ESTIMATES COMMITTEE Question Taken on Notice

Date: 12 June 2018

 Subject:
 Drainage works – Palmerston Hospital

From: Member for Nelson

To: Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics

Agency: Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics

Number: 2.11

Question: How much were the drainage works for the Palmerton hospital budgeted at, why did it start just before the wet season, what is the cost so far. Why wasn't it left in its natural state, this being a better solution for the environment and more cost effective.

Answer:

- Budget for the works is set at \$2.9 Million ex GST, \$0.5 Million ex GST has been expended to date.
- A construction contract was awarded in July 2017 to a local Contractor, Allan King and Sons Construction, however the principal works were deferred due to delays in the Contractor securing relevant environmental permits. A small amount of work was undertaken prior to the wet nevertheless a decision was made to defer the main works until after wet season rains.
- The drainage works includes the construction of three detention basins to manage the flow of stormwater from Palmerston Regional Hospital down the escarpment, through existing drains under the railway embankment and the Stuart Highway to a Mitchell Creek tributary.
- The drains are infrastructure with specifically engineered requirements in order to manage the impact of stormwater from the Hospital on the railway embankment and the Stuart Highway.
- The drainage has been designed specifically to manage the impact of the stormwater from the Hospital and the natural environment i.e. Mitchell Creek in a manner that does not cause degradation of the environment.

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Committee: Estimates
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