

Community Summary: Balclutha

What's planned for Balclutha in 2011/12?

Balclutha main street

In the 2009-19 Long Term Plan Council had set aside \$2 million in the 2011/12 financial year to undertake an upgrade of the Balclutha main street. The majority of this expenditure (\$1.5 million) has been deferred to 2012/13 because, before any upgrade can take place, Council first needs to decide on how heavy traffic and State Highway traffic will flow through Balclutha in future, so that the main street upgrade can be designed accordingly. The extent and type of the development on Clyde Street may be limited due to its designation as a State Highway. Any alterations to the State Highway must be approved by the New Zealand Transport Agency. Council is therefore first working through the future traffic flow options for Balclutha before any work begins on improvements to the main street. Council initially identified seven options for the future positioning of the State Highway and heavy traffic bypasses, outlining the advantages and disadvantages of each. After a month-long consultation period last year, Council shortlisted three options - maintaining the status quo or designating either Charlotte or James St as State Highway. It is important to note that in identifying the three options for further research and consultation, Council is still yet to identify its preferred option. Further investigation will include independent research including surveys on possible impacts on community and businesses before putting out a draft report for further public consultation.

Balclutha swimming pool

The Balclutha pool will remain closed until the start of 2012, as a major upgrade takes place. This will include a roof replacement, boiler renewal, changing room refurbishment, improved lighting and pool air heating, pool and pool surround tiling, and beach access to the toddler's pool. The estimated total cost of this project is about \$3.9 million and will be funded by \$500,000 of reserve funds and a loan of \$3.4 million. Under Council's current revenue and funding policy, this loan would add approximately \$63 to \$90 + GST to the Balclutha Community Services rate (depending on property value) and \$11 to the Uniform Annual General Charge. This rates impact, however, will not come into effect until the 2012/13 financial year. Two further components - a therapeutic pool, and a bulkhead that would allow for the main pool to be shortened to 25m for competitive swimming as well as separate the main pool from a new learner's area - will only go ahead if external funding sources can be found. The therapeutic pool and bulk head were identified as desirable by interested groups during consultation on what the upgrade might include, but would have added an additional \$169,000.

Water supply upgrade

Work will be completed on upgrades to Balclutha's water treatment system. This work is due to legislation which requires all drinking water supplies to "take all reasonable practical steps" to comply with the New Zealand Drinking Water Standards 2005. The upgrades will mean the Balclutha water supply should be able to fully comply with the Standards, and will improve the security of supply. Balclutha received 25% government assistance towards \$1.4 million of its water supply upgrade.

Clutha Recreation Centre

This project, being undertaken by a community committee, is due to be completed by about July 2011. Council has provided 50% (up to \$2.5 million) towards a total project cost of about \$5 million. Council's contribution will be funded by a system in which ratepayers in different electoral wards pay a uniform amount based on their proximity to the Centre. This will see ratepayers in the Balclutha Ward pay \$34.06 + GST a year from 2011/12.

Kerbside recycling

In the 2009-19 Long Term Plan, Council included the introduction of kerbside recycling from the start of the 2011/12 year. This has been deferred until 1 April 2012 to give Council time to tender a new contract for Solid Waste Management, including kerbside recycling. The intention is that the kerbside recycling collection will be an additional wheelie bin that would be collected fortnightly. Part of the additional cost would be offset by reducing the waste collection service from a weekly to a fortnightly service. These collections would alternate with residents still putting out one wheelie bin each week. Glass would be excluded given the significant increased cost implications for the kerbside collection of glass - either for the extra collection cost, higher sorting costs or for lower rebates. Drop-off facilities for glass will remain in place, however, at Balclutha, Lawrence, Milton and Tapanui, and Council could look at providing further drop-off facilities for glass around the district. It is estimated the kerbside recycling service will cost an additional \$28-\$37 +GST per household per year.

Benhar Sewerage

Council's preferred funding option for Benhar sewerage, which is to be implemented by 30 June 2012, would result in an increase in the Balclutha sewerage rate of approximately \$27+GST from 2012/13 onwards. However, consultation will be undertaken with the affected communities before the funding method is finalised through the 2012/22 Long Term Plan.

How are Balclutha rates expected to change?

(amounts shown are GST exclusive)

Balclutha Rating Area	<i>Example One</i> Land Value: 33,000 Capital Value: 114,000			<i>Example Two</i> Land Value: 44,000 Capital Value: 155,000			<i>Example Three</i> Land Value: 50,000 Capital Value: 210,000		
	2010/11 Actual	2011/12 AP Budget	2011/12 LTCCP Forecast	2010/11 Actual	2011/12 AP Budget	2011/12 LTCCP Forecast	2010/11 Actual	2011/12 AP Budget	2011/12 LTCCP Forecast
UAGC	387.10	384.40	402.31	387.10	384.40	402.31	387.10	384.40	402.31
District Roading	46.40	46.60	57.78	63.10	63.30	78.49	85.50	85.80	106.40
Local Roading	98.60	106.50	126.40	131.40	142.00	168.53	149.30	161.40	191.56
Footpath Rate	18.40	18.60	18.84	18.40	18.60	18.84	18.40	18.60	18.84
Water	193.50	201.00	226.49	193.50	201.00	226.49	193.50	201.00	226.49
Wastewater	179.80	195.20	175.82	179.80	195.20	175.82	179.80	195.20	175.82
Stormwater	104.40	104.30	108.00	104.40	104.30	108.00	104.40	104.30	108.00
Wastewater Upgrade Support	-	0.30	0.53	-	0.40	0.71	-	0.50	0.98
Community Services	157.70	153.00	177.07	210.20	204.10	236.09	238.90	231.90	268.27
Solid Waste Collection	152.10	153.20	156.44	152.10	153.20	156.44	152.10	153.20	156.44
Waste Minimisation	21.60	7.50	7.11	21.60	7.50	7.11	21.60	7.50	7.11
Recycling Collection	-	18.00	18.31	-	18.00	18.31	-	18.00	18.31
Planning & Regulatory	5.60	5.00	5.24	7.60	6.80	7.20	10.30	9.20	9.69
Recreation Centre	-	34.06	-	-	34.06	-	-	34.06	-
TOTAL	1,365.20	1,427.66	1,480.36	1,469.20	1,532.86	1,604.36	1,540.90	1,605.06	1,690.22
% Change		4.6%*	5.9%**		4.3%*	6.3%**		4.2%*	6.6%**
\$ Change		\$62.46	\$115.16		\$63.66	\$135.16		\$64.16	\$149.32

* This figure shows the rates increase from 2010/11 to 2011/12.

** This figure shows the rates increase from 2010/11 to 2011/12 which was initially projected in the 2009-19 Long Term Plan.