

Council Meeting - 23 August 2023

Meeting held in the Council Chamber at Level 2, Philip Laing House, 144 Rattray Street, Dunedin and livestreamed to the [ORC YouTube Channel](#)



Members:

Cr Gretchen Robertson, Chairperson	Cr Tim Mepham
Cr Lloyd McCall, Deputy Chairperson	Cr Andrew Noone
Cr Alexa Forbes	Cr Bryan Scott
Cr Gary Kelliher	Cr Alan Somerville
Cr Michael Laws	Cr Elliot Weir
Cr Kevin Malcolm	Cr Kate Wilson

Senior Officer: Richard Saunders, Chief Executive

Meeting Support: Trudi McLaren, Governance Support Officer

23 August 2023 01:00 PM

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Members are reminded of the need to stand aside from decision-making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected representative and any private or other external interest they might have. The ORC Councillor Register of Interests is published to the website.	
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	To inform the Council of delegations which have been exercised requiring application of the Council Seal during the period of 2 February 2023 to 31 July 2023.	
10.	RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC	70
	That the Council excludes the public from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting (pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987), namely:	
	- Confidential Minutes of the 28 June 2023 Council Meeting	
11.	CLOSURE	

Submission By Raewynne Pedofski to ORC Public Forum 23rd August 2023

In 2020 I came to your public forum talking about Shore Power as a solution for Port noise. At the time the comment was made that I may be raising the issue “before its time”. But in the meantime from where I live there seems to have been a lot of progress on noise issues by Port Otago especially in collaboration with other Ports around NZ asking shipping companies not to send particularly noisy ships with unsilenced generators.

However as global warming seems to be improving Dunedin’s climate overall, but frying other parts of the planet the need for the whole world to reduce our carbon emissions becomes more urgent. The benefits of helping out by using shore power when ships are in ports has become much more prevalent, with Sydney also set to be the first Southern Hemisphere Port to introduce shore power next year. I am most certainly not here to “run down” the cruise industry as there are certainly many small tourism operators and other businesses around town who do well from our summer influx. I really enjoy seeing the ships arrive across the bay. They are certainly not noisy, and having tourists enjoying our village adds to our great summer vibe. The latest ODT story about the possible benefits of Shore Power to Port Otago being “disputed” has prompted me to try and quantify exactly the “amount” of the carbon emissions from ships that would be prevented by being able to turn off all motors and connect the ships to shore power electricity.

From my research into shore power and cruise ships over the past few years it seems that the Princess line ships are all shore power enabled (ref 1). I have therefore done a "case study" from the upcoming 2003-2004 summer visits of these ships in Port Chalmers (ref 2). From that I have also been able to count the (whole) hours they were likely to be docked in Port over this time. The main reason I have targeted Princess line ships is because they are currently an actual finite group of ships that are shore power enabled, and currently if Port Otago was shore powered then this is the quantified emissions that could now be saved based on relative numbers of cars.

- Of the 5 Princess Line ships there are a total of 25 visits totalling 265 hours in Port Chalmers.
- While cruise ships are in Port they turn off their propulsion system and only use 15% of their full power(Ref 3).
- An average cruise ship uses 1377 gallons per hour when moving (5212 litres) 15% of that, idling Wharfside is 782 litres. (Ref 4)
- An average large older car uses 2 litres of fuel an hour while idling. (Ref 5) Therefore during one hour of a cruise ship visit the equivalent of 391 cars could have been idling in the Port Chalmers harbour basin, or 3910 on an average 10 hour days’ visit. For all Princess Line ships over the coming summer the equivalent of 103,810 “large relatively older cars”. Therefore it would be quite a significant saving in carbon emissions to be able to completely turn off the engines and connect them to shore power And overall this would be only 22% of the total of 109 larger ship visits to Port Chalmers over the coming summer.

Average Fuel Idling Wharfside (Litres)	3500 cc Average Car	Average Sized Cruise Ship	Relative Numbers of Cars Emmitting Per Ship
1 Hour Idling	2 litres	782 litres	391 cars
10 Hours Idling (1 day visit)	20 litres	7820 litres	3910 cars
Princess Ships 25 days visits	500 litres	207,230 litres	103,810 cars
Total Estimated Cruise Ship Emissions 2023-24 Summer (Lets say Princess Ships are 20% of total Cruise Ship Emissions at Port Chalmers)	2500litres	1,036,150 litres	519,050 cars

I have been following with interest what is happening in Sydney and their advanced plans to shore power their Port next year. I have also been reading a lot more publicity online about other shipping lines now also enabling their cruise ships for our Southern Hemisphere to do what they can to as much as possible soon to decrease their effect on the planet when they are visiting ports on the Southern Hemisphere cruise circuit..

I have seen in the media that Port Otago are adopting a "waiting for evidence" stance on Shore Powering the Port. So when will that be, how will they "gather" that evidence? The DCC are adopting a more proactive stance to try to reduce our carbon footprint in the transport sector "as soon as possible". They also own Aurora Energy who have been very helpful regarding my questions relating to their imminent upgrade of the Port Chalmers substation over the last few years. But they have also told me that they could power the Port to the level that would support two ships at a time. But the size of this upgrade is very dependent on the likely intentions of the users (The Port). Please can you as councillors make sure that we do not miss out on this opportunity. I am also aware that our government has similar funds to other countries to help with projects that minimize carbon emissions in our country. As a ratepayer of the ORC (who own Port Otago) and DCC who are keen to reduce transport emissions I am suggesting that because you are already working together on climate related joint projects that you talk to DCC about perhaps making a joint application to one of those funds. I think it would really be great to be seen united in our region seriously looking at trying to minimize the effect of shipping on the planet while ships are in our port. Or at least get working on a financial viability of it, as certainly a 264 litre saving on fuel per hour for a shipping company could then transfer into a lesser? But not insignificant payment to Port Otago for their electricity usage while in port. I request that ORC as owners of the Port on our behalf look into all aspects of these issues further.

Thank you for your time I will also be applying to address the DCC public forum in the next few weeks to pass on my research to them.

Sources of Reference Material

Ref 1 Princess Cruises Celebrates 20th Anniversary of Shore Power in Juneau

Ref 2 Port Otago 2023-24 Cruise Ship Schedule page 1 (Demonstrating my methodology)

Ref 3 [Cruisemapper.com/wiki/752-cruise-ship-engine-propulsion-fuel](https://cruisemapper.com/wiki/752-cruise-ship-engine-propulsion-fuel)

Ref 4 Cruise Hive (Average Cruise Ship fuel Consumption)

Ref 5 Drive.co.au



Council MINUTES

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otago Regional Council held in the Council Chamber, Level 2 Philip Laing House, 144 Rattray Street, Dunedin on Wednesday 26 July 2023, commencing at 10:00 AM.

PRESENT

Cr Gretchen Robertson (online) *(Chairperson)*
Cr Lloyd McCall (online) *(Deputy Chairperson)*
Cr Alexa Forbes (online)
Cr Gary Kelliher
Cr Michael Laws (online)
Cr Kevin Malcolm
Cr Tim Mephram
Cr Andrew Noone
Cr Bryan Scott
Cr Alan Somerville
Cr Elliot Weir (online)
Cr Kate Wilson (online)

1. WELCOME

Councillor Noone welcomed Councillors, members of the public and staff to the meeting at 10:01 am and asked Chair Robertson to open the meeting with a karakia. Staff present included Pim Borren, (GM Transport) (online), Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services), Anita Dawe (GM Policy and Science), Joanna Gilroy (Acting GM Regulatory), Gavin Palmer (GM Operations), Richard Saunders (Chief Executive) (online), Amanda Vercoe (GM Governance, Culture and Customer), Trudi McLaren and Kylie Darragh (Governance Support), Tom De Pelsemaeker (Team Leader Freshwater and Land), Tom Dyer (Manager Science), Jo Galer (Manager Comms and Marketing), Francisco Hernandez (Principal Advisor Climate Change), Andrea Howard (Manager Executive Advice), Kate Pettit (Senior Advisor Strategic Engagement).

Chairperson Robertson moved that Councillor Noone take the Chair, due to attending the meeting online.

Moved: Cr Robertson Moved, Cr Wilson Seconded

That Cr Noone take the Chair for the meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

2. APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Pierre Marasti, representing Extinction Rebellion spoke to the Councillors about climate change. Following questions by Councillors, Cr Noone thanked him for attending the meeting.

4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Cr Robertson requested to move Section 10 – Chief Executive's Report before Section 8 - Matters for Consideration, and that Paper 8.4 - Further Policy Guidance for developing the Land and Water Regional Plan: Gravel Extraction, Drinking Water and Wetlands be considered first under Matters for Consideration.

Moved: Cr Noone, Cr Somerville Seconded

That Item 10 Chief Executive's Report be considered the first item of business, followed by Item 8.4 Further Policy Guidance for developing the Land and Water Regional Plan: Gravel Extraction, Drinking Water and Wetlands.

MOTION CARRIED

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No changes to Councillor Declarations of Interests were noted.

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved: Cr Noone Moved, Cr Somerville Seconded

That the minutes of the (public portion of the) Council meeting held on 28 June 2023 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.

MOTION CARRIED

7. ACTIONS (STATUS OF COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS)

Councillors reviewed the open actions from resolutions of the Committee. No changes were noted.

NOTE: Item 10.2 was taken following Item 7

8. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

NOTE: Item 8.4 was taken before Item 8.1

8.1. Updated Elected Member Remuneration Determination 2023/24

This report was provided to note the 2023/24 Local Government Member Remuneration Determination. The Remuneration Authority (the Authority) has undertaken its annual review of elected members' remuneration and allowances and issued its determination for local government elected members which applies from 1 July 2023 until 30 June 2024.

Resolution CM23-189: Cr Noone Moved, Cr Kelliher Seconded

That the Council:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Notes** the Remuneration Authority's Local Government Members Determination 2023/24.
- 3) **Adopts** the Councillor Expenses, Reimbursements and Allowances Policy for 2023 (with no changes).

MOTION CARRIED

8.2. Submission on Climate Change Commission's Advice

The purpose of this report was to note a submission from Otago Regional Council on He Pou a Rangī/The Climate Change Commission's (the Commission) "2023 Draft Advice for Consultation" document lodged on 20 June 2023

Resolution CM23-190: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Somerville Seconded

That the Council:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Notes** the submission to the Climate Change Commission. (Attachment 1)
- 3) **Notes** that the Commission's final advice is due on 31 December 2023

MOTION CARRIED

8.3. ORC Submission on Stock Exclusion Rules proposed amendment

The purpose of this report was to provide Council a copy of the recently lodged Otago Regional Council (ORC) submission on the Ministry for the Environment's (MfE) 'stock exclusion rules amendment' consultation.

Resolution CM23-191: Cr Scott Moved, Cr Mepham Seconded

That the Council:

- 1) **Notes** this report;
- 2) **Notes** the ORC submission lodged on 16 July 2023 with the Ministry for the Environment.

MOTION CARRIED

8.4. Further Policy Guidance for developing the Land and Water Regional Plan: Gravel Extraction, Drinking Water and Wetlands (Note: Item 8.4 was taken before Item 8.1)

The purpose of this paper was to provide Council with a summary of the feedback and policy guidance on a discrete set of region wide issues obtained from Councillors and Iwi representatives during Environmental Science and Policy (ESP) Committee workshops. This feedback and policy guidance will inform the development of the proposed Land and Water Regional Plan (pLWRP).

Cr Scott left the meeting at 10:51 am

Cr Scott returned to the meeting at 10:53 am

Following discussion of the report, the following motions were made:

Resolution CM23-192: Cr Robertson Moved, Cr Weir Seconded

That the Council:

- 1) **Notes** this report;

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution CM23-193: Cr Robertson Moved, Cr Weir Seconded

That the Council:

- 2) **Notes** the policy guidance received by the Governance Group and the Environmental Science and Policy Committee for:
 - a) managing gravel extraction;
 - b) providing for the protection of sources of human drinking water; and
 - c) managing wetlands.

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution CM23-194: Cr Robertson Moved, Cr Weir Seconded

That the Council:

- 3) **Adopts** the staff recommendation to establish drinking water intake protection zones in the pLWRP for all registered drinking water supplies as shown on the map included in Attachment 4, as follows:
 - a) For a human drinking water supply from an aquifer – the area within a 20-metre radius from the location of the bore.

- b) *For a human drinking water supply from a river (or connected groundwater) – the area extending 5-metres into land from the river’s edge over a reach that encompasses 1000m upstream and 100m downstream from any surface water or directly connected groundwater take.*
- c) *For a human drinking water supply from a lake (or connected groundwater) – the area within a 500m radius of any surface water or directly connected groundwater take from a lake.*

MOTION CARRIED

A division was called:

Vote

For:	Cr Forbes, Cr Malcolm, Cr McCall, Cr Mepham, Cr Noone, Cr Scott, Cr Somerville, Cr Weir, Cr Wilson and Cr Robertson
Against:	Cr Kelliher and Cr Laws
Abstained:	Nil

Cr McCall left the meeting at 11:03 am.

Cr McCall returned to the meeting at 11:23 am.

Resolution CM23-195: Cr Robertson Moved, Cr Weir Seconded

That the Council:

- 4) **Directs** staff to draft policy for consultation that establishes the following controls on wetlands not covered by the NES-F:
 - i. *Control particularly damaging activities, such as cultivation and earthworks, wide-spread herbicide use, inundation, and drainage. Stock access to these areas, other than for intensive winter grazing, would not be controlled.*
 - ii. *include wetlands and naturally wet areas in the definition of critical source areas. This would have the effect of excluding these areas from intensive winter grazing, cultivation, draining and requiring their management through Fresh Water Farm Plans.*

MOTION CARRIED

A division was called:

Vote

For:	Cr Forbes, Cr Malcolm, Cr McCall, Cr Mepham, Cr Noone, Cr Scott, Cr Somerville, Cr Weir, Cr Wilson and Cr Robertson
Against:	Cr Kelliher and Cr Laws
Abstained:	Nil

Resolution CM23-196: Cr Robertson Moved, Cr Weir Seconded

That the Council:

- 5) **Directs** staff to draft policy for consultation to exclude heavy stock (including horses) from natural inland wetlands.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr McCall left the meeting at 12:03 pm.

Cr Weir left the meeting at 12:20 pm.

Cr Mephram left the meeting at 12:21 pm.

Cr Mephram returned to the meeting at 12:22 pm.

Cr Forbes left the meeting at 12:23 pm.

Cr McCall returned to the meeting at 12:24 pm

8.5. SPS2320 Amendment to ToR for LWRP Governance Group

The purpose of this paper was to note this report and adopt the amended Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Land and Water Regional Plan Governance Group (GG).

Resolution CM23-197: Cr Scott Moved, Cr Noone Seconded

That the Council:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Adopts** the amended Terms of Reference for the Land and Water Regional Plan Governance Group.

MOTION CARRIED

A division was called:

Vote

For:	Cr McCall, Cr Mepham, Cr Noone, Cr Scott, Cr Somerville and Cr Robertson
Against:	Cr Kelliher, Cr Laws and Cr Malcolm
Abstained:	Nil

9. RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED AT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

9.1. Recommendations of the Audit and Risk Subcommittee

Resolution CM23-198: Cr Noone Moved, Cr Somerville Seconded

That the Council adopt the listed recommendations of the 22 June 2023 Audit and Risk Subcommittee.

