Invercargill
CITY COUNCIL

Thursday 18 September, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ATTENTION: CHIEF REPORTERS
CIVIC REPORTERS

Bluff sewage pipe repaired, back in service

The Bluff pipe that burst causing sewage to leak into Bluff Harbour yesterday, was repaired with the pumps turned back on at 11.30pm last night and is operating well this morning.

Council's Acting Director of Works and Services, Russell Pearson said the failure in the pipe joint was difficult to find because it was so close to the foreshore, which meant the sewage didn't bubble up to the surface but filtered through the sand.

Mr Pearson said today Council would be checking the water quality in the affected area and working with Environment Southland and Public Health South. Te Ao Marama had also been advised of the spill and advice to avoid swimming or collecting shellfish from the area was still in place.

In an effort to bypass the problem, Council yesterday trucked the sewage from the pumping station to the Bluff Wastewater Treatment Plant.

He thanked Bluff residents for their co-operation in minimising water use last night and said they could now resume their normal household routine.

Council would issue updates as more information became available, he said.

ENDS.

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