

Logan South wastewater treatment plant B

Responses to questions from Chambers Flat residents – August 2019

1. Please provide additional meeting(s) for Chambers Flat residents to ask questions of Council about Logan South WWTP B as there were questions asked on 15 June 2019 which Council officers could not answer (eg regarding the potential for the Interim Administrator to review Council's decision on the site).

Council will provide ongoing meetings and information events for Chambers Flat residents where they will be able to ask questions about the Logan South WWTP B planning, design, delivery and operation. These meetings and events will include:

- 20 July 2019: Interested Chambers Flat residents invited to tour the Cedar Grove Environmental Centre (WWTP and community facilities currently under construction) and ask questions.
- August to November 2019 (date to be determined): Interested Chambers Flat residents invited to tour operational, relevant WWTP in Maleny and Nambour and ask questions.
- 2019/20 (date to be determined): Invitations to Chambers Flat residents / community representatives to nominate for a Community Reference Group for the project. This group will meet to provide input during the design and delivery of the project.

Any questions related to matters other than the Logan South WWTP B may be directed to Council the usual manner.

2. As some residents were unaware of Council's consideration of site(s) for Logan South WWTP B in Chambers Flat, the consultation process was inadequate. Please review and comment on its adequacy.

The process for consultation and engagement about Logan South WWTP B to 30 June 2019 is summarised below:

Date	Activity type	Description
28 June 2016	Media liaison	Council issues media statement about Council's endorsement of the <i>Logan South Wastewater Servicing Strategy</i> (on 28 June 2016) prepared by Cardno for Economic Development Queensland. Articles result in local media.
December 2017 - June 2018	Elected representative engagement	Multiple briefings for City Roads and Water Infrastructure Chair and Divisions 4, 9, and 11 Councillors on the Logan South WWTP B planning and community engagement requirements.
6 July 2018	Media liaison	Council briefs Jimboomba Times and Albert and Logan News journalists about the start of an initial consultation period for Logan South WWTP B. Media statement issued. Articles result in local media.
9 July – 20 August 2018	Community consultation	<p>Initial community consultation period for Logan South WWTP B including a letter to 9,733 households from Park Ridge to Yarrabilba, three community events (Logan Village, Stockleigh and Chambers Flat) and a 'Have your Say' online site.</p> <p>At the end of this period, 907 people had visited the Have your Say site, approximately 220 visited drop-in information events and 75 people contacted Council by phone, mail or email to provide feedback. This resulted in a range of formal and informal feedback including completed surveys (70), comments on an interactive map (62), newspaper and online articles (19), hundreds of social media posts and verbal comments, and one petition (signed by 1,361 people).</p>

Logan South wastewater treatment plant B

Responses to questions from Chambers Flat residents – August 2019

Date	Activity type	Description
1 September - 15 October 2018	Community feedback used in siting study	<p>Logan Water Infrastructure Alliance prepares the <i>Logan South WWTP B Siting Study, October 2018</i>. Feedback themes from community members (as shown in the consultation report on the public record) are used to develop community criteria for assessing sites.</p> <p>The siting study, completed on 15 October 2018, presented an assessment of 24 potential sites for the WWTP, with two shortlisted sites.</p>
15 October 2018	Consultation report	<p>City Roads and Water Infrastructure Committee accepts a consultation report on Logan South WWTP B. Report placed on the public record at:</p> <p>https://www.logan.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/485496/20181023cityroadswater.pdf</p>
13 November 2018	Adoption of shortlisted sites with recommendation on next phase of engagement	<p>Adoption of a report (confidential) on the outcomes of <i>Logan South WWTP B Siting Study, October 2018</i> including shortlisted sites. This included acceptance of two shortlisted sites, and recommended a next phase of engagement with property owners directly affected by land requirements for these sites.</p>
15 November 2018 – 31 March 2019	Stakeholder engagement	<p>Meetings with all property owners and / or appointed representatives for the two shortlisted sites for Logan South WWTP B (ie properties affected by WWTP structures and a potential 550m buffer zone). Independent valuations conducted for all properties. <i>Note: Council's discussions with property owners affected by the two preferred sites were confidential and in line with the requirements of the Information Privacy Act.</i></p> <p>Liaison with the Department of Environment and Science regarding potential environmental licensing requirements, particularly relating to the potential buffer zone size.</p> <p>Preliminary odour modelling for the shortlisted sites to clarify the potential buffer zone size, and associated property requirements.</p>
16 April 2019	Adoption of preferred (final) site	<p>Council adopts report (confidential) on the preferred final site for Logan South WWTP B. This included a recommended next phase of engagement with the wider Chambers Flat community.</p>
16 – 20 April 2019	Stakeholder engagement	<p>Engagement with all property owners and / or appointed representatives for the two shortlisted sites for Logan South WWTP B about Council's decision on a site.</p>
3 May 2019	Community engagement	<p>Distribution of a letter to all (approximately 800) Chambers Flat properties about the preferred (final) site for Logan South WWTP B.</p>
21 May 2019	Community engagement	<p>Doorknocking of 67 properties surrounding the Logan South WWTP B site to provide information and answer questions. At properties where residents were not home, gates were locked, or dogs were loose in the yard, information was left in the letterbox.</p>
15 June 2019	Community engagement	<p>Community information event at Chambers Flat and Logan Reserve Community Centre attended by approximately 100 Chambers Flat and surrounding residents.</p>