MOTION CARRIED

9.2. Recommendations of the Environmental Science and Policy Committee

Resolution CM23-199: Cr Malcolm Moved, Cr Kelliher Seconded

That the Council adopt the listed recommendations of the 29 June 2023 Environmental Science and Policy Committee.

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution

10. CHAIRPERSON'S AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORTS

10.1. Chairperson's Report

No report was received for this meeting

10.2. Chief Executive's Report (Note: Item 10.2 was taken following Item 7)

With regards to the Land and Water Plan upcoming TAG outputs public briefing still to be scheduled, it was queried whether it would be possible to get information to elected members prior to the briefing so they have time to consider what is to be presented and what they can contribute. It was confirmed that this information will be supplied to Councillors as soon as possible prior to the briefing.

Resolution: Cr Noone Moved, Cr Mepham Seconded

That the Council:

- 1) **Notes this report.**

MOTION CARRIED

11. CLOSURE

Anita Dawe closed the meeting with a karakia. There was no further business and Councillor Noone declared the meeting closed at 12:58 pm.

Chairperson

Date

DRAFT

Action Register

Search Criteria

Showing Completed Items: No

Applied Filters

End Meeting Date: 23rd Aug 2023

Action Statuses: Reassigned to Council, Assigned, In Progress

Meeting Types: Council Meeting

Generated By: Trudi McLaren

Generated On: 15/08/2023 at 11:17am

Document	Item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken	Due Date
Council Meeting 2023.02.22	CS2304 Annual Plan 2023/24	Assigned	Have an independent efficiency review performed in FY 2023/24 to inform the Long-Term Plan process. CM23-111	Chief Executive, General Manager Transport		31/12/2023
Council Meeting 2023.03.22	GOV2306 Proposal to participate in CouncilMARK programme	Assigned	The Chief Executive will execute an agreement with CouncilMARK to undertake an independent assessment in 2023. Res CM23-130	Chief Executive		06/12/2023
Council Meeting 2023.03.22	Recommendations of the Finance Committee	Assigned	Chief Executive directs staff to undertake further work towards development of an annual awards programme including detailed costs AND provide a report to Council for consideration during the upcoming LTP process (Res FIN23-103). Res CM23-136	Chief Executive		31/12/2023
Council Meeting 2023.04.26	GOV2314 Notice of Motion - Request for ORC to join the Free Fare Campaign	In Progress	The Chief Executive to sign onto the Free Fares Campaign as a coalition member and release information to public following completion. Res. CM23-146	General Manager Transport		30/06/2023

Council Meeting 2023.04.26	GOV2313 Notice of Motion - Request for report on feasibility of free off-peak travel	Assigned	Provide a report to the PATC on feasibility of free off-peak public transport and the potential costs (e.g. lost revenue) and benefits (e.g. reduced pressure at peak times, reduced delays at peak times, equity impacts, reputation impacts) to help inform relevant LTP decisions. Res. CM23-147	General Manager Transport, Manager Transport		06/12/2023
Council Meeting 2023.04.26	Chairperson's Report	Assigned	Chief Executive to provide a draft policy to Council for the endorsement of external funding applications as per the requirements recorded in the motion. CM23-150	Chief Executive, General Manager Governance, Culture and Customer	13/07/2023 General Manager Governance, Culture and Customer To be presented at the August 2023 Council Meeting	30/06/2023
Council Meeting 2023.06.28	SPS2313 Recommendations on Land and Water Regional Plan Governance through to notification	Complete	Staff to amend the Terms of Reference for the Land and Water Regional Plan Governance Group as per the report SP2313 CM23-177	General Manager Policy and Science		21/07/2023
Council Meeting 2023.06.28	STG2305 Otago Wellbeing Baseline Report	Assigned	The Wellbeing Baseline report is to be presented to the Mayoral Forum for further consideration. CM23-179	General Manager Governance, Culture and Customer	13/07/2023 General Manager Governance, Culture and Customer Next Mayoral Forum scheduled for 22 September 2023	22/09/2023
Council Meeting 2023.06.28	GOV2321 Electoral System for 2025 and 2028 Local Body Elections	Assigned	<i>Bring the paper back to the August 2023 Council Meeting, and in the meantime, undertake engagement with local territorial authorities and organise a workshop for councillors on electoral systems</i> CM23-182	General Manager Governance, Culture and Customer	13/07/2023 General Manager Governance, Culture and Customer Informal workshop on STV/FPP was arranged for 13 July 2023.	18/08/2023

8.1. Chairperson's Report

Prepared for: Council
Activity: Governance Report
Author: Cr Robertson, Chairperson
Date: 23 August 2023

I would like to recognise the significant workstreams currently being progressed within our Council. This is a time of intensive work for both Councillors and staff. I would like to personally thank you all for the very evident 'above and beyond' commitment you are giving to the Land and Water Plan and Long Term Plan development particularly.

Otago's new Land and Water Regional Plan will soon enter its phase 3 consultation stage with communities. A significant step to look forward to. It's a privilege to be entrusted with the jobs of ensuring the health of waterways and bringing community visions alive. There is a significant amount of work going into preparing provisions for this final less formal consultation stage, ahead of post-notification formal consultation in mid 2024.

27 June, EnviroSchools 21st Birthday

Richard and I attended the 21st birthday celebrations for EnviroSchools at the Edgar Centre. Students from primary and secondary schools around Otago showcased their current work. Celebration of the momentous occasion recognised the instigators of the programme in Dunedin and its huge success and widening to a regional scale. Otago Regional Council is proud to play a regional coordination role for the programme.

28 June, Port Director Appointment

Anne McLeod was appointed Director on the Port Otago Ltd board after a successful interview on 22 June. Anne brings Corporate Commercial Law expertise along with previous board experience. She has held roles as a board member for Anderson Lloyd, Southland Building Society (SBS Bank) and Southsure Assurance Ltd. It's fantastic to have Anne's local experience and connections as well as broad legal and governance skills joining the Port Otago Ltd team.

29 June, Public and Active Transport ORC/DCC governance meeting

30 June, Public and Active Transport ORC/QLDC governance meeting in Queenstown

21 July, Public and Active Transport Meeting DCC/ORC

Reported to Public and Active Transport Committee 9/8/23.

I'd like to note the really useful dialogue and relationship building being achieved through these joint Public and Active Transport Governance meetings already. All Councils have significant roles in ensuring public and active transport growth so fostering a collaborative relationship is important.

13 July, Whare Rūnaka Blessing Ceremony

An early morning blessing conducted by Edward Ellison on our behalf to set the construction phase off on a good footing and recognise the values of the site. Attendees included Councillors, Iwi, Au Kaha, ORC Whare Runaka project staff, contractors, and Port Otago.

17 July South Island Regional Councils Governance Group

Chaired by Peter Scott (Environment Canterbury Chair)

Topics discussed included:

- Arihia Bennett CEO Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu had previously spoken to the group on Ngai Tahu support for Councils in building partnership while reflecting on the desire for relationships to build at the runaka level.
- LGNZ Conference regional tour.
- Chair Scott and Rohan O'Neill-Stevens will represent the Regional Sector on the LGNZ Future for Local Government Advisory Group.
- Chair Scott and Chair Ponter had met with Minister Robertson and Minister McAnulty to discuss flood resilience funding within the Regional Sector.
- There was mention of the water service entities and the resource management reform entities are establishing separate data systems that Regional Councils will feed into. This may be costly.
- Chair Scott advised he was considering a pre-election 'manifesto' to put in front of political parties to ensure Regional Council issues are influential and understood. GPS on transport, Future for Local Government, flood resilience, transition to water entities, and RM legislation were topics he raised. It was agreed that the South Island Regional Council CE's would progress a 'starter for ten' on the manifesto and advise chairs.

19 July, All Staff Day

A full staff event was held at the Edgar Centre. This was a very significant opportunity enabling ORC's new CE Richard, to meet with his staff and share his vision for the organisation. There was also space for all staff to input ideas on maximising a positive, productive work environment. I was privileged to represent us as Councillors.

I spoke on the unique role we have as Local Government as the interface with community. Also about what it means to be a Councillor and our team this triennium. I mentioned the diversity and skills our Council encompasses. Each Councillor is a reflection of their community's values and aspirations. Each Councillor is valued not only by community, but within our own organisation.

I reflected that this is crucial triennium to deliver many important work programmes after very deliberately investing in our organisation's capability. It's time for action, we must deliver. Building strong teams and trusting in our players is key.

ORC has built an outstanding team. Seeing all members of staff together really brought home the investment we have made in a more diverse, more skilled and more collectively capable team than ever before. The organisation has a very solid platform for achievement. I would like to thank Richard for instigating this highly successful day.



26-28 July, LGNZ Conference

Te Pae Convention Centre, Central Christchurch

ORC attendees: Cr Gretchen Robertson, Cr Lloyd McCall, Cr Elliot Weir, Richard Saunders

I have chosen to report back some highlights of the sessions I was able to attend. As there were concurrent sessions, I was not able to get to everything. Lloyd, Elliot and Richard will have their own reflections of the conference. Richard and Lloyd attended the Regional Sector Tour of Canterbury prior to the conference too.

Election of President and Vice President

Sam Broughton, Mayor of Selwyn, was elected as the new President of LGNZ at the AGM. He expressed his commitment to unifying local government and promoting healing. Broughton emphasized the significance of Mana Whenua partnerships and the importance of local government reform for sector improvement. He advocated for thoughtful consideration of any future of local government reform, avoiding hasty changes for the sake of novelty. Broughton stressed the value of face-to-face meetings to understand various issues across sectors.

Campbell Barry, Mayor of Lower Hutt, was elected as Vice President.

We extend our thanks to Stuart Crosby for his service as LGNZ President for the past 3 years.

All remits were passed at the AGM.

Te Maruata Ropu Whakahaere - Bonita Bingham and Iaeen Cranwell co-chairs

Te Maruata Ropu Whakahaere, represents Maori elected members and appointed representatives. Co-chairs discussed the Te Maruata day 1 hui attendance of 70 participants, highlighting the strength of Maori representation within local government. Notably, 22% of current local government elected members are Maori. Te Maruata Whakahaere encompasses Metro, Rural, Regional, and Young Elected Members, ensuring diverse representation and involvement.

Sophie Howe, Former Commissioner for the Future of Wales

A thought-provoking address on well-being and sustainability. Sophie emphasized the urgency of addressing economic systems that prioritize human and planetary health over unchecked growth. Howe praised New Zealand's foundation as a global well-being leader after implementing the well-being budget, but called for a strategic vision to extend this approach.

She stressed the importance of long-term vision/strategy beyond election cycles and highlighted the significance of indigenous knowledge and collaborative efforts. The Future Generations Act came into affect in Wales prioritizing well-being in decision-making.

Young Elected Members (YEM) - Logan Soole and Bridget Bell,

With 14.6% of local government officials falling within the 18-40 age group, they emphasized key areas of focus: a) Te Tiriti, b) prioritizing environment and climate concerns, c) 3 waters management and water quality, d) housing (density and intensification), and e) adopting a future-oriented perspective.

Aon - Global Risk and Insurance

Due to location and topography NZ is prone to a range of natural hazards. Data shows climate change is super charging disaster effects globally. Extreme weather is more frequent, more intense and ever increasing. They noted that insurers are more aware of risks and this may be a factor into the near future.

Session on Implementing RM Reform - Victoria Brunton and David Allen (Buddle Findlay) and Nadine Dommissie (MfE)

Key Elements of the Resource Management System

1) Natural and Built Environments Act (NBA)

The presentaiton noted the significance of this Act having a new purpose as below. Oranga o te Taiao focusses on the wellbeing of the natural environment.

The purpose of this Act is to enable –

(a) Te Oranga o te Taiao to be upheld, including by protecting and enhancing the natural environment; and

b) people and communities to use the environment in a way that supports the well-being of present generations without compromising the well-being of future generations.

2) National Planning Framework

3) Natural and Built Environment Plans

4) Consents (heard by independent panels)

Plan making to be undertaken at a regional level and through Regional Planning Committees (RPC). The Regional Planning Committee will establish the Regional Spatial Strategy and Natural Built Environment Plans. The Spatial Planning Act sets up regional spatial strategies and implementation plans and agreements. The Strategies are to provide for integrated management of the environment and a coordinated approach on infrastructure.

There is a 12 month time limit requirement for a RPC to come together. These need to have at least 1 member from each Council plus 2 Iwi and 1 ministerial appointee.

PM Chris Hipkins

Noted the final leg stages for RM Reform at the moment. Noted the extreme weather events of late, recovery investment and the need to build back better. Noted the \$100m allocation of flood protection works and the need for much larger multigeneration strategic investment for severe weather challenges. Pragmatic decision making is needed on whether to build back at all too and managed retreat is needed on some areas. Noted that Central Government needs to be better at partnering with local government: centrally funded, regionally coordinated, locally led. Believed that the Future for Local Government Report came at a challenging time and recovery will take preference over reform. He noted the response is in the hands of local government – the sector must come together and report back to Government on what it wants.

Opposition Leader Christopher Luxton

Noted his party's priorities as:

1. Rebuild economy – become wealthier, exit recession
2. Restore law and order
3. Schools and healthcare

He mentioned focusses on freeing up business, tax relief, commercialisation of science and innovation, investing in infrastructure 'to get our products moving', local government/central government partnerships for infrastructure. Noted the co-governance agenda is not mandated and "New Zealanders don't want it". Repeal 3 waters but audit to make sure investment is happening. Unlocking land for housing, zoning for 30 year horizon. Party support for "greenfields expansion on city fringes", not just intensification. Infrastructure plans for the future include: Private investment (ACC type), consent streamlining, 30 year pipeline detailed plans, city and regional scale deals (local and central government partnerships). "First in best dressed" on region/city deals so suggested that proposals should be drawn up now to "hit the ground running after elections". Mentioned localism and local government/central government partnership.

Managed retreat in practice: Jamie Simmonds and Renata Hakiwai

Jamie and Renata spoke with first hand experience in working with local communities to facilitate moving from floodprone areas. Case studies of Grantham in Australia and Omaha, Hawkes Bay were discussed. In Grantham it cost \$14m to move 128 families voluntarily to higher ground where new homes and infrastructure were built. The costs were compared to the frequent mobilisation of defence force helicopters and multiple other costs associated with an emergency.

Local Government NZ – Susan Freeman Greene (CE LGNZ)

Launched the 'Choose Localism' campaign. Encouraged councils to start sharing stories of local communities and action to the website www.localism.nz. These stories will be used to lend weight to the valuable role Local Government plays in our communities. These will be showcased to Central Government as discussion on the need to invest in localism heightens.

What is Super Local? Panel Discussion led by Deputy Mayor of Nelson Rohan O'Neill-Stevens

This was an interesting discussion transcending into an in depth discussion of NZ's current political system.

Helmut Modlik noted that the system was designed in the 19th century and it is not a governance system to enable universal benefits or long term vision.

There was a discussion on what localism means in practice, including challenging Councils to lift their game and earn respect of communities, including by working better together, trusting community leadership, and lifting the capability of elected members.

