

RCA Forum Stormwater Working Group

Report to RCA Forum
27 April 2007

Graeme Tong, Convenor

Order of presentation

- Membership
- Report on Roadshows, February 2007
- Future work programme
- Liaison with MfE and MoT

Membership

- Resignation Peter Bailey
- New members:
 - Russell Hawkes, Southland District
 - John Oldfield, Porirua City
- Existing members:
 - Transit: Debbie Firestone, Richard Green
 - Land Transport: Balt Gregorius
 - Secretary: Fiona Knight

Workshops

To educate, inform, and consult

- Overview- why/ what
- Sensitive receiving environments
- Draft Transit Stormwater Guidelines
- Regional requirements and issues
- Current NIWA Research
- Input into future work programme

Gore, Christchurch, Wellington, Palmerston North, Rotorua, Takapuna

Attendance

- 167 from local authorities - road asset engineers and managers, stormwater engineers and managers, subdivisions/ consents staff
- 103 Consultants
- 44 Contractors
- 23 Regional council, researchers, suppliers, educators, government agencies
- 9 Transit NZ

Feedback

- from 279 out of 350 = 80%
- workshops useful and informative
- good range of activities related to SW
- good range of speakers, discussion, presentations
- problems with black & white delegates' handbook – CD distributed
- good range of delegates
- range of locations esp Gore appreciated

Expectations

- positive response
- raised awareness for some
- others already had overall knowledge
- balance of theory and practical
- benefits of networking with wide range of delegates
- benefits from suppliers attending/ handouts/ trade displays

Delegates' next actions

- talk to colleagues – break down silos
- review own requirements – codes, standards, general practices etc
- align activities better with colleagues
- improve prevention measures
- develop more training and education
- work in a more environmentally sensitive way
- keep knowledge up to date

What was missing?

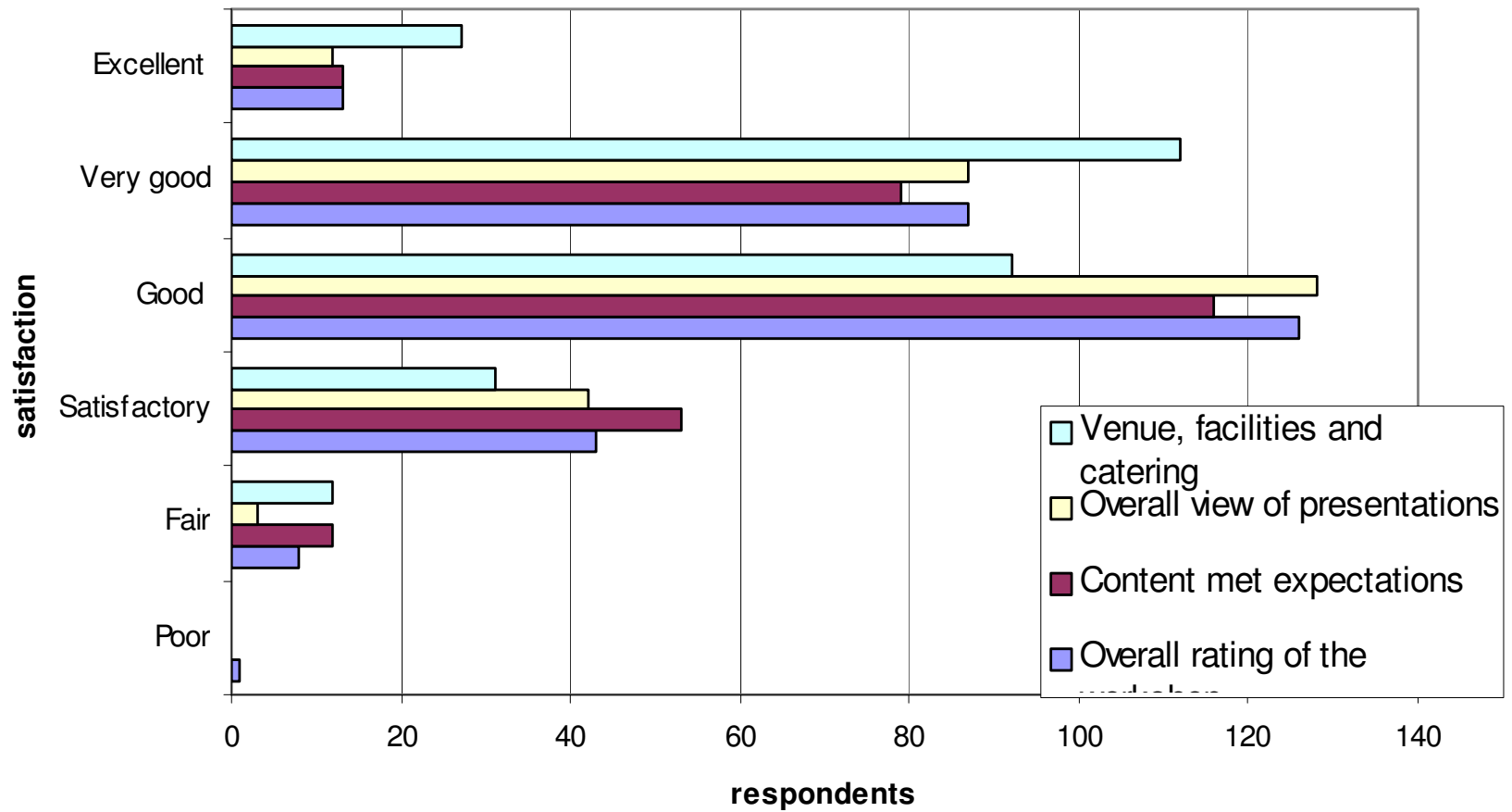
- Alternative treatment devices
 - what is available,
 - cost effectiveness,
 - worked examples,
 - analysis of pros and cons
 - Maintenance
 - Text
- Practical examples, hands-on, shared experiences

