affect the overall priority criteria due to the limited number of assets with reported blockages.

Potable Water

The process for defining the potable water prioritisation criteria was centred differently to wastewater and stormwater due to the existing work which has already been undertaken to calculate asset risk. The process included:

- Consultation with potable water and network engineers at Wellington Water
- Accessing the VHCA GIS dashboard
- Using the WCC Water Pipes Risk Assessment Database
- Calculating a combined criticality which takes into account network and commercial criticality
- Calculating remaining life
- Analysing pipe material

The pipe renewal process has been processed into the following criteria:

Priority	Criteria
1 – “Must Do”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Network Engineering recommended areas along Lambton Quay (DN50mm CU, DN40mm CU, DN125 CI), Willis Street (DN50mm CU) and Manners Street (DN150mm AC, DN150mm CICL)
2 – “Should Do”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WCC Water Pipes Risk Assessment Database risk ratings greater than 10 - High criticality* (above 150mm diameter) asbestos cement, copper, cast iron, and galvanised steel pipes with less than 10 years remaining life
3 – “Could Do”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pipes with less than 10 years remaining life

*The ‘Critical PW Pipes’ layer was analysed and considered. However, given the small number of assets in the Golden Mile corridor located in this layer, criticality was assessed using a combination of the WS Pipe Risk

Assessment method and conversations with the Network Engineering Team (high criticality assigned to pipes with diameters greater than 150mm).

Level 1 Cost Estimate

Using the prioritisation criteria set out above, a level 1 cost estimate was completed for each priority for the three waters. A summary of the cost estimate is displayed in Table 1. These costs are indicative only.

Table 1: Level 1 Cost Estimate

Priority	Stormwater	Wastewater	Potable Water	Total
1 – “Must Do”	\$12.9M	\$6.1M	\$10.5M	\$29.5M
2 – “Should Do”	\$10.9M	\$10.0M	\$11.1M	\$32.0M
3 – “Could Do”	\$20.4M	\$4.7M	\$13.2M	\$38.3M
Total	\$44.2M	\$20.8M	\$34.8M	\$99.8M

Assumptions made during the cost estimate calculations included:

- Pipe lengths rounded to the nearest 5m in the cost estimate spreadsheet per type/diameter of pipe.
- The fire service pressure pipes which did not have a diameter were assigned an estimated diameter of 160mm for Priority 1 and 3.

Recommendations and next steps

To confirm the three waters renewal programme in the Golden Mile corridor, it is recommended that:

- Existing CCTV data is analysed for all assets categorised as priority 1 (where available).
- A CCTV programme to be devised to capture CCTV footage of pipes where existing CCTV data does not exist or is more than 5 years old.

Supporting links:

Cost Estimate: <https://woogle.wellingtonwater.co.nz/site/gadf/activity/7.%20Major%20Non-3W%20Projects/Let's%20Get%20Welly%20Moving/Supporting%20Documentation/Golden%20Mile%20Cost%20Estimates.xlsx?web=1>

Prioritisation spreadsheet: <https://woogle.wellingtonwater.co.nz/site/gadf/activity/7.%20Major%20Non-3W%20Projects/Let's%20Get%20Welly%20Moving/Golden%20Mile/Golden%20Mile%20assets%20prioritisation%20DRAFT%20FOR%20COMMENT%20July%202022.xlsx?Web=1>

VHCA Dashboard:

<https://gis.wellingtonwater.co.nz/portal/apps/dashboards/2d3841bedc1d424a9b60d57a408ff549>

Three Waters GIS:

<https://wellingtonwater.maps.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=d70eead642bf49e393a3b199f0c63e8c>

Critical PW pipes layer:

<https://wellingtonwater.maps.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=25e8aee610164875ae8139627f70e20f>