There was a challenge to focus more on relationships than process and look at what is really getting outcomes. Hui and discussion as an important means to progress rather than "being very efficient at going nowhere".

The setting within which local government operates was discussed alongside the macropolitical setting. The 3 year political cycle was questioned along with the opposition party system where good ideas are run down. Sweden does not have an opposition and instead choose their own 'best people for the job'. Depoliticising long term decisions.

Helmut suggested that 'reimagining local government' actually sits within reimagining governance as a whole.

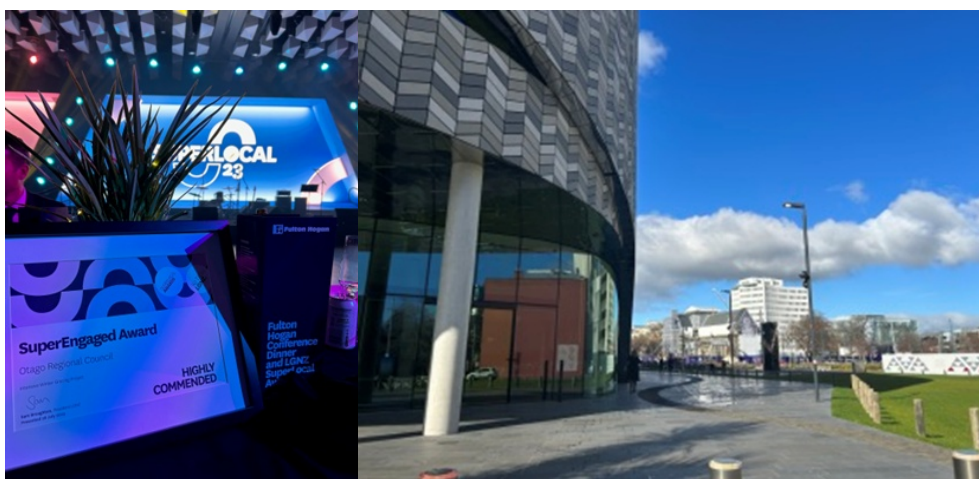
28 July Super Local Awards

Otago Regional Council received a Highly Commended Award in the Super Engaged section of the Super Local Awards. This was a huge achievement for our Intensive Winter Grazing Programme. A huge congratulations to Jo Gilroy and all of her team.

It takes 2 to engage and I would like to recognise the huge efforts of Otago's rural community in getting involved in this important work from day one. You have put a lot of time and effort into: ensuring rules are workable, making changes on farm where needed, becoming consented and helping to achieve great outcomes for the environment. We are well on the way, leading the country in consent numbers and we recognise your great efforts, ka pai!

Thanks to all those who got behind the nomination especially those who supplied letters of support.

Thank you too to Fulton Hogan as main sponsor of the award dinner event. It was fantastic for Lloyd, Elliot, Richard and I to be able to sit with Bob Fulton (also a Port Otago Director) at the event.



RECOMMENDATION

- a) *That the Council:*
- b) **Notes** this report.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

8.2. Chief Executive's Report

Prepared for: Council
Activity: Governance Report
Author: Richard Saunders, Chief Executive
Date: 23 August 2023

PURPOSE

- [1] The purpose of this report is to provide Council will oversight of key activities which form part of the Otago Regional Council work programme.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [2] Over the months of July and August significant progress has been made on both of ORC's key deliverables. The Land and Water Plan and Long Term Plan remain on track to meet key milestones.
- [3] New Resource Management legislation has progressed and the Council will need to ensure it responds to this.
- [4] There is nothing of significance to note in the financial and service level reporting after one month of the 2023/2024 year.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) **Notes** this report.

DISCUSSION

Land and Water Regional Plan

- [5] The proposed Land and Water Regional Plan (LWRP) programme remains on track although the programme is tight. Management of milestones related to the Manuherekia remain a focus. Additionally, the upcoming community consultation on the proposed content of the plan is a critical milestone for the organisation.
- [6] Changes to RMA legislation provide ORC with greater confidence that the entire LWRP can be heard under the new Freshwater Commissioner process. This is still to be fully assessed by staff however there is a high degree of confidence that the changes will mitigate that outstanding risk to the programme.
- [7] A copy of the project report is included as Attachment 1.

Long Term Plan

- [8] The Long Term Plan process has progressed well. All milestones have been met to date and we have good guidance from Council to inform the next phase of this process. This includes consideration of additional projects or levels of service and early engagement with key stakeholders and community groups.
- [9] We remain on track to provide Council with options to consider for consultation in December with formal consultation on the entire Long Term Plan occurring early in 2024.
- [10] A copy of the project report is included as Attachment 2.

Reform Update

- [11] An update for Council on activity associated with the current reform activity is included as Attachment 3.
- [12] The key updates to note are in the Resource Management Space where new legislation is expected to receive royal assent shortly. Staff are working closely with Te Uru Kahika (Regional and Unitary Councils) to ensure the day one requirements of the new legislation are well understood and where possible there are consistent communications and processes in place in response to these changes.
- [13] A more comprehensive report on the changes and subsequent impacts on ORC will be presented at a future meeting.

Financial and Level of Service Reports

- [14] Financial and Service level summaries are included as attachments 4, 5 and 6. Financial reporting is not completed for end of July as the team is focussed on the delivery of financial and service level reports to achieve compliance with Audit requirements associated with the annual report.
- [15] The financial attachments included show full year budgets for the 2023/2024 annual plan and the first monitoring report will be included in the September Chief Executives report.
- [16] At this early stage of the year there are no known issues with delivery of service measures included in the annual plan.

ATTACHMENTS

1. LWRP GG Project Report August [8.2.1 - 3 pages]
2. Long Term Plan project reporting August 2023 [8.2.2 - 3 pages]
3. Reform Overview August 2023 [8.2.3 - 2 pages]

4. Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense July 2023 [**8.2.4** - 1 page]
5. Statement of Financial Position July 2023 [**8.2.5** - 1 page]
6. Summary Level of Service Report July 2023 [**8.2.6** - 3 pages]

ORC REPORT ON PROGRESS AGAINST CRITICAL MILESTONES AND TASKS

Project Name	Project Start Date	Project Sponsor	Project Owner	Report date
Land and Water Regional Plan for Otago	1-Jul-21	Anita Dawe	Fleur Matthews	31-Jul-23

Progress summary and focus for next month
<p>This past month: Drafting of the Plan has been completed on schedule. Focus for the month of August is refinement of the plan chapters, quality and consistency reviews, and preparation for engagement with stakeholders and the community.</p>
<p>Next month: Major deliverables in August include: 1. Environmental outcomes, current states and target attribute states determined for all FMUs 2. All draft region-wide objectives, policies, provisions, rules complete 3. All draft FMU chapters complete (except Taieri and Manuherekia Rohe)</p>

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT PROCESS AND CRITICAL TASKS	KEYS		
CP1. Environmental Outcomes, Objectives, Provisions, Rules developed (July 2023)	RMA CRITICAL PATH	HEALTH	STATUS
CP2. Community consultation prior to formal Schedule 1 process (August - October 2023)	Milestone is on the critical path	Work not yet due to start	1. Not due to start
CP3. Pre-notification consultation (February - April 2024)		Meets or exceeds project expectations	2. Not started
CP4. Public Notification (June 2024)		Issues are being managed within the team and not expected to impact final deadline	3. Ready to start
		issues impacting project and overall timeline and need escalation and action	4. Start delayed
		Milestone / task finished	5. On hold
			6. In progress
			7. Complete
			8. Withdrawn

Milestone	RMA Critical Path	Baseline Start date	Baseline End date	Forecast Revised End date	End date variance	Actual End Date	Previous Status	Current Health & Status	Commentary
Preparatory and plan writing work to get to community consultation 3									
1	Initial consultations with communities and key region-wide stakeholders complete. This is required by NPS-FM prior to plan drafting	CP1	20-Dec-22	20-Dec-22		20-Dec-22	Complete	Complete	
2	Community and mana whenua values identified with community and mana whenua. This is required by NPS-FM prior to plan drafting	CP1	31-Dec-22	31-Dec-22		20-Dec-22	Complete	Complete	
3	Analysis of feedback from community and key stakeholder consultation complete	CP1	31-Jan-23	31-Jan-23		31-Jan-23	Complete	Complete	
4	Catchment Stories Summary Report complete		30-Jan-23	30-Jan-23		30-Jan-23	Complete	Complete	
5	Region-wide topics plan drafting started (Milestone)		1-Feb-23	1-Feb-23		1-Feb-23	Complete	Complete	
6	Further direction from Land and Water Regional Plan governance group on water quantity management sought. This directly informs plan drafting	CP1	6-Apr-23	6-Apr-23		6-Apr-23	Complete	Complete	Policy direction confirmed by Council at its meeting on 28 June 2023.
7	Region-wide hydrological modelling complete. This informs plan drafting.	CP1	30-Apr-23	31-Jul-23	+2 Months		In progress	Complete	Scope revised and completed mid-August.

Council Meeting - 23 August 2023 - CHAIRPERSON'S AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORTS

Milestone	RMA Critical Path	Baseline		Forecast	End date variance	Actual End Date	Previous Status	Current Health & Status	Commentary	
		Start date	End date	Revised End date						
10	Water quality scenario modelling complete. This directly informs plan drafting	CP1		31-May-23	<u>31-Jul-23</u>	<u>+2 Weeks</u>		In progress	In progress	While there have been delays in finalising the report, the final draft of the report was sent for external peer review in July. As Science and Policy work closely together sharing information iteratively so the plan drafting deadline of 31 July was met.
11	Outstanding water bodies identified			31-May-23	18-Aug-23	<u>+2.5 Months</u>		Complete	In progress	This work was initially completed in April. A partial revision of the draft reports and a re-assessment of the outstanding water bodies is required following the RPS process as a change to the identification criteria stated in the pORPS has been recommended. The re-assessment is scheduled to be completed by 18 August.
12	Manuherekia ecological flow recommendation provided by Technical Advisory Group			31-May-23	<u>16-Aug-23</u>	<u>+2.5 Months</u>		In progress	In progress	Issues being managed in line with GG recommendations. A report summarising all of the relevant technical work available for flow setting in the Manuherekia has been drafted and will be presented at a briefing on 22 August.
13	Further direction from Land and Water Regional Plan governance group on drinking water protection requirements sought.	CP1		6-Jun-23	6-Jun-23		26-Jul	In progress	Complete	A paper on this topic has been prepared and was presented and discussed at the 8 June governance group meeting and the 29 June ESP Committee. Policy direction was confirmed by Council at its meeting on 26 July 2023.
14	Regionally significant wetlands mapped and ground truthed			30-Jun-23	30-Jun-23		30-Jun-23	In progress	Complete	Groundtruthing completed.
15	Land and Water Economic Profile of Otago complete (Milestone)			30-Jun-23	30-Jun-23		30-Jun-23	In progress	Complete	The Profile has been drafted and reviewed by external parties and key ORC staff. Following feedback via this review process the Profile is being finalised now and on track to be delivered by 30 June.
16	Farmers and Growers Phase 2 report on testing the impact of actions complete (Milestone)			30-Jun-23	3-Jul-23		3-Jul-23	In progress	Complete	The draft report has been received and has been reviewed by external reviewers from Waikato Regional Council. It is now finalised and was delivered on 31 July. It will be released in early August.
17	Threatened species identified (via independent expert panel)			30-Jun-23	31-Jul-23	<u>+2 Weeks</u>	31-Jul-23	In progress	Complete	Schedule of the threatened species of Otago has been compiled. In addition to this the following work has also been completed: Environmental objective; identification of attributes, and baseline states for these attributes (where known). Drafting of provisions is in progress.
18	Environmental outcomes, current states and target attribute states determined for all FMUs	CP1		30-Jun-23	<u>11-Aug-23</u>	<u>+6 Weeks</u>		In progress	In progress	Draft Target Attribute States for rivers and lakes will be finalised by 16 August 2023. Final reports are due late September with consistency reviews by Incite immediately afterwards.
19	Māori economy report completed by ORC and Iwi			31-Jul-23	<u>31-Aug-23</u>	<u>+1 Month</u>		In progress	In progress	Work underway but resource constraints adding risk to delivery.
20	Higher allocation catchment assessments complete (excluding Taieri)			31-Jul-23	14-Aug-23	<u>+2 Weeks</u>		In progress	In progress	This was not delivered by 31 July. A significant number of assessments for higher allocation catchments have been completed but others are still being worked on. Mid August is more realistic timeframe for completing these.
21	All draft region-wide objectives, policies, provisions, rules complete	CP2		31-Jul-23	18-Aug-23	<u>+2 Weeks</u>		In progress	In progress	All chapters drafted and potential gaps identified. Some issues with Water Quantity and and Take and Use chapters. Refinement of all drafted chapters and consistency reviews continues until 9 August led by Incite. Economics consultant to assist.
22	Draft Catlins FMU Chapter complete			31-Jul-23	18-Aug-23	<u>+2 Weeks</u>		Not due to start	In progress	Delayed start. Placeholders included in plan but content and science input still required.

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Milestone	RMA Critical Path	Baseline		Forecast	End date variance	Actual End Date	Previous Status	Current Health & Status	Commentary
		Start date	End date	Revised End date					
23	Draft Clutha/Mata-Au Chapter complete		31-Jul-23	18-Aug-23	+2 Weeks		Not due to start	In progress	Delayed start. Placeholders included in plan but content and science input still required.
24	Draft Dunedin and Coast Chapter complete		31-Jul-23	18-Aug-23	+2 Weeks		Not due to start	In progress	Delayed start. Placeholders included in plan but content and science input still required.
25	Draft North Otago Chapter complete		31-Jul-23	18-Aug-23	+2 Weeks		Not due to start	In progress	Delayed start. Placeholders included in plan but content and science input still required.
26	All draft FMU chapters complete (except Taieri and Manuherekia Rohe)	CP2	31-Jul-23	31-Jul-23	+2 Weeks		Not due to start	In progress	Delayed start. Placeholders included in plan but content and science input still required.
27	Draft introduction, how the plan works, interpretation chapters complete		30-Sep-23	30-Sep-23			In progress	In progress	Early drafting has begun on this chapter which is ahead of schedule.
28	Draft national direction chapter and regional context content complete		30-Sep-23	30-Sep-23			In progress	In progress	Early drafting has begun on this chapter which is ahead of schedule.
29	Draft mana whenua chapter complete		30-Sep-23	30-Sep-23			In progress	In progress	ORC and Iwi are working on the integration of mana whenua values, objectives, and outcomes into the plan document and what will be contained in a mana whenua chapter at present. The mana whenua chapter will only contain what is legally required for that chapter following integration throughout the plan.
30	Draft schedules and appendices complete		30-Sep-23	30-Sep-23			In progress	In progress	A list of schedules and appendices has been compiled. The next step is to determine what changes and new schedules are required following the development of region-wide and FMU specific provisions. The internal approach to developing maps is being determined in May so that maps can then be updated or commissioned and delivered by end Sep 23.
31	Draft Taieri Chapter complete		30-Oct-23	30-Oct-23			Not due to start	Not due to start	
32	Manuherekia Rohe chapter complete	CP2	31-Oct-23	31-Oct-23			Not due to start	Not due to start	
Community consultation prior to formal Schedule 1 process									
33	3rd and final community and key stakeholder consultation planning initiated		1-Jun-23	1-Sep-23	+ 3 Months		Complete	In progress	Work underway to develop Engagement Strategy.
34	Community consultation 3 meetings complete	CP2	30-Sep-23	31-Oct-23	+ 1 Month		Not due to start	Not due to start	Dates have been revised.
35	Key stakeholder report backs on region-wide topics complete		30-Sep-23	30-Sep-23			Not due to start	Not due to start	
36	Report back to Manuherekia Rohe community on provisions and	CP2	15-Oct-23	15-Oct-23			Not due to start	Not due to start	
38	Full draft plan reviews by Planning Lead, affected ORC teams, Iwi, Legal complete		30-Nov-23	30-Nov-23			Not due to start	Not due to start	
39	Draft Proposed Land and Water Regional Plan and draft Section 32 report complete. These are required in order for Clause 3 & 4A pre-notification and notification	CP3	30-Nov-23	30-Nov-23			In progress	In progress	Plan authors are collating supporting evidence as they develop plan chapters throughout. The Section 32 Report involves a significant amount of work which is being worked on iteratively as the plan is developed. The project is monitoring any additional resources required here.
40	Draft Land and Water Regional Plan complete and ready for pre-notification consultation	CP3	30-Nov-23	30-Nov-23			Not due to start	Not due to start	
Pre-notification consultation and public notification									
41	Draft Proposed Land and Water Regional Plan pre-notification consultation with Iwi and statutory parties (under RMA Sch 1,	CP4	28-Feb-24	28-Feb-24			Not due to start	Not due to start	
42	Draft Proposed Land and Water Regional Plan pre-notification consultation with Iwi and statutory parties (under RMA Sch 1,	CP4	30-Apr-24	30-Apr-24			Not due to start	Not due to start	
43	Updates to Draft Proposed Land and Water Regional Plan complete		31-May-24	31-May-24			Not due to start	Not due to start	
44	Section 32 report complete		31-May-24	31-May-24			Not due to start	Not due to start	
45	Otago Regional Council resolution to notify Proposed Land and Water Regional Plan for Otago	CP4	14-Jun-24	14-Jun-24			Not due to start	Not due to start	
46	Proposed Land and Water Regional Plan for Otago publicly notified	CP4	28-Jun-24	28-Jun-24			Not due to start	Not due to start	