Logan South wastewater treatment plant B

Responses to questions from Chambers Flat residents – August 2019

Date	Activity type	Description
21 June 2019	Interim Administrator engagement	Briefing for Interim Administrator on Logan South WWTP B project.

The above information demonstrates that Council has undertaken a comprehensive community engagement program for the proposed Logan South WWTP B project.

3. Why didn't Council let me know there was a shortlisted site near my property?

Council's discussions with owners / their appointed representatives of properties directly affected by the two shortlisted sites for Logan South WWTP B were confidential. These properties were to be potentially acquired by Council as part of the new facility and buffer zone. There were multiple properties and businesses affected by each shortlisted site.

During discussions with the property owners / representatives, it was necessary for Council to collect a range of personal information including owners' current circumstances, current and future uses of the properties, business circumstances, willingness to sell properties for the purposes of establishing a WWTP, and willingness to be involved in an independent property valuation process.

Under the *Information Privacy Act 2009 (IPP11 – Limits on Disclosure)*, Council is prevented from disclosing individuals' personal information to third parties / other entities where the provider of the information could reasonably be identified. This would have been a likely outcome of disclosing the location of the two shortlisted WWTP sites.

4. Is Council's decision of 16 April 2019 about a location for Logan South WWTP B valid, or can it be changed / postponed until after the March 2020 election?

Council's Interim Administrator Tamara O'Shea has considered Council's decision about a site for Logan South WWTP B and based on all available information, has determined the decision was legally made and remains valid.

Unless there is evidence of misconduct in relation to this process, there are no grounds on which to review the decision. If residents wish to lodge a formal complaint in relation to the process or if they have any evidence of misconduct or corruption in relation to the decision-making in this matter, concerns can be submitted to the following bodies who conduct such investigations:

- The Office of the Independent Assessor (<https://oia.qld.gov.au/office-of-the-independent-assessor/make-a-complaint.html>)
- The Crime and Corruption Commission (<http://www.ccc.qld.gov.au/corruption/report-corruption>)
- The Queensland Ombudsman (<https://www.ombudsman.qld.gov.au>)

Logan South wastewater treatment plant B

Responses to questions from Chambers Flat residents – August 2019

5. What weighting was given to Stockleigh residents' petition against a Logan South WWTP on the Hawkins' property in Stockleigh delivered to Council in 2018? Did this affect the choice of a Chambers Flat site over a Stockleigh site?

The petition to Council by Stockleigh residents during the initial consultation period (9 July to 20 August 2018) was against Council's alleged 'selection' of a particular property in Stockleigh (owned by the Hawkins family) for Logan South WWTP B. At the time, no site had been selected for the facility. However, the Hawkins family was aware that their property had been identified (as one of several) in Cardno's 2016 *Logan South Wastewater Servicing Strategy* and they believed their property had been / would be selected for Logan South WWTP B. Members of the wider Stockleigh community supported the Hawkins family, and the belief that a WWTP should not be located anywhere in Stockleigh, by signing the petition and offering commentary on Council's Have your Say site and in print, digital and social media.

