



HASTINGS COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE SERVICES
MEDIA RELEASE

**Settlement Point Ferry Out of Action
10 March 2005**

The Settlement Point Ferry will be slipped for urgent repairs following the breakage of a bearing and a shaft in the axle drive on Wednesday night.

Preliminary investigations have determined that substantial mechanical failure has occurred. The full extent of damage will not be determined until the ferry is on the slipways.

At this stage it is expected the ferry will be out of service for a number of weeks.

Hibbard Ferry will be opening 24 hours a day during this period.

Hastings Council has a range of measures that are implemented whenever the Settlement Point Ferry is slipped for scheduled routine maintenance. Staff are working as quickly as possible to implement these interim arrangements to minimise inconvenience experienced by the community.

The waterbus will commence this afternoon in transporting the school children across the river at Settlement Point to coincide with the school bus timetable.

The provision of car parking on private property on the northern and southern sides of the river at Hibbard ferry stop is being investigated by Council with property owners.

Hastings Council wishes to thank the community for their patience during this period. Further advice will be provided as more information becomes available regarding the extent of repairs to the Settlement Point Ferry.

— **ENDS** —

For further information contact: Tony Nash, General Works Manager on 6581 8111.

Executive Services, Hastings Council

If you do not receive the complete message telephone (02) 6581 8111