ORC report on Long Term Plan project progress against critical milestones and tasks

Project Name	Project Lead	Current Reporting Period	Previous Reporting Period
Long Term Plan	Mike Roesler	8 July – 2 August	21 June – 8 July
Progress summary and focus for next reporting period		Areas for discussion and decision	
<p>Achievements this reporting period</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Format for 8 August workshops confirmed, and slides drafted • 2 and 8 August Workshop approach communicated to managers • Staff work on Strategic Directions work complete, council confirmation/sign out for 2 August • Papers prepared for LTP governance group meeting on 2 August • Engagement Approach paper for Regional Leadership Committee in sign out process • Regular fortnightly email to managers sent; responded to requests for meetings • ELT initial moderation session on Focus Area work programme possibilities confirmed for 4 September • Growth models, uncertainties and assumptions document underway (informed by council feedback) • IS team provided key dates and milestones for LTP process; detailed planning underway • Finance team detailed planning also underway 		<p>Areas for discussion: Current project focus has been on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aligning language between Strategic Directions and LTP areas • Detailed planning for Infrastructure Strategy and planning for financial processes • Handover from Strategic Directions to LTP • Manager communications • Positioning managers to carry out financial assessments <p><u>Infrastructure Strategy and Financial Planning:</u> Detailed planning for the Infrastructure Strategy is underway and is aligned with the LTP project and milestones. Planning for financial milestones is also underway.</p>	
<p>Next reporting period (August)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First LTP governance sub-committee meeting (2 August) • Workshop with Council and Mana Whenua to finalise Focus Areas (2 August) • Workshop with Council on Future work programme possibilities (8 August) • Staff to start work on Implications of Future work programme possibilities (for 13 September) • Engagement Approach paper to Regional Leadership Committee (10 August) • Staff input, information and analysis into Growth models, uncertainties and assumptions paper • Detailed planning for financial processes relating to LTP 		<p><u>Approach to Growth Models, Uncertainties and Financial Assumptions paper.</u> <i>Evolution, not revolution.</i> The approach to this paper is to use existing part of the LTP plan as a basis/template > add in councillor and mana whenua input from workshops we have had > add in economic input > then treat as a “live document” and refine over next few months before integrating into LTP.</p>	
<p>On the horizon (September)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELT half day session to discuss work programme possibilities • Drafting of Communications Plan for LTP • Staff to update Growth Models, uncertainties and assumptions document after feedback from LTP sub-committee and council workshops • Workshop with council on implications of future work programme possibilities (13 September) • Communications and marketing plan presented to Council (20 September) • Prepare for engagement with strategic stakeholders 		<p>Areas for discussion or decision for the governance group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note areas of project focus • Agree the role of the LTP Governance group meeting; • Discuss approach to 8 August workshop as a sub-committee (agenda item 5) • Discuss Council areas of interest or direction for the project (agenda item 6) • Discuss any risks and issues for the project (agenda item 7) • Discuss how we can best support Council over the coming months (agenda item 8) 	
Risks and Issues			
RISKS		MITIGATIONS	
Project management and governance needs to be tightly managed to avoid quality and time issues.		Project manager has been appointed, governance group set up and regular governance cycle has started. Review in 3 months. Continuing to identify linkages and cross overs and scoping these into our detailed scheduling as appropriate.	
Alignment between LTP and strategic directions. The risk is that strategic direction is not appropriately reflected in LTP decision-making.		Project set up to cover all aspects of this and LTP is being managed within the context of this project to make sure all parts of organisation have visibility. Council to provide early feedback on 'Strategic Directions' and that staff reflect SD where possible and appropriate in planning future delivery. Working together on Engagement Approach paper.	

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Key		
STATUS	HEALTH	Colour
1. Not due to start	Work not yet due to start	
2. Start delayed	Issues are being managed within the team and not expected to impact final deadline	
3. On hold	Issues impacting project and overall timeline and need escalation and action	
4. In progress	Meets or exceeds project expectations	
5. Complete	Milestone / task finished	

Milestone	Start date	End date	Health and Status	Commentary
COUNCILLOR WORKSHOPS AND DECISION MAKING				
Council and Mana Whenua workshop. <i>Confirming our Strategic Directions</i>	03/07/2023	02/08/2023	In progress	Further session with council at 1-4pm to finalise Focus Areas (context and outcomes). Slides drafted for input from project sponsor.
Council and Mana Whenua workshop. <i>Future work programme possibilities</i>	03/07/2023	08/08/2023	In progress	Session for council and mana whenua to have conversations with staff on Focus Areas to outline areas they want managers to think about in advance of September 13 session.
Regional Leadership Committee Paper. <i>Engagement Approach to LTP</i>	03/07/2023	10/08/2023	In progress	Overview of initial thinking on approach to engaging with strategic stakeholders and the community for Regional Leadership Committee. Amanda and Mike to present, Jo in session also.
Council and Mana Whenua workshop. <i>Implications of future work programme possibilities</i>	07/08/2023	13/09/2023	Not due to start	Key dependency on focus areas being confirmed at 2 August meeting.
Council meeting. <i>Draft Communications plan for LTP (paper)</i>	03/08/2023	20/09/2023	Not due to start	Agreed last reporting period to move this to September so the Engagement Approach can be agreed first by Regional Leadership Committee.
Council update on LTP detailed planning, budgeting and other supporting information	16/10/2023	09/11/2023	Not due to start	Update item only.
Draft Infrastructure Strategy submitted to Safety & Resilience Committee for approval	24/10/2023	09/11/2023	Not due to start	See comments above and detailed project schedule. This work has commenced. Alignment between this area and LTP process is an area of focus for the project.
Council endorsement for key LTP content and Supporting Information for consultation	06/10/2023	07/12/2023	Not due to start	Confirmed that this scope covers supporting information for consultation.
Council approval for full Consultation Document and draft supporting Information	15/01/2024	01/02/2024	Not due to start	Placeholder end date, waiting on council meeting dates for 2024.
FINANCIAL AND RATES				
Council presentation - Financial/funding: Rating specifics	17/07/2023	02/08/2023	In progress	Planning and process underway
Council Presentation – Framework, assessment of funding needs and analysis [Morrison & Low]	7/07/2023	24/08/2023	In progress	Planning and process underway
Council presentation - Financial/funding: report back rating models and options [Morrison & Low]	04/09/2023	21/09/2023	Not due to start	Not due yet
Draft Financial Strategy and Revenue & Financing Policy submitted to council for approval	02/10/2023	25/10/2023	Not due to start	Not due yet
ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS				
Engagement approach for LTP consultation drafted	03/07/2023	10/08/2023	In progress	Scoping conversations held with Andrea and Mike. Initial thinking documented. LTP content drafted into paper, next step is to confirm strategic stakeholders with ELT.
Communications plan presented to council	03/08/2023	20/09/2023	Not due to start	As above, date change to allow time to incorporate council feedback and to get direction from governance and ELT.
Engagement with strategic stakeholders on Focus Areas	04/09/2023	21/09/2023	In progress	Will inform part of engagement approach. Approach still being decided so this milestone may change. Looking to align IS consultation.

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Approach to communicating key topics to the community (for Special Consultative Procedure) agreed internally	04/09/2023	21/09/2023	Not due to start	Note this is a separate communications plan. Some detailed planning has occurred for this and is in the LTP detailed schedule/Gantt chart. Existing policies must be taken into account and given effect to.
PROJECT MANAGEMENT				
Clarity on process for Growth models, uncertainties, and assumptions document	04/07/2023	28/07/2023	In progress	Pending agreement from project sponsor, process will be communicated to the project team and relevant contributors. Ownership assigned to LTP team.
First LTP governance sub-committee meeting	18/07/2023	02/08/2023	In progress	Preparing agenda, draft Terms of Reference, Lessons learned paper. Will circulate draft of Engagement Approach paper for comment/direction also.
ELT moderation and decisions on crosscutting programmes and areas	21/06/2023	04/09/2023	In progress	Session is confirmed, need to make sure this is booked in ELT diaries. Will request help from Amanda and Andrea in developing the agenda. Facilitator to be confirmed.

Completed Milestones	Start date	End date	Health and Status	Commentary
Council presentation - Financial/funding: Introduction	11/05/2023	11/05/2023	Complete	Completed on 11/05/2023.
Council Briefing held: Current State presentation	14/06/2023	15/06/2023	Complete	Completed on 15/06/2023.
Council presentation - Financial/funding: Financial strategy	14/06/2023	29/06/2023	Complete	Completed on 29/06/2023.
Current State updated following council feedback	16/06/2023	07/07/2023	Delayed	Timeframe was overly optimistic. Information requests sent out to managers. Project manager has followed up. Project sponsor will follow up if not received by 29/07/23.
Lessons from OAG report documented and discussed with workstream lead and project sponsor	21/06/2023	20/07/2023	Delayed	Use OAG report to support approach and update project plan as required. Has been discussed with project team, and was delayed so project actions to be considered by LTP governance sub-committee before finalising.
Detailed planning of Infrastructure Strategy milestones and set up of regular meeting	17/07/2023	25/07/2023	Complete	Some possible linkages and dependencies identified, especially with consultation. Detailed planning has been added to our schedule and a regular meeting has been set up to stay connected.

Manager input schedule	Manager commitment	time	Comment
CURRENT			
Focus on communicating Strategic Directions to managers and providing dates and details for upcoming peaks in work or milestones	Light (0-2 hours/week)		Current focus is making sure managers are across the Strategic Directions work to date and have the context they need for upcoming discussions with council and mana whenua.
UPCOMING			
Preparation of material for 13 September session with council and participation at 13 September session as required	Medium (2-5 hours/week)		Workload will increase from 8 August to 13 September as managers work through the implications of possible changes raised by council and mana whenua on 8 August.

LTP Project Workstreams GANTT Chart overview						
LTP WORKSTREAMS	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23
Long Term Plan	Delivery of a draft LTP					
Engagement and Communications		Comms Plan		Marketing and comms		LTP draft content approved
Partnering with Mana Whenua	Plan for working with MW				Implementation of plan	

Local Government Reforms Overview

August 2023

Resource Management Reform Programme

The Natural and Built Environment Bill and Spatial Planning Bill continue to progress through the House, and passed their third reading on 16 August. Both are expected to receive Royal Assent very shortly.

MfE has estimated that moving to the new system will take up to ten years. Until a region has both a Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) and Natural and Built Environment (NBE) Plan in place, much of the RMA will continue to apply. 'Day 1' fact sheets will outline what *does* change when the new legislation comes into force, with 'Month 1' guidance to follow, which looks further ahead.

The National Planning Framework (NPF) is being developed alongside the new legislation and an initial draft has been circulated to council staff who have signed a non-disclosure agreement. MfE has indicated that the NPF pre-notification phase will continue for some time yet. Once notified, the NPF will be examined via a Board of Enquiry process.

The Climate Change Adaptation Bill is on a slower track and is now expected in 2024. On 15 August, MfE released an issues and options paper, [Community-led retreat and adaptation funding: Issues and options](#), ahead of a proposed select committee inquiry to inform the legislation.

Regional sector

Te Uru Kahika (TUK) has appointed a dedicated Resource Management reform director and various working/reference groups to support regional councils to participate in the reform process. This includes plans to interpret the above-mentioned MfE guidance material for a regional sector audience.

Otago collaboration

Otago Councils have initiated a project to explore how Otago can prepare for the new system as a region. ORC staff are part of a group scoping this work. An update is due in early September.

Water Services Reform Programme

On 13 April the Government announced changes to the Water Services Reform Programme (formerly the Three Waters Reform Programme). Key changes include increasing the number of new water services entities from four to ten, and delaying entities' start dates to between 1 July 2024 and 1 July 2026. The Water Services Entities Amendment Bill to progress these changes passed its third reading on 16 August.

ORC remains in contact with the Department of Internal Affairs and its National Transition Unit (NTU) as this work progresses. Otago is leading DIA's Regional Council Technical Working Group for Stormwater and is a member of NTU's Regulatory Consent and Compliance Working Group.

ORC compliance is actively engaged with district/city council three waters management teams, including facilitating connection between district and city councils; and holds regular meetings

with Environment Southland to support a consistent approach to the delivery of C7 compliance Monitoring and Enforcement activities.

Regional sector

A regional sector water reform work programme involving regional councils in the Ngai Tahu Takiwā (formerly Entity D) has slowed since the April policy announcements. The group remains committed to collaborating for efficiency and to ensure alignment across future Entities I and J.

Otago/Southland collaboration

Otago and Southland local authorities have been working together for some time to interface with the NTU and progress an internal work programme. This work is TA-focused, with a watching brief for ORC.

Review into the Future for Local Government

The Future for Local Government review panel released its final report, [*He piki tūranqa, hi piki kōtuku*](#) on Wednesday 21 June.

By design, the review has concluded immediately prior to a general election; it will be up to the incoming government to respond to its findings on behalf of central government.

The review makes repeated calls for the local government sector, through LGNZ and Taituarā in conjunction with DIA, to lead and champion the change. At its AGM on 26 July, LGNZ voted to develop “a consensus position or consensus positions” on the Future for Local Government report by October.