As recommended in the *Logan South WWTP B Consultation Report, September 2018* feedback from the initial consultation period was used by the project team in these ways:

- to inform Councillors, Council executives and managers, community members and other stakeholders
- to enable Council to investigate if properties offered to Council (for sale) during the consultation period, those on the market, or any previously identified in wastewater planning may be suitable for the purposes of establishing a wastewater treatment facility
- to form part of a siting study used to identify and review potential sites for the new facility. As part of the study, community and stakeholder feedback was used to develop social criteria for a multi-criteria analysis of potential sites.

The community / social criteria developed for the multi-criteria analysis of sites were based on key themes identified in community feedback. The criteria were supported by Councillors and placed on the public record in the minutes of the 15 October 2018 meeting of the City Roads and Water Committee. They measured:

1. Direct impact on residents / property owners in a 550m radius of the potential location of WWTP structures including the number / extent of property acquisitions, noise, odour, lighting and traffic
2. Wider impact on the community surrounding the WWTP site – impacts on rural lifestyles, agriculture, land values, and any business opportunities associated with the WWTP
3. Proximity of the WWTP to the development areas requiring wastewater services

The combined weighting of these community-related criteria was 40%, with the balance being 30% environment and 30% cost.

In the *Logan South WWTP B Siting Study, October 2018* five sites were assessed in detail, and a sixth was added following engagement with the Department of Environment and Science about buffer zone sizes (refer to the response to question 5 for more information on the siting study process). The sites assessed in detail were located in Stockleigh, Chambers Flat and other locations.

Any feedback from residents about specific potential locations for Logan South WWTP B were considered when applying the first two assessment criteria (above) during the multi-criteria assessment of sites.

In response to the question raised on 10 July 2019 as to whether a hypothetical wider community (ie outside the 550m buffer zone) petition against the Pleasant View Road site may have affected its selection as the preferred final site for Logan South WWTP B, Council has tested the sensitivity of the multi-criteria analysis. This process

Logan South wastewater treatment plant B

Responses to questions from Chambers Flat residents – August 2019

showed that even if scoring against the second community / social criterion above (ie impacts on the wider community surrounding the WWTP site - rural lifestyles, agriculture, land values and business opportunities associated with the WWTP) was level across sites, the Pleasant View Road site still had the least number of directly affected residents (measured in criterion one, above).

6. Provide additional information on the rationale for site selection decisions (ie how sites went from a longlist to a shortlist, to two preferred sites to the final site). What were the site selection “decision gates”.

The method used for the siting study is shown in the diagram over the page:

Logan South wastewater treatment plant B

Responses to questions from Chambers Flat residents – August 2019

Phase 1: Site screening

- High level review of 24 potentially feasible sites including assessment of key constraints: land size, flood free area, topography, land use compatibility, availability of buffer, number of properties impacted
- **Outcome: Shortlisting of five feasible sites**

Phase 2: Detailed site assessment

- Investigation of five shortlisted sites including identification of constraints, community and environmental impacts, network requirements for conveyance of wastewater to the site, potential effluent reuse opportunities and estimated costs to develop the WWTP and conveyance infrastructure
- **Outcome: Detailed information on five sites**

Phase 3: Preferred site identification

- Developed Multi-Criteria Assessment (MCA) framework and criteria
- Conducted MCA workshop to assess five sites
- **Outcome: Identified two most suitable sites and recommended to Council to commence discussions with property owners**

Phase 4: Preferred site review

- Review of previous assessment of two most suitable sites
- Engagement with Department of Environment and Science about potential reduced buffer requirements
- Detailed odour study including dispersion modelling of most suitable sites
- Reviewed initial list of 24 feasible sites to assess if reduced buffer criteria would affect site shortlisting results
- Review of community impacts following discussions with property owners
- Conducted MCA workshop
- Entered into discussions with property owners of two most suitable sites
- **Outcome: Identified preferred final site and recommended to Council**