What was missing?

- Costs
 - Devices
 - Maintenance
 - Cost apportionment between different authorities
 - Where funding for devices should come from
- Legal issues
 - Legal rights to discharge

Summary

RCA Stormwater Forum



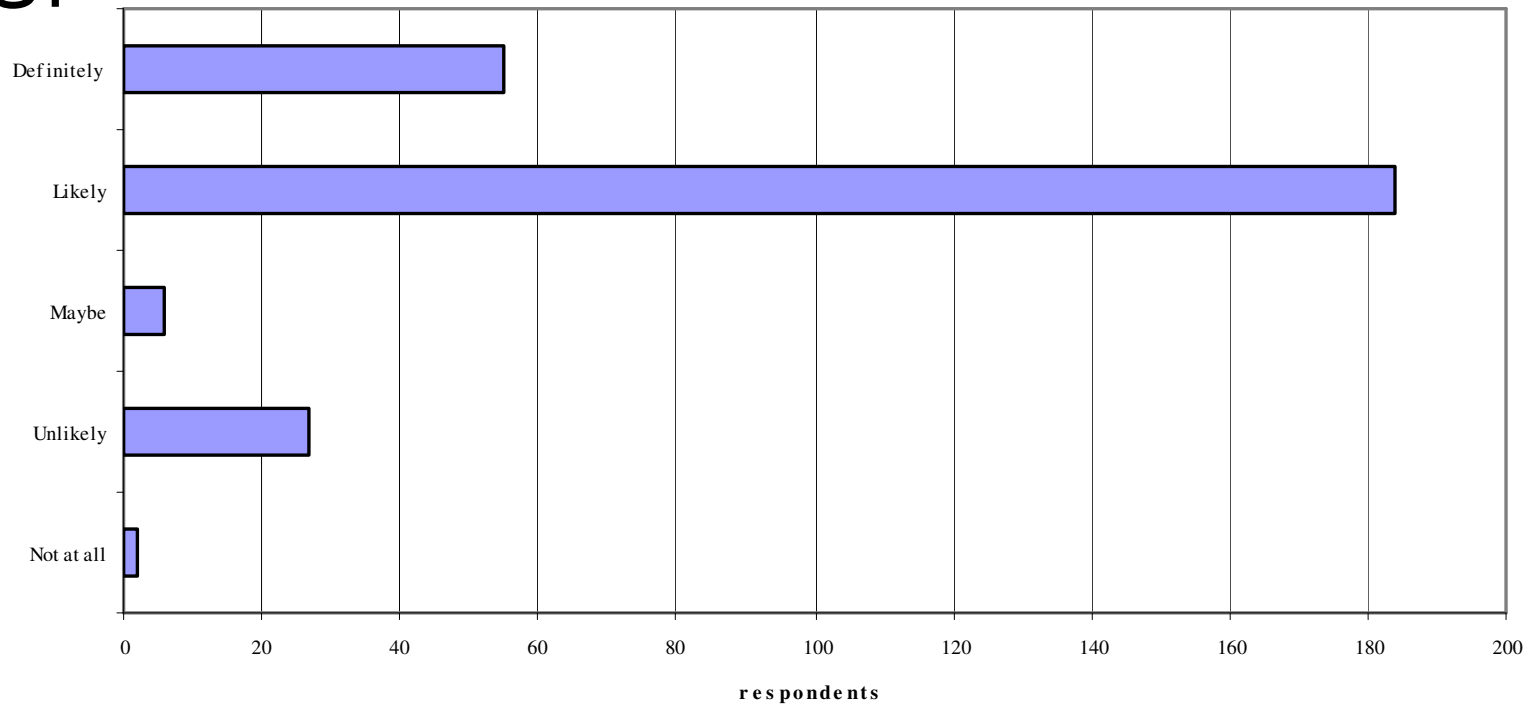
Conclusions

- Achieved our goal
- Now need local champions so can have SW presentations at local meetings eg Ingenium
- Need to get planner more involved
- Expectations we will distil research into practical applications
- Need to promote RR260
- Reinvest surplus earned into more SW activities

Future roadshows?

YES!

How likely is it that you would attend a similar forum?



Topics for future roadshows

- Case studies of what works and not works
- What treatment devices are available
- Levels of acceptable contaminants
- Disposal of contaminants
- Prevention of contamination
- Practical demonstrations
- Local requirements/issues
- Updates on current/ completed research
- Updates from Land Transport, Transit etc
- New roadshows for any new Guidelines, research completed etc

Concerns expressed

- Transit and ARC guidelines tend to be adopted by regional councils and RCAs without full consideration of suitability for local circumstances
- Need to coordinate/collaborate more with others interested in SW issues
- Roads are not the only polluter of SW
- Better distribution within organisations
- Planners are not involved enough

Further research / data gathering

- Register of research completed and studies underway
- Literature search of overseas work suitable for NZ or for validation for NZ
- How best to educate the public
- Impact of global warming – more frequent/stronger flood events