LGNZ has created an advisory panel to help guide this process, which includes Mayor Tim Cadogan (CODC) and CE Alex Parmley (WDC) from Otago councils.

Updated: 16 August 2023

Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense For the Financial Year Ending 30 June 2024

	Notes	YTD Actual Aug-2023 2 months	YTD Budget Aug-2023 2 months	Variance 2 months	Forecast Full Year 23/24 12 months	Budget Full Year AP 23/24 12 months	Variance 12 months
REVENUE							
Rates revenue		-	-	-	55,778	55,778	-
Subsidies and grant revenue		-	-	-	20,497	20,497	-
Other income		-	-	-	19,519	19,519	-
Dividends		-	-	-	15,000	15,000	-
Interest and investment income	1	-	-	-	10,250	10,250	-
TOTAL REVENUE		-	-	-	121,043	121,043	-
EXPENDITURE							
Employee benefits expense		-	-	-	(35,823)	(35,823)	-
Depreciation and amortisation		-	-	-	(4,211)	(4,211)	-
Finance costs	1	-	-	-	(9,500)	(9,500)	-
Other expenses		-	-	-	(71,789)	(71,789)	-
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE		-	-	-	(121,323)	(121,323)	-
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		-	-	-	(281)	(281)	-
Other gains/(losses)	2	-	-	-	1,265	1,265	-
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) BEFORE TAX		-	-	-	984	984	-
Income tax benefit/(expense)		-	-	-	-	-	-
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		-	-	-	984	984	-
Revaluation gain/(loss) – shares in subsidiary	3	-	-	-	28,193	28,193	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSE		-	-	-	29,177	29,177	-

Notes

1. Interest income and expense includes interest on LGFA lending on-lent to Port Otago Limited.
2. Includes gains on long term managed fund and revaluation of investment property.
3. Revaluation shareholding in Port Otago Limited.

Statement of Financial Position

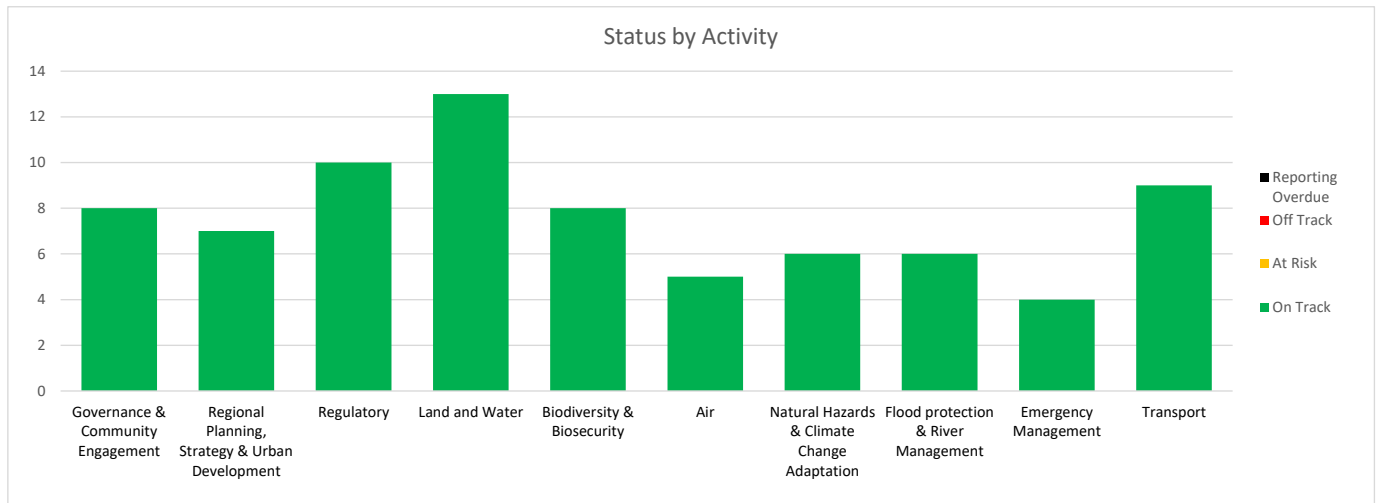
For the Financial Year Ending 30 June 2024

	Notes	YTD Actual Aug-2023 2 months	Prior Year Actual Jun-2023*	Variance 2 months	Budget Full Year Jun-2024
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents		-	14,830	-	6,040
Trade receivables		-	14,802	-	12,126
Other financial assets		-	25,262	-	25,426
Assets held for sale		-	3,350	-	-
Other current assets		-	1,435	-	883
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		-	59,678	-	44,476
NON-CURRENT ASSETS					
Property, plant and equipment		-	93,994	-	110,287
Investment property		-	16,799	-	17,131
Shares in subsidiary		-	700,290	-	753,013
Deferred tax asset		-	-	-	98
Related party loan – Port Otago		-	125,960	-	99,960
Intangible asset		-	820	-	1,881
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		-	936,991	-	982,371
TOTAL ASSETS		-	966,669	-	1,026,847
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Trade and other payables		-	19,203	-	18,996
Borrowings		-	60,966	-	-
Provision		-	-	-	-
Employee entitlement		-	2,716	-	2,608
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		-	82,886	-	21,604
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Borrowings		-	-	-	37,200
Other financial instruments		-	88,850	-	87,956
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		-	88,850	-	125,156
TOTAL LIABILITIES		-	-	-	146,760
NET ASSETS		-	824,933	-	880,087
EQUITY					
Reserves		-	725,116	-	771,429
Public Equity		-	99,817	-	108,658
TOTAL EQUITY AND RESERVES		-	824,933	-	880,087

Notes

* Draft / unaudited – does not include adjustment for the change in the valuation of investment property or Port Otago Limited.

JULY PERFORMANCE REPORTING



Service Measure and Target			
REGIONAL LEADERSHIP			
Governance & Community Engagement	NOW	COMMENT	
Percentage of official information requests responded to within statutory timeframes - Target: 100%			
Deliver our statutory requirements with acceptable process and deliverables to decision-makers and the community - Target: Unmodified audit reports received			
Percentage of council agendas are publicly available two working days or more before a meeting - Target: 100%			
Work done in partnership with iwi - Target: Maintain or increase the number of outputs and/or projects (from 2021-22 baseline result: 19)			
Build the bicultural competency of ORC staff and councillors - Target: ≥50 participants in programme			
Annual survey is conducted to understand and improve community awareness, perceptions and expectations of ORC - Target: Improved satisfaction levels with how ORC services the region			
Customers express high levels of satisfaction with customer service provision - Target: Conduct benchmarking of customer satisfaction			
Develop a Regional Climate Strategy - Target: Strategy finalised and reported to Council by 30 June		New measure	
Regional Planning, Strategy & Urban Development		NOW	COMMENT
Develop an integrated planning framework that enables well managed urban growth across Otago - Target: Joint ORC and DCC/QLDC HBA updated and joint FDS completed by 30 June			
Complete review of existing Regional Policy Statement (RPS) - Target: Make RPS operative			
Catchment Action Plans (CAP) are developed in collaboration with iwi and community. Target: Drafting of pilot CAP completed and drafting of second CAP commenced by 30 June			
Report on community wellbeing indicators - Target: Complete baseline report on wellbeing indicators and issues			
Information on climate change in Otago is shared with the community and stakeholders. Target: Coordinate the development and delivery of a regional sequestration study by December 2023			
Report on regional stakeholder engagement and collaboration on climate change. Target: Complete an annual report on regional climate change collaboration and report to Council			
Develop an integrated planning framework that enables well managed urban growth across Otago - Target: Mapping of highly productive land completed by 30 June	New measure		
Regulatory	NOW	COMMENT	
Maintain 24-hour/7 day a week response for environmental incidents - Target: Pollution hotline staff available/on call 24/7			
Maintain 20 appropriately trained responders for maritime oil pollution incidents - Target: 20 responders attend 3 exercises per year			
Percentage of resource consent applications processed in accordance with Resource Management Act 1991 legislative timeframes - Target: ≥98%			
Percentage of performance monitoring returns completed each year, as per the Compliance Audit and Performance Monitoring Schedule targets - Target: ≥90%			
Percentage of significant non-compliance identified where action is taken in accordance with Compliance Policy - Target: 100%			
Major incidents on Otago's Harbours and waterways will be responded to. Target: Major incidents and ORC's response are reported to Council quarterly			
Percentage of programmed inspections/audits completed each year, as per the Compliance Audit and Performance Monitoring Schedule targets - Target: ≥90%			
Maintain compliance with Port and Harbour Marine Safety Code - Target: External review is completed and deemed to be code consistent.			
On-water engagement, education of recreational users and safety campaigns are documented and reported annually - Target: Report to council by 30 June			
Percentage of public enquiries for consent information completed within 7 working days - Target: Maintain or increase (from 2021-22 baseline of 99%)			

ENVIRONMENT		
Land and Water	NOW	COMMENT
Complete the Land and Water Regional Plan(LWRP) - Target: Notify LWRP by 30 June 2024		
Otago Catchment Communities is supported to meet deliverables and targets of funding agreement - Target: Report to Council on deliverables and targets achieved by 30 June		
Implement freshwater monitoring programme - Target: Annual report on monitoring programme completed and reported to Council		
Implement a regional coastal monitoring programme. Target: Annual report on monitoring programme completed and reported to Council		
Percentage of data from the water monitoring network that is captured quarterly - Target: ≥95% data capture achieved		
Develop and implement a regional land use monitoring programme. Target: Annual report on monitoring programme completed and reported to Council		
Otago Catchment Communities funding is administered as per agreement. Target: 100%		
Land owner/community led projects promoting best practice land management for soil conservation, water quality and the efficient use of water are identified and supported - Target: Three or more projects supported per year		
Identify: At least three site specific management plans for selected degraded waterbodies are developed, prioritised, and implemented - Target: Projects confirmed and actions identified by 30 September		
Undertake: At least three site specific management plans for selected degraded waterbodies are developed, prioritised, and implemented - Target: 90% of actions undertaken within specified timeframes		
Percentage of data from the land-use monitoring network that is captured quarterly. Target: 95% data capture achieved		
Implement estuarine monitoring programme - Target: Annual report on monitoring programme completed and reported to Council		New measure
Complete a review of the Regional Plan Coast - Target: Issues and options papers developed and reported to Council by 30 June		New measure
Biodiversity & Biosecurity	NOW	COMMENT
Actions listed in the Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) are prioritised and progressed - Target: 90% of current year actions achieved within timeframes specified		
Actions within the Biosecurity Operational Plan (BOP) are identified and progressed - Target: 90% of actions achieved within timeframes specified.		
(Funding of selected initiatives- includes EcoFund) Percentage of funding administered as per agreements - Target: 100%		
Complete a report on the initiatives and organisations supported and the key deliverables achieved (Funding of selected initiatives- includes EcoFund) - Target: Report to Council by 30 June.		
Engagement Activities: Biodiversity partnerships established and joint projects developed and progressed - Target: Maintain or increase number of partnership engagement activities and events and report to Council.		
Projects: Biodiversity partnerships established and joint projects developed and progressed - Target: Projects and progress against milestones reported to Council		
Develop and implement a regional indigenous biodiversity ecosystems monitoring programme. Target: Annual report on monitoring programme completed and reported to Council		
Percentage of data from the biodiversity monitoring network that is captured quarterly - Target: ≥95% data capture achieved		New measure
Air	NOW	COMMENT
Implement a regional air monitoring programme - Target: Annual report on monitoring programme completed and reported to Council		
Percentage of data from the air monitoring network that is captured quarterly - Target: ≥95% data capture achieved		
Complete review of the Regional Plan Air - Target: Issues and options papers developed by 31 December 2023		
Complete review of the Regional Plan Air - Target: Community engagement for development of Regional Plan Air completed by 30 June		New measure
Air implementation strategy is scoped - Target: Reported to Council by 30 June		New measure
TRANSPORT		
Transport	NOW	COMMENT
Percentage of scheduled services on-time (punctuality) - Target: 95%		
Overall passenger satisfaction with Dunedin Public Transport system at annual survey - Target 97%		
The Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) is prepared and submitted in line with the Land Transport Management Act 2003 and any guidance issued by the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) - Target: RLTP review completed and adopted by Council by 30 June Transport Committee.		
Annual public transport boardings in Queenstown per capita - Target: increase		
Annual public transport boardings in Dunedin per capita - Target: increase		
Percentage of scheduled services delivered (reliability) - Target: 95%		
Overall passenger satisfaction with Wakatipu Public Transport system at annual survey - Target 97%		
Percentage of users who are satisfied with the provision of timetable and services information - Target: Maintain or increase (from 2022 baselines - DN: 70%, QWTN: 88%)		
Percentage of users who are satisfied with the overall service of the Total Mobility scheme- Target: maintain or increase (from 2022 baseline:87%)		

SAFETY AND RESILIENCE		
Natural Hazards & Climate Change Adaptation	NOW	COMMENT
Relevant and up to date natural hazards information is available via the web-based Otago Natural Hazards Database - Target: Database information is checked and updated monthly		
Percentage of flood warnings that are issued in accordance with the flood warning manual - Target: 100%		
Develop a regional natural hazards risk assessment and a regional approach for prioritising adaptation - Target: Complete natural hazard risk assessment and prioritization approach.		
Priority Works: Develop and implement prioritised natural hazard risks adaptation works - Target: Work in priority areas is delivered as per plan by 30 June		
Lake Wakatipu: Develop and implement prioritised natural hazard risks adaptation works - Target: The Head of Lake Wakatipu natural hazards adaptation strategy progresses as per annual work plan		
South Dunedin and Harbourside: Develop and implement prioritised natural hazard risks adaptation works - Target: ORC contribution to the South Dunedin Future programme progresses as per annual work plan.		
Flood protection & River Management	NOW	COMMENT
Scheme Performance: Major flood protection and control works are maintained, repaired, and renewed to the key standards defined in relevant planning documents - Target: Schemes function to their constructed design standards		
Scheme renewals programme: Major flood protection and control works are maintained, repaired, and renewed to the key standards defined in relevant planning documents - Target: ≥90% of renewals programme completed		
Scheme maintenance programme: Major flood protection and control works are maintained, repaired, and renewed to the key standards defined in relevant planning documents - Target: ≥90% of planned maintenance programme completed		
Rivers: Percentage of identified and reported issues that have been investigated and appropriate action determined and communicated to affected landholders within 20 working days - Target: 100%		
Rivers: Percentage of planned maintenance actions achieved each year - Target: ≥90%		
Flood repair programme: Damage identified, prioritised and a repair programme communicated with affected communities in a timely manner - Target: Programme developed and communicated within 3 months of the event.		
Emergency Management	NOW	COMMENT
Staffing: An adequate Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) facility and staffing are available - Target: Adequate staff who are trained and available for any activation of the ECC.		
Facility: An adequate Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) facility and staffing are available - Target: An appropriate facility is available for activation at all times.		
Support is provided to the Otago CDEM Group as per the CDEM Act and Otago CDEM Partnership Agreement - Target: Fulfil all requirements as the administering authority.		
Maintain response functionality to enable operational situational awareness when ECC activated - Target: Response solutions are checked as scheduled and any issues remedied.		