Logan South wastewater treatment plant B

Responses to questions from Chambers Flat residents – August 2019

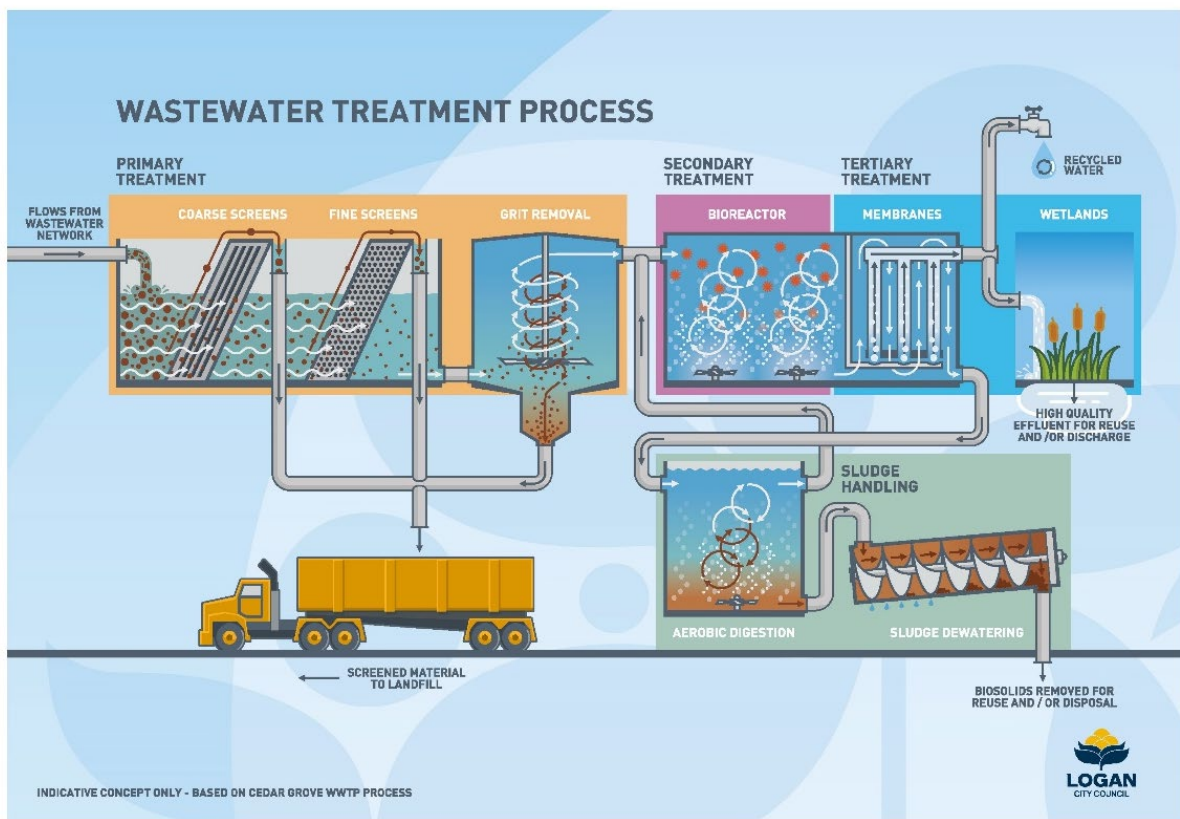
7. Please clarify the treatment technologies likely to be used at Logan South WWTP B. We believe the project team has provided mixed messages about this.

As the Logan South WWTP B project is in the planning phase, there is no concept design for the facility as yet. The design will largely be driven by the Queensland Department of Environment and Science's (DES) environmental license requirements, which are not yet known.

However, Council proposes to use modern wastewater treatment technology. The most likely technology is a membrane bioreactor (MBR) process. MBRs consist of fine screening, denitrification and nitrification zones, biological and chemical phosphorous removal, which is then followed by membrane treatment and disinfection. MBR technology provides optimal outcomes for residents and the environment in terms of the quality of the treated water, odour controls, operability, maintenance and costs. Should a superior technology emerge in the near term, Council will evaluate that technology.

Treated water leaving the plant could be further treated in constructed wetlands, or stored and reused for agricultural or other approved purposes on or off site. If used, the wetlands would 'polish' the treated water to achieve ultra-low nutrient levels (of nitrogen and phosphorus). Below is a schematic sketch of the treatment process.