- Effectiveness of different treatment devices and scenarios
- Sensitive receiving environments on local/rural roads

Topics for research

- How to prevent contaminants getting into SW and road runoff
- Disposal of contaminated material
- Impact of contaminants – different environments/traffic scenarios
 - Effects of sediment
 - Airborne pollution
 - Heavy metals in swales
 - On road surfaces
 - First flush after rain

New Guidelines / Codes of Practice

General issues

- RCA Forum to take lead role
- Incorporate training requirements
- Reference in district plans
- Ensure compliance
- Better funding policies
- Guidelines for builders/ subdivision staff

Topics for Guidelines etc

- Stormwater quality/ acceptable discharge
- Treatment devices for different scenarios
- Monitoring of devices
- Maintenance of devices
- Guidelines for small towns/rural areas
- Triggers for treatment
- Measuring VKTs
- Planning for SW activities
- Sample bylaws

SWG work programme

- Getting up to date with SW activities, research etc
- Develop case studies
- Regular liaison MfE and MoT
- Website
- FAQ
- Local roads supplement to SRE research

Liaison with MfE and MoT

- Scoping project on whether national instruments are required
 - SWG representative on Reference Group
 - Peter Higgs, Southland/Gisborne
- Sustainable Water Programme of Action
- Climate change adaptation
- Present to regional CEOs Environment Forum, regional environment managers group
- Drinking water – report to August forum

Your actions please

Ratify:

- New members to SWG
 - Russell Hawkes, Southland
 - John Oldfield Porirua
- Peter Higgs on MfE Scoping project Reference Group
- SWG work programme