On Track	At Risk	Off Track	Not Measured	Reporting Overdue
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9.1. Electoral System for 2025 and 2028 Local Body Elections

Prepared for:	Council
Report No.	GOV2324
Activity:	Community - Governance and Democracy
Author:	Amanda Vercoe, General Manager Governance, Culture and Customer
Endorsed by:	Richard Saunders, Chief Executive
Date:	23 August 2023

PURPOSE

- [1] To consider electoral systems for the 2025 (and possibly 2028) local body elections.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [2] Under the Local Electoral Act 2001, a decision is required by 12 September 2023 should the Council wish to change its voting system for the 2025 and 2028 local body elections.
- [3] The Council currently uses First Past the Post (FPP); the alternative is Single Transferable Vote (STV).
- [4] The Council does not have to make a decision, however, as the current system will continue to apply unless changed as a result of a poll of electors or a further resolution¹.
- [5] Regardless, the Council must give public notice by 19 September 2023 of the right to demand a poll on the electoral system used at triennial elections. The notice must include any resolution of the Council on the system to be used.
- [6] The Council can also decide by 21 February 2024 to hold a poll on the voting system.
- [7] Following consideration of the issue at the 28 June 2023 Council Meeting, an informal briefing on electoral systems was held by Electionz.com on 13 July 2023. Consultation has also been undertaken with Otago Territorial Authorities.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Agrees to:**
 - a. Retain FPP for the 2025 election; or
 - b. Change electoral system to Single Transferable Vote for the 2025 and 2028 local body elections; or

¹ section 27(2)(b)(i) of the Local Electoral Act 2001

- c. *Not make a decision, in which case the current system of First Past the Post would continue to apply; or*
 - d. *Signal an intention to hold a poll alongside the 2025 local body elections.*
- 3) **Notes** *a public notice will be made prior to 19 September 2023 advising of the right of electors to demand a poll on the electoral system for the 2025 and 2028 elections.*
- 4) **Notes** *that should a decision be made to change electoral systems to Single Transferable Vote, options for a public education campaign will be brought back to Council for consideration as part of Long-term Plan considerations.*

BACKGROUND

- [8] The Local Electoral Act 2001 is the legislation under which local elections and polls are held. This legislation sets out the voting systems that may be used, and the processes under which a local authority may change its systems.
- [9] The Otago Regional Council considered the issue of voting systems in 2020. At that time the Council resolved to retain FPP for the 2022 election, but hold a public poll alongside the 2022 election for the public to decide which electoral system would be used for the following two elections. Council revoked its decision to hold a poll on 23 May 2022 due to considerations on electoral systems by the Future for Local Government Review Panel.
- [10] Council considered the issue on 28 June 2023. Council resolved to hold a workshop on electoral systems and undertake consultation with Otago territorial authorities. Both of these actions have been undertaken.

DISCUSSION

- [11] Section 27 of the Local Electoral Act 2001 requires local authorities to make a decision no later than 12 September 2023 if they wish to change the electoral system for the 2025 and 2028 triennial elections. Council does not have to make a decision, however, and where no decision is made, the current system will continue to apply (unless changed as a result of a poll of electors or by a further resolution²). Council can also resolve by 21 February 2024 to hold a poll on the issue.
- [12] Regardless of any decision by Council on the system to be used, the Council must give public notice by 19 September 2023 of the decision made (if any) and the right of electors to demand a poll on the electoral system to be used at the next two triennial general elections of that Council, ie 2025 and 2028.

Electoral Systems

- [13] Two electoral systems are available for use in the local government elections, First Past the Post and Single Transferable Vote. An explanation of each system is provided below.

[14] **First Past the Post (FPP)**

For local electoral purposes, the First Past the Post electoral system:

- (a) In the case of an election, has the following features:
- i) Voters may cast as many votes as there are positions to be filled
 - (ii) Where a single position is to be filled, the candidate who receives the highest number of votes is elected
 - (iii) Where more than 1 position is to be filled, the candidates equal to the number of positions who receive the highest number of votes are elected.

² section 27(2)(b)(i) of the Local Electoral Act 2001

- (b) In the case of a poll, has the features specified in paragraph (a) as if, with all necessary modifications, every reference to a candidate were a reference to the matter or matters that are the subject of the poll.

[15] **Single Transferable Vote (STV)**

For local electoral purposes, the Single Transferable Voting electoral system:

- (a) In the case of an election for multi-member vacancies, has the following features:
 - (i) Voters express a first preference for 1 candidate and may express second and further preferences for other candidates
 - (ii) A quota for election is calculated from the number of votes and positions to be filled
 - (iii) The first preferences are counted and any candidate whose first preference votes equal or exceed the quota is elected.
 - (iv) If insufficient candidates are elected under subparagraph (iii), the proportion of an elected candidate's votes above the quota is redistributed according to voters' further preferences, and:
 - (A) candidates who then reach the quota are elected; and
 - (B) the candidate with the fewest votes is excluded.
 - (v) The excluded candidate's votes are redistributed according to voters' further preferences
 - (vi) If insufficient candidates are elected under subparagraphs (iv) and (v), the steps described in subparagraphs (iv) and (v) are repeated until all positions are filled.
- (b) In the case of an election for a mayoral or single member vacancy, has the following features:
 - (i) Voters express a first preference for 1 candidate and may express second and further preferences for other candidates
 - (ii) An absolute majority of votes for election is calculated from the number of votes and positions to be filled
 - (iii) The first preferences are counted and, if a candidate's first preference votes equal or exceed the absolute majority of votes, that candidate is elected
 - (iv) If no candidate is elected under subparagraph (iii), the candidate with the fewest votes is excluded and that candidate's votes are redistributed according to voters' further preferences
 - (v) If no candidate is elected under subparagraph (iv), the steps described in subparagraph (iv) are repeated until a candidate is elected.
- (c) In the case of a poll, has the features specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) as if, with all necessary modifications, every reference to a candidate were a reference to the matter or matters that are the subject of the poll.
- (d) The vote processing costs of STV are more expensive, as due to capturing all the different preferences there is more data to collect. A rough estimate for the ORC is that STV would cost around \$25,000 more than FPP.

[16] For information, a comparison of systems used by Otago authorities is shown in the table below.

Otago Councils	System used	Likely outcome post 2023 considerations (still
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		underway)
Central Otago District	FPP	No change
Clutha District	FPP	No change
Dunedin City Council	STV	No change
Queenstown Lakes District	FPP	No change
Waitaki District	FPP	No change

Changing the Voting System

[17] There are three ways in which the electoral system used by a local authority may change, and these are as follows.

By a Resolution of Council:

[18] Section 27 of the Local Electoral Act 2001 provides that a council **may** resolve to change its system, with the resolution having to be made by 12 September 2023. If council does resolve to change the system from FPP to STV, then that system would be in place for two elections, ie 2025 and 2028.

Elector Demand for Poll:

[19] Section 28 of the Act provides that a council **must** give public notice no later than 19 September 2023 of the right of electors to demand a poll on the electoral system to be used, whether or not a resolution under Section 27 has been passed.

[20] If a resolution has been passed to change the voting system, the public notice must include notice of the resolution, the electoral system to be used and that a valid demand for a poll would be required to countermand the resolution made by Council

[21] To be successful, a demand for a poll must be signed by at least 5 percent of the electors enrolled to vote at the previous triennial election (5 percent of 169,226 electors for ORC in 2022 is **8,461**). If a valid demand is received prior to 21 February 2024 the poll must be held by 21 May 2024 and the results of the poll will be valid for the next two elections, being 2025 and 2028.

[22] If a valid demand is received after 21 February 2024 the poll must be held after 21 May 2024. The results of the poll would then be effective for the 2028 election.

Poll Held on Initiative of Council:

[23] Council may resolve that a poll be held on a proposal that a specified electoral system be used for its next two triennial elections. Such a resolution must be made no later than 21 February 2024 and the poll must be held by 21 May 2024. The costs associated with holding a poll would be unbudgeted expenditure.

Summary of timeframes

Date	Acting
12 September 2023 (or earlier)	Local authority may make a resolution on electoral system (S27)
19 September 2023 (or earlier)	Local authority must make a public notice on electoral system (S28)
21 February 2024	Last date to receive valid demand for poll on electoral systems for the

	2025 elections (S30)
21 February 2024	Last date by which local authority may resolve to hold a poll (S31)
21 May 2024	Last date to conduct poll on electoral system for the 2025 elections (S33)

OPTIONS

- [24] **Option 1** Council could resolve to either retain FPP or change to STV by 12 September 2023. A public notice by 19 September 2023 advising of the decision and the right of electors to hold a poll will still be necessary.
- [25] **Option 2** Council could express the intention of holding a poll alongside the 2025 local body elections. A public notice by 19 September 2023 advising the right of electors to hold a poll will still be necessary.
- [26] **Option 3** Council could choose not to make a decision and give public notice by 19 September 2023 that electors have the right to demand a poll on the electoral system to be used for the next two elections. If no demand for a poll is received by 21 February 2024, FPP continues to be used for the 2025 election.

CONSIDERATIONS

Policy Considerations

- [27] N/A

Financial Considerations

- [28] The costs for holding a stand-alone poll are estimated to be around \$600,000. The costs of holding a poll in conjunction with the next local body elections are estimated to be around \$120,000. These costs have not been budgeted for in the 2023/24 Annual Plan.
- [29] Should Council choose to change to STV voting, provision would be made in the 2025 elections budget for the additional costs associated with STV (estimated \$25,000, due to the data processing being more expensive). Options would also be brought to Council for consideration for public education campaigns for ORC voters, so that they are aware of the shift and how STV works (particularly for voters in the districts that use FPP, where voted will use different systems on the voting forms).

Significance and Engagement

- [30] Advice suggests that this decision does not meet the significance and engagement policy requiring consultation with the public. Public participation is enabled through the poll provisions within the Local Electoral Act.
- [31] Should Council decide to hold a poll or to change the electoral system to STV, however, Council would need to consider public education activities to ensure the options and outcomes were well understood by the public and also understood by voters in districts that may use the opposite electoral system.

Legislative Considerations

[32] The Local Electoral Act sets out the legislative requirements for the options available to Council.

Risk Considerations

[33] This decision is one for council to make under the Local Electoral Act, and there is limited risk to it.

NEXT STEPS

[34] To be determined.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

9.2. Climate Change Strategy Scoping

Prepared for:	Council
Report No.	GOV2329
Activity:	Community: Governance & Community
Author:	Francisco Hernandez, Principal Advisor Climate Change, Jean-Luc Payan, Manager Natural Hazards, Andrea Howard, Acting Manager Strategy
Endorsed by:	Amanda Vercoe, GM Governance, Culture, Customer
Date:	23 August 2023

PURPOSE

- [1] This report provides a high-level overview of the process and outputs for the development of the Regional Climate Strategy (referred to as ‘the Strategy’ in this report.)
- [2] The development of a Regional Climate Strategy is a level of service measure for the 2023-2024 annual plan with the key output being the finalisation and reporting of a “Regional Climate Strategy” to Council by 30 June 2024.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [3] The Regional Climate Strategy will cover both climate change mitigation and adaptation and will be developed in partnership with mana whenua and in collaboration with other councils within Otago, alongside the wider community.
- [4] This report outlines at a high-level the proposed outputs and process for the development of the Regional Climate Strategy but is not intended to be a comprehensive account of the actual strategy.
- [5] The Council recognises existing work underway by other councils, Kāi Tahu and the wider community and will seek to ensure that the Regional Climate Strategy supports and enhances efforts rather than introducing duplication.
- [6] The next steps after approving the scope are outlined in the proposed project timeline and will include engagement with mana whenua partners and strategic stakeholders ahead of a draft strategy being presented to Council in February 2024.
- [7] If Council approves the draft, public engagement will proceed in the months following and a final draft document will be ready for consideration by Council in June 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
 - 2) **Approves** the proposed approach for the development of a Regional Climate Strategy.
 - 3) **Consider** whether to create a Working Group to provide advice during the development of the Strategy.
-

BACKGROUND

[8] At the [14 August 2019](#) meeting, the Otago Regional Council (ORC) passed a resolution that:

“the Council: agrees that Otago must continue to prepare for the certainty that climate change will present emergency situations in many areas of our region and will therefore continue to give high priority to adaptation to climate change, especially in our flood and drainage schemes and in South Dunedin, and to minimising our carbon emissions.”

[9] On [10 March 2021](#), ORC received the first Otago Climate Change Risk Assessment (OCCRA), following two years of development and collaboration across the region. The OCCRA provided a regional level overview of the risks posed by climate change out to 2090. While the OCCRA *identified* the risks, the proposed Strategy will begin *addressing* the risks identified in the study in a systematic way.

[10] [On 09 June 2021](#), ORC received the first Regional Greenhouse Gas Inventory. This inventory identified emission sources in the region across the five districts in Otago. Agriculture, followed by transport, energy, waste and Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU), were the sources of emissions in the region ranked from highest to lowest.

[11] ORC has continued to progress its climate programme. A climate change stocktake and a preliminary roadmap outlining a future programme of action (including the development of a Regional Climate Strategy) was reported to the Strategy and Planning Committee on [10 August 2022](#). There has also been further progress in facilitating regional climate collaboration, with ORC helping to establish the Otago Climate Officers' Group and progress scenario modelling for the region. Progress on this was reported to council on [28 June 2023](#).

[12] On 25 May 2023, Councillors participated in a climate change workshop, which outlined a preliminary scope to solicit early council feedback and seek direction. The direction from the meeting was the desire to proceed with a Regional Climate Strategy and to work in partnership with mana whenua and in collaboration with councils and the wider community.

[13] Since then, staff have progressed scoping of the proposed Strategy within ORC.

[14] Staff have also had preliminary conversations with external partners and stakeholders such as Aukaha, Te Ao Mārama Incorporated, local councils and Business South to raise awareness of the upcoming Strategy and understand when and how they might like to be involved.

DISCUSSION

What does climate change mean for the region?

- [15] The OCCRA¹ highlighted the urgency of taking action to reduce emissions and to begin helping communities in Otago adapt to climate change. While limiting the rate of temperature increases at a global level remains one of the best ways to decrease the risks posed by the climate crisis, some degree of warming is locked in from nearly two hundred years of industrial-scale greenhouse gas emissions.
- [16] It also showed the projected climate change impacts in the Otago region². This includes more pronounced seasonality, decreases of seasonal snow, more severe extreme rainfall events and windy days and sea level rises. These will lead to increased hazards from increased flooding and landslides, drought, coastal inundation and erosion and increases instances of wildfire.

Risks		Risk rating* (highest per category)		
		Present	2040	2090
N1	Risks to the terrestrial ecosystems from increasing temperatures, changes in rainfall and reduced snow and ice	H	E	E
N2	Risks to the freshwater (rivers and lakes) ecosystems from increasing temperatures and extreme weather events	M	H	E
N3	Risks to the coastal and marine ecosystems from climate change hazards including ocean acidification and marine heatwaves	L	H	E
N4	Risks to coastal, inland and alpine wetland ecosystems from drought, higher temperatures, changes in rainfall and reduced snow and ice	H	E	E
N5	Risks to Otago water quality and quantity from changes in rainfall, higher temperatures, flooding, drought and reduced snow and ice	M	E	E
N6	Risks to native ecosystems posed by increasing threats from invasive plants, pests and disease due to climate change	M	M	E

Figure 1: Summary of key risks to the natural environment

- [17] By 2040, three of six risk indicators for the natural environment are listed at ‘extreme’ risk – this includes risks to terrestrial ecosystems, risks to coastal, inland and alpine wetland ecosystems and extreme risks to water quality and quantity (as shown in Figure 1).