The selected site in Chambers Flat is highly suitable for the technologies described above.

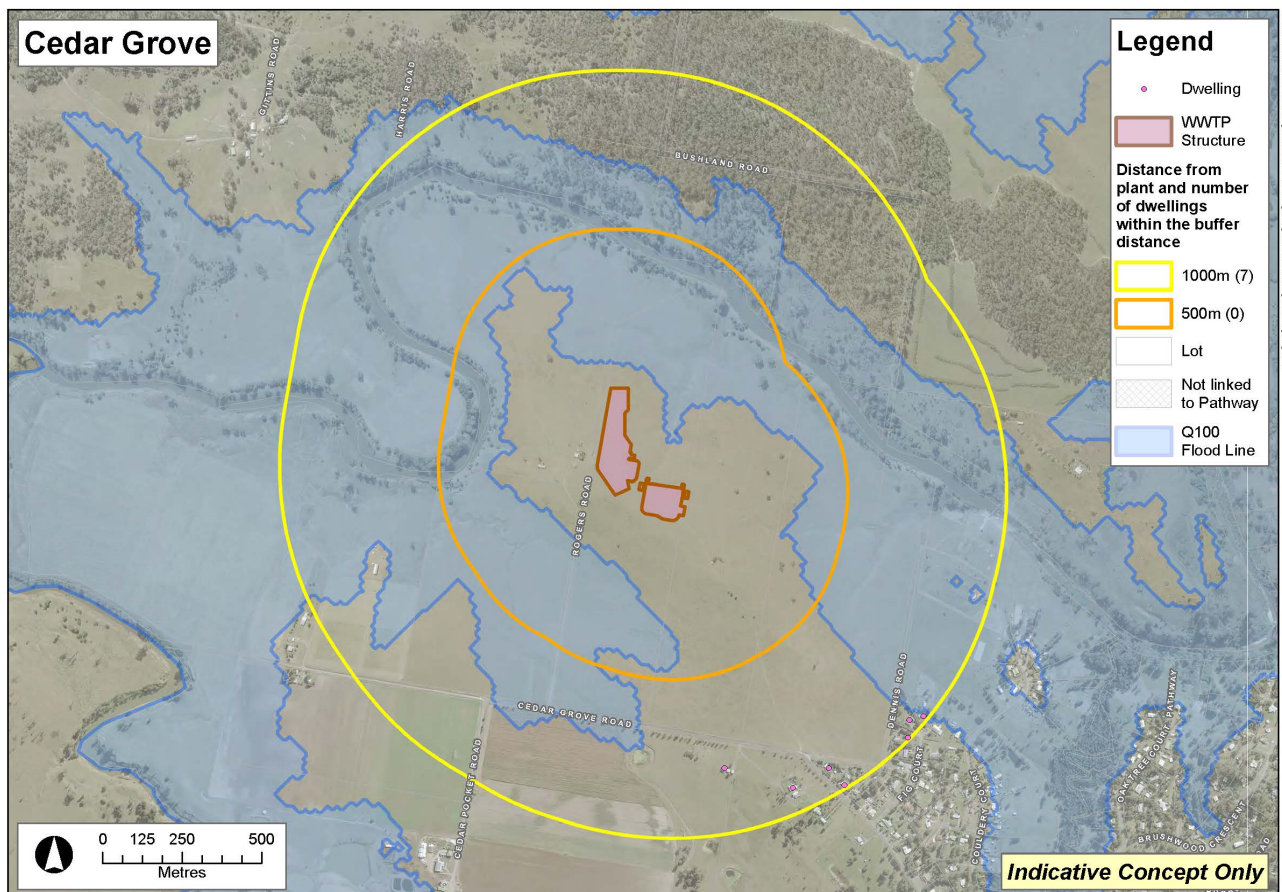


Logan South wastewater treatment plant B

Responses to questions from Chambers Flat residents – August 2019

8. Please provide residents with a map of the Cedar Grove site, showing distances from structures in 'rings' (like the map produced of the Chambers Flat site) for comparison purposes.

A map of the Cedar Grove site at ultimate capacity, with distances from structures marked is below for reference.



ENDS