

Upper Heathcote Storage Scheme

- Storage of flood waters away from at-risk areas is one of the key means of providing floodplain management.
- The Upper Heathcote storage scheme consists of four storage basins in Upper Heathcote area.
- Together these add more than 800,000 m³ of storage. This is over and above existing or planned storage in the area.
- The purpose of the storage basins are to store flood waters during the peak of a storm and to slowly release the stored water after the water levels downstream have dropped.
- The effect of this is to result in a lower peak water level than would have occurred if there was no storage upstream.
- The scheme will reduce the risk of above floor flooding in the current 50 year ARI* event to over 100 homes (refer to graph).
- These storage basins are in addition to those being constructed to mitigate the impacts of subdivision runoff.
- Construction of this scheme has begun, with work undertaken in stages as ground conditions and resources allow (refer map below).
- The cost of the final scheme estimated at \$40 million.
- Benefits are largely upstream of Colombo Street, but also reduce above floor level flood risk to 40 houses downstream of Colombo Street in the current 50 year ARI* event.
- In model results, the storage scheme reduces flood levels in frequent (10 year ARI*) floods by up to 150mm around the

Beckenham Loop, with reducing benefit further downstream.

*ARI - Average Recurrence Interval



Wigram Basin

Benefits of the Upper Heathcote storage scheme