¹ <https://www.orc.govt.nz/managing-our-environment/climate-change/otago-climate-change-risk-assessment>

² Climate change projections for the Otago Region, NIWA, October 2019 - https://www.orc.govt.nz/media/7591/niwa_climatechangereport_2019_final.pdf

Risks		Risk rating* (highest per category)		
		Present	2040	2090
B1	Risk to buildings and open spaces from climate change hazards including inland and coastal flooding, coastal erosion, and sea level rise and salinity stress	H	E	E
B2	Risk to flood management schemes from inland and coastal flooding, and sea level rise and salinity stress	M	E	E
B3	Risk to water supply infrastructure and irrigation systems due to drought, fire weather, flooding and sea level rise and salinity stress	H	E	E
B4	Risk to stormwater and wastewater networks from increased temperature, sea level rise and salinity stress, extreme weather events and flooding	H	H	E
B5	Risks to linear transport (roads and rail) from flooding, coastal erosion, extreme weather events and landslides	M	E	E
B6	Risk to airports and ports from flooding and extreme weather events	M	E	E
B7	Risk to solid waste (landfills and contaminated sites) to flooding and sea level rise and salinity stress	M	E	E
B8	Risks to electricity (generation, transmission and distribution) networks from changes in rainfall, extreme weather events and flooding	M	H	E
B9	Risks to telecommunications infrastructure due to sea level rise and salinity stress and extreme weather events	L	M	H

Figure 2: Summary of key risks to the built environment

[18] Six of nine of risk indicators for the built environment are listed at ‘extreme’. This category includes buildings, flood management schemes, water infrastructure, transport and solid waste infrastructure (as shown in Figure 2).

Risks		Risk rating* (highest per category)		
		Present	2040	2090
E1	Risks to the livestock farming sector from climate change hazards including drought, increased fire weather, inland flooding, and increased landslides	M	H	E
E2	Risks to horticulture and viticulture from climate change hazards including temperature, drought, changing rainfall patterns and extreme weather	M	H	E
E3	Risks to the forestry sector from climate change hazards including temperature, drought, fire and extreme weather	L	M	E
E4	Risks to the fisheries and aquaculture sector from climate change hazards including marine water temperature and water quality	L	M	E
E5	Risks to primary sector supply chains from climate change hazards including inland flooding, coastal flooding and increased landslides	M	H	E
E6	Risks to cost of doing business from climate change hazards including coastal and inland flooding, landslides, and extreme events	M	H	E
E7	Risks to the tourism sector from climate change hazards including higher temperatures, reduced snow and ice, inland and coastal flooding, landslides and erosion	M	H	E

Figure 3: Summary of key economic risks

- [19] These risks spill over into the economic domain with five of the seven categories in the domain being rated as 'high' (as shown in Figure 3). This domain includes the farming sectors, primary sector supply chains, tourism and the cost of doing business in a world where climate hazards have become increasingly present.
- [20] Addressing the risks identified in the Otago Climate Change Risk Assessment in a coordinated and regional way will be one of the key objectives of the Strategy.

Why a strategy?

- [21] The Strategy will enable ORC to set targets, objectives, and goals to address climate change. Setting a direction and objectives will enable a more ambitious and cohesive work programme to be created, implemented, and monitored.
- [22] It will also enable ORC to bring together existing work programmes into a cohesive and visible whole and enhance collaboration opportunities within ORC and across the region. Future plans and projects will be able to refer to the Strategy and vice versa which will assist ORC in tackling climate change in a systematic way.
- [23] The timing of the Strategy has been bought forward to enable ORC to consider climate change in the development of the next long-term plan (LTP). Funding will be required in the next LTP to begin implementing the policy direction and actions set out in the climate strategy, most likely in year 2+ of the long-term plan.

- [24] There has also been strong direction from central government on climate change with the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP) released in 2022. The Strategy will enable us to collaborate locally within the region and with central government to implement the NAP and ERP at a local level.
- [25] Councils and local governments across New Zealand are also increasingly acting on climate change. Every regional council in New Zealand except one is either working on or has developed a climate change strategy or climate action plan.

Climate Cooperation Framework

- [26] Councillors were clear in the May 2023 Climate Change workshop that there should be a strong focus on enabling partnerships and collaboration across climate change mitigation and adaptation. To enable this, staff have incorporated this feedback by proposing a 'Climate Cooperation Framework' which will identify existing actions, targets and initiatives set out by partners and stakeholders and assesses how ORC can assist when appropriate. Taking this collaborative approach will mean that the Strategy will act as a 'force multiplier' for existing climate change initiatives in the region.
- [27] For example, Kāi Tahu have a [Climate Change Strategy](#) in place, Queenstown-Lakes District Council have a [Climate and Biodiversity Plan](#) and the Dunedin City Council are drafting a Zero Carbon Plan. Most councils around the region are also working on a climate strategy or are in the process of scoping one. The Climate Cooperation Framework will enable ORC to add value to existing initiatives and progress new joint initiatives across the region.
- [28] This framework delineates the four roles that the regional council can hold in tackling climate change:
- **Leading:** for actions that ORC control directly as a deliverable (public transport.)
 - **Partnering:** for actions that the council has a strong influence in due to existing partnerships (South Dunedin Future.)
 - **Supporting:** for actions that the council can support but are primarily being led by other parties (Regional Energy Transition Accelerator.)
 - **Advocating:** for actions that currently are not occurring, but that ORC can advocate for (Central government policy.)

Structure

- [29] This part of the report sets out a preliminary structure for the Regional Climate Strategy and what the different sections might cover.

Section	Headings
Introduction	i. Welcome ii. Vision, values and objectives iii. Executive summary iv. What is climate change
Context	i. What climate change means for the region ii. Emissions in Otago (Regional GHG inventory) iii. Adaptation and mitigation iv. The national context v. What other councils are doing across NZ

	vi. What are councils and collaborators doing in Otago
Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. What we’re currently doing to reduce organisational emissions ii. What we’re currently doing to reduce emissions regionally iii. Emissions targets: How much should we reduce emissions by (Organisationally and regionally – will include scenario modelling) iv. Emissions reduction plan: How we’re going to reduce emissions (Organisationally and regionally - Final strategy only)
Adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. What we’re currently doing to help communities adapt to climate change ii. Risks to the natural environment (and how we’re proposing to mitigate it) iii. Risks to the built environment iv. Risks to the human domain v. Risks to governance vi. Risks to economic activity
Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. How we’ve engaged ii. What we’ve found iii. What we want to know from you - survey (draft only)
Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. How we’ll integrate actions within the LTP ii. Table of actions iii. Review cycle

Table 1: Structure of the proposed Regional Climate Strategy

- [30] The table above shows the different sections of the Strategy and what the headings or chapters that fit under them are. Council should note that this will probably change after feedback from stakeholders and partners, but it does give an initial look at what might be covered in the Strategy.
- [31] **Introduction.** This section will introduce the reader to the Strategy and outline the vision, values and objectives of the Strategy as well as giving a high-level summary of what the Strategy says and then close with an introduction to climate change.
- [32] **Context.** The context section will present background information relevant to the climate strategy. This includes giving a summary of how climate change will impact the region using the OCCRA and other climate projections. It will also describe emission sources within the region through a summary of the regional GHG inventory and close with the relevant national and local context.
- [33] **Mitigation.** The section will start by describing existing ORC initiatives in the mitigation space with a look at how we’re working to reduce organisational and regional emissions before discussing the concept of emissions targets and budgets and what different levels of ambition look like for the region (and organisationally) and what the trade-offs and benefits of those might be. The draft report will propose an organisational and regional emissions reduction target (along with some alternative options) which will be set by Council based on existing local and national emission reduction targets and discussions with stakeholders and partners. The final Strategy in June 2024 will close with a section on the Regional Emissions Reduction Plan – which will be how ORC will collaborate across the region to reduce emissions set out in the target.

- [34] **Adaptation.** This section will describe how ORC is currently working with communities around the region to adapt to climate change and outline how we're proposing to address risks according to the five domains identified in the OCCRA.
- [35] **Engagement.** This section will cover how we've engaged and what we've found from talking with people. There will be a heading in the draft Strategy about the survey and the feedback we're looking for people.
- [36] **Implementation/Action.** The final section will outline how we're planning to implement the policy direction or actions that we've identified across the adaptation and engagement chapters. It will discuss integration with the LTP and present a table of actions and then close with a review cycle for the Strategy to emphasise that it's a living document that is responsive to changes in context and direction and not a '*set and forget*' strategy.

Proposed timeline and deliverables

- [37] Attachment 1 outlines the proposed timeline and deliverables for the Regional Climate Strategy.
- [38] The attachment goes over the proposed timeline and deliverables from an external and stakeholder perspective and does not include internal milestones and processes for drafting the strategy.
- [39] This document is indicative and there may be changes depending on Council's direction, resourcing and input from partners and stakeholders.
- [40] Staff anticipate completing a draft Strategy for Council consideration by the end of this year with councillor feedback incorporated into the version for public engagement in early 2024.
- [41] It is expected that public engagement will take place in early 2024 through a survey and targeted workshops and then staff will incorporate public feedback, along with further stakeholder input by June 2024.

Engagement

- [42] It is proposed that engagement will take place in three phases for the Strategy: pre-draft engagement, public engagement and post-draft engagement.
- [43] The pre-draft engagement will occur from when the Council approves the climate Strategy scope to completion of the draft Regional Climate Strategy. This will involve engagement with mana whenua partners and then with councils, technical experts, central government, business groups, industry groups, farmer organisations and other community groups. The purpose of the engagement would be to share the scope of the draft and seek input while drafting of the Regional Climate Strategy. It is anticipated that this will be completed by mid-November so that feedback can inform the development of a Regional Climate Strategy draft to be reported to Council by February

2024.

- [44] The community engagement phase will occur from when/if the Council approves the Regional Climate Strategy draft. It is intended to seek public feedback on the Regional Climate Strategy draft through a survey and targeted workshops around the region – hosted in conjunction with community, industry and business groups.
- [45] Staff acknowledge the need to mitigate the risk of ‘consultation fatigue’ with councils running LTP processes early next year. There is also a need to be aware of existing and planned climate work being done by other councils and to not create confusion through our engagement.
- [46] Post-public engagement will occur after the conclusion of the public engagement and staff will return to the mana whenua partners and to councils, experts, central government, business groups, industry groups, farmer organisations and other community groups ORC engaged with in the pre-draft engagement. Staff will finalise the Strategy based on the public feedback and input and seek final approval from Council in June 2024.

Reporting

- [47] Staff propose quarterly reports to Council to update on the development of the Regional Climate Strategy. Assuming that the proposed approach is approved at this meeting future quarterly reporting will be at the November 2023, February 2024 and May 2024 council meetings before the Strategy is completed for delivery at the June 2024 Council meeting.

OPTIONS

Option 1: Approve the proposed approach

- [48] Advantages to approving the proposed (with or without amendments) include:
 - (1) Ensuring that there is adequate time to engage with partners and stakeholders.
 - (2) Enabling ORC to advance planning and action to address climate change, which will be enabled through the completion of the Regional Climate Strategy.
- [49] Disadvantages include:
 - (1) Not being able to use the resources allocated to this project for other projects.

Option 2: Request an alternative approach

- [50] Advantages to instructing staff to present a new proposed approach at a future meeting include:
 - (1) Being able to reflect the direction of the Council in full.
- [51] Disadvantages include:
 - (1) Compressing the timeframe for engagement which may not give adequate time for ORC’s partners, stakeholders and the wider community to have their say.
 - (2) Jeopardising the delivery of the Strategy within timeframes specified by the council’s level of service measure.
 - (3) Creating risk that the next LTP and the Strategy are not aligned.

CONSIDERATIONS

Strategic Framework and Policy Considerations

- [52] The proposal fits with ORC's strategic direction to 'lead a regional approach to climate change to enable climate change mitigation and meeting New Zealand's emissions targets' and 'support Otago communities adapting to climate change effects.'
- [53] It is also consistent with Council's direction in the 2023/24 Annual Plan which included a Level of Service measure to 'report and finalise' a 'Regional Climate Strategy' by June 2024.
- [54] The Regional Climate Strategy is also consistent with the partially operative Regional Policy and the proposed Regional Policy Statement which both contain several climate change related objectives.

Financial Considerations

- [55] All activities within the proposed development of the Regional Climate Strategy are currently accommodated within the Strategy Team budget.

Significance and Engagement

- [56] Staff anticipate there will be high public interest in the development of the Regional Climate Strategy. Discussions have commenced with the Communications Team to ensure there is a comprehensive plan to communicate the Regional Climate Strategy and support engagement and consultation during the development of the Regional Climate Strategy.
- [57] There have been preliminary discussions with local rūnaka partners through Aukaha and Te Ao Mārama Incorporated as well as with local councils through the Otago Climate Officers' Group and with Business South.

Legislative and Risk Considerations

- [58] There are no current legal implications in the development of the Regional Climate Strategy as this is a non-regulatory strategy which will set non-binding targets and goals.
- [59] Staff anticipate this will address some of the risks identified around climate change in the ORC's Strategic Risk Register and not create additional risks.

Climate Change Considerations

- [60] This paper is about climate change and the climate change considerations are in the body of the text.

Communications Considerations

- [61] The Strategy Team are working with the Communications Team to develop a communications plan for this project.

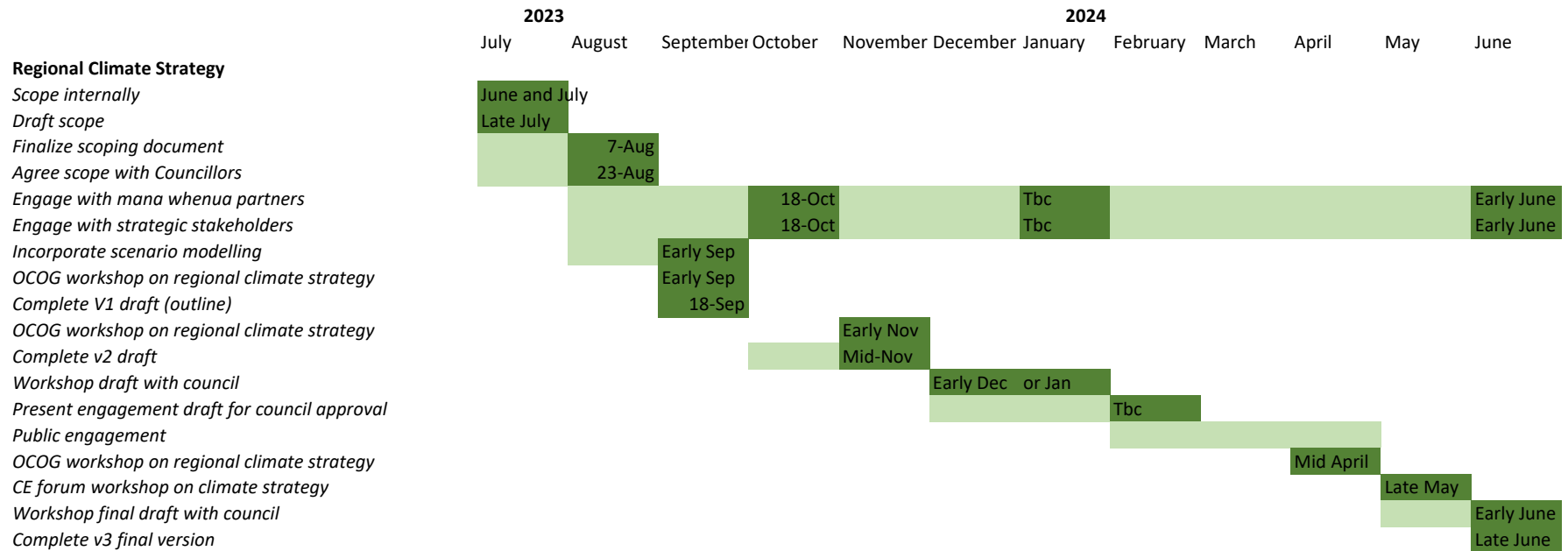
NEXT STEPS

- [62] Council will consider whether to create a councillor working group to provide advice during the development of the Strategy.

- [63] Council staff will continue to progress the engagement and drafting of the Regional Climate Strategy, reporting to Council on progress at the November 2023 meeting. Council will be presented with a draft Regional Climate Strategy in February 2024 which will then go out for public engagement.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Regional Climate Change Strategy Timeline (1) [9.2.1 - 1 page]



9.3. Governance Options for Stage Two of the Dunedin City Future Development Strategy: Submissions and Hearing Process

Prepared for:	Council
Report No.	SPS2321
Activity:	Governance Report
Author:	Patricia McLean, Senior Policy Analyst – Urban Growth and Development
Endorsed by:	Anita Dawe, General Manager Policy & Science
Date:	23 August 2023

PURPOSE

- [1] The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the governance arrangements for Stage Two of the joint Otago Regional Council / Dunedin City Council Future Development Strategy (FDS), which is being developed in partnership with mana whenua. Stage Two comprises decisions on public submissions and adopting the final FDS in mid-2024.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [2] The Dunedin City FDS process comprises three stages. Stage One, preparing and approving the draft FDS for public notification, is approaching completion with the draft FDS being prepared for a notification decision by Council on 6 December 2023.¹ Stage Two comprises decision making on public submissions and approving the final FDS. Stage Three is developing an implementation plan. This report seeks a decision on governance arrangements for Stage Two.
- [3] A joint ORC/DCC Councillors' workshop on 16 August 2023 provided Elected Members with an opportunity to discuss the governance arrangements for Stage Two prior to this Council meeting. The recommended option (Option One below) is to delegate decisions on submissions and the approval of the final FDS to a Joint Hearings Panel (JHP) comprising an independent chair, two Councillors from ORC, two Councillors from DCC, and one to two mana whenua representatives.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Approves** the governance arrangements for Stage Two of the joint ORC/DCC Future Development Strategy;
- 3) **Notes** that decisions on the membership of any Joint Hearings Panel and Chair appointment will be sought at the next meeting of Council.
- 4) **Supports** the inclusion of two mana whenua representatives on the hearings panel

BACKGROUND

¹ Dunedin City Council will consider the draft Future Development Strategy for notification separately on 12 December 2023.

- [4] The National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD) requires the Otago Regional Council (ORC) and the Dunedin City Council (DCC) to jointly prepare a Future Development Strategy (FDS), in partnership with mana whenua, by mid-2024.
- [5] The purpose of an FDS is to promote long-term strategic planning to enable the development of well-functioning urban environments. The FDS establishes a framework for considering any future district plan decisions and setting direction for funding decisions in the respective Councils' 10-year plans and Infrastructure Strategies. The FDS must also be considered in the development of the Regional Land Transportation Plan.
- [6] There are three agreed key stages in the process to prepare the joint FDS with DCC:
- Stage One: preparing and approving the draft FDS for public notification.
 - Stage Two: making decisions on public submissions and approving the final FDS.
 - Stage Three: developing an FDS implementation plan.
- [7] On 22 February 2023, the Council considered a report on preferred governance arrangements for Stage One of the joint ORC/DCC FDS. This stage included a series of public workshops to provide information to communities on the purpose of the FDS and to gather their aspirations for Dunedin's future growth and development to assist in the drafting of the FDS.
- [8] The governance arrangements agreed at that meeting were to use the ORC Regional Leadership Committee and provide delegation to the Committee to enable it to consider and make decisions concerning the FDS work with DCC. This delegation has not been utilised due to the timing of meetings which meant that it has been more expeditious to take reports to full Council.

DISCUSSION

- [9] This report discusses options for governance arrangements for Stage Two: making decisions on public submissions and approving the final FDS.
- [10] The FDS is subject to the special consultative procedure in section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002, requiring notification of a draft FDS, call for submissions, public hearings, and final decisions on the FDS content.
- [11] Key considerations in evaluating options for governance arrangements for Stage Two are:
- There is good alignment between the timeframes for assessing and achieving minimum requirements for development capacity under the NPS UD. The NPS UD has three categories: short (next three years) medium term (between three and 10 years) and long term (between 10 and 30 years). LTPs and infrastructure strategies have two timeframes: LTPs being short/medium term (next 10 years) and the DCC Infrastructure Strategy being long term (next 30 years). Ensuring alignment of decisions between the FDS and LTPs/Infrastructure Strategy is a key consideration, noting the 'chicken and egg' aspect to essential infrastructure.
 - Timing of the process in relation to the LTP processes and timetables, including availability of elected members.

- The degree to which the decisions of a combined local authority governance group should influence the funding decisions of the individual local authorities; and
- How to ensure that submissions on growth options are considered in a robust way with due consideration to resource management planning documents and the objectives and policies within, given the potential of FDS options to influence future plan change processes.

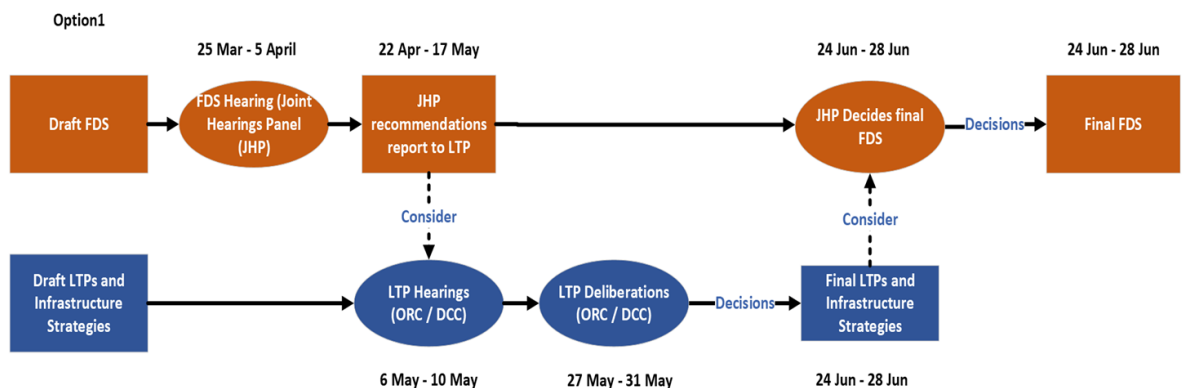
OPTIONS

[12] This report presents two options for governance arrangements for Stage Two of the process (submissions and hearings). Both options recommend a new Joint Hearings Panel (JHP). It is recommended that this Panel is made up of an independent Chair with planning expertise, two elected members from ORC, two elected members from DCC, and one to two mana whenua appointments. Under both options, the JHP makes a recommendation to the DCC/ORC Councils ahead of their LTP deliberations and then considers the outcome of LTP deliberations.

[13] The key differences between the two options and their advantages and disadvantages are described below.

Option One – (Recommended Option) decisions on submissions and the approval of the final Future Development Strategy is delegated to a Joint Hearings Panel

[14] Under this option, a JHP has delegated authority to consider submissions and make decisions on all elements of the FDS. The JHP would make a recommendation to the respective Councils on any aspects that overlap with LTP content (level of service or infrastructure funding decisions) ahead of and to inform each Council’s deliberations on the LTP. The JHP would then consider respective Council’s deliberations on level of service or infrastructure funding decisions before approving the final FDS content to be adopted by each Council.



Advantages

- Enables an independent Chair to manage a hearing process that may include technical arguments and evidence.

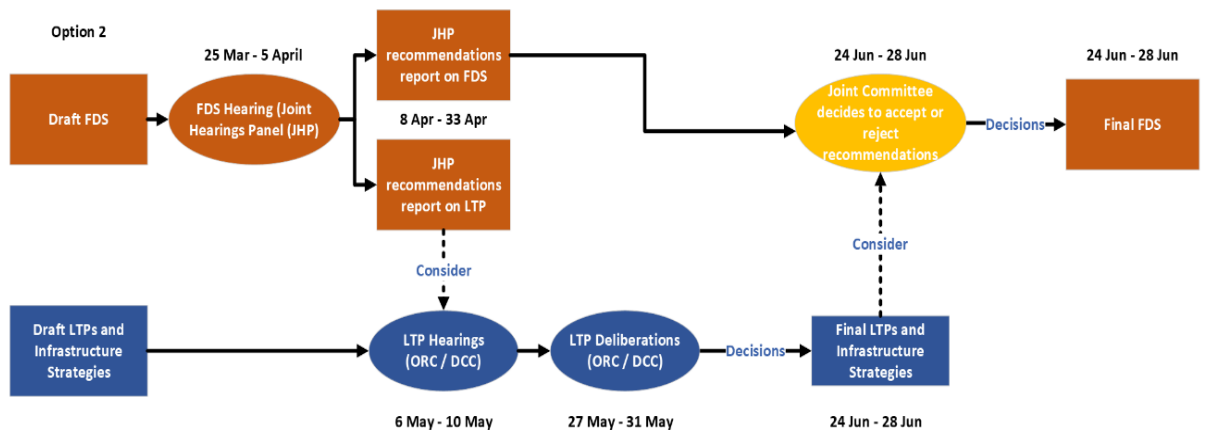
- Aligns LTP and FDS content through the JHP issuing a recommendation report ahead of LTP deliberations and taking into account the outcome of the LTP deliberations in their final decision.

Disadvantages

- Decision-making on the FDS is made by a small group of DCC and ORC councillors and one to two mana whenua representatives.
- There may be challenges finding a suitably qualified independent Chair within a relatively short timeframe.

Option Two – The Joint Hearings Panel is delegated to make recommendations on submissions and a joint committee of Strategy, Planning and Engagement Committee (DCC) and Regional Leadership Committee (ORC) makes the final decisions on the Future Development Strategy

[15] Under this option, the JHP is only delegated to make recommendations on submissions. A joint committee of the Strategy, Planning and Engagement Committee (DCC) and Regional Leadership Committee (ORC) will make decisions on the final FDS. The joint Committee will meet to make a final decision on the FDS following the respective Councils’ LTP deliberations.



Advantages

- Enables an independent Chair to manage a hearing process that may include technical arguments and evidence, while enabling appropriate governance by DCC and ORC councillors and respective mana whenua representation.
- Supports alignment of LTP and FDS content through the JHP issuing a recommendation report ahead of LTP deliberations and takes into account the outcome of these deliberations in their final decision.
- All councillors and mana whenua representatives are involved in the final FDS decisions.

Disadvantages

- Requires additional time and resourcing for staff and councillors at a busy time in the LTP cycle for the joint committee to meet to consider the JHP's recommendations.
- May introduce new risks at the key decision-making time as the full committees will not have been involved in the hearings process and may not have a complete understanding of the issues considered within the final recommending report.

OTHER OPTIONS

[16] Staff considered other Stage Two governance options, which were not selected for taking forward to either Council for the reasons set out below. However, Councillors may wish to consider these alternatives following discussion at the joint ORC/DCC Councillors' workshop on 16 August 2023.

Option	Key reason/s for not taking forward
Use a joint committee comprising all DCC and ORC councillors to hear all submissions.	Would create an inefficient hearings process and some councillors may be unable to commit to what could be a lengthy hearing and deliberations process.
JHP to make recommendations to separate DCC and ORC committees.	Risk that the DCC and ORC would make different decisions on the policy and growth aspects of the FDS, and insufficient time to reconcile any differences.
A joint committee to decide on infrastructure options that must be included in ORC/DCC LTP's (require LTPs/IS to align with FDS)	Considered beyond the remit of the FDS to direct the normal governance arrangements of local authorities for financial and programme decisions.

CONSIDERATIONS

Strategic Framework and Policy Considerations

[17] The recommended option is aligned to the ORC's key activities and strategic outcomes: environment, safety and resilience, transport, and regional leadership.

Financial Considerations

[18] There will be costs associated with appointing the Joint Hearing Panel, including an independent Joint Hearing Panel Chair. It is anticipated that the Councils would share the cost of the Independent Chair.

Significance and Engagement

[19] The FDS is subject to the special consultative procedure in section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002, requiring notification of a draft FDS, call for submissions, public hearings, and final decisions on the FDS content.

Legislative and Risk Considerations

- [20] The National Policy Statement – Urban Development requires the ORC and DCC to jointly develop and adopt a joint FDS in time to inform their respective long-term plans.

Climate Change Considerations

- [21] There are no climate change considerations associated with this decision on the governance arrangements for Stage Two.

Communications Considerations

- [22] Communications are already considered as part of the wider joint ORC/DCC FDS process.

NEXT STEPS

- [23] Depending on then option preferred, a report will be presented at the next Council meeting to approve the membership of the required hearing panel.
- [24] The draft FDS will be considered for approval for notification by ORC on 6 December and DCC on 12 December, ahead of formal consultation on the draft FDS in early 2024.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

9.4. Requirements of NPS for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Industrial Process Heat 2023

Prepared for: Council
Report No. POL2308
Activity: Governance Report
Author: Victoria Manning, Senior Policy Analyst
Endorsed by: Anita Dawe, General Manager Policy & Science
Date: 23 August 2023

PURPOSE

- [1] To inform Council of changes to the Air Plan required to give effect to the National Policy Statement for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Industrial Process Heat.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [2] The National Policy Statement (NPS) for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Industrial Process Heat requires every regional council to directly include two policies in their regional plan. These changes are not required to go through the Schedule 1 process of the Resource Management Act 1991 and can be inserted directly into the Plan.
- [3] This report outlines the changes to the Regional Plan: Air for Otago (the Air Plan) to incorporate the two policies on greenhouse gases from heat devices for Council's approval.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Approves** the change to the Air Plan and public notification of the change.

BACKGROUND

- [4] The National Policy Statement (NPS) for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Industrial Process Heat came into force on 27 July 2023. The NPS applies to emissions of greenhouse gases from fossil fuel-fired industrial process heat devices.
- [5] The objective of the NPS is to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by managing the discharges to air of greenhouse gases from the production of industrial process heat, in order to mitigate climate change and its current and future adverse effects on the environment and the wellbeing of people and communities.
- [6] To that end, the NPS requires every regional council to include two policies in their regional plan. Suggested wording is set out in sections 3.2 and 3.3 of the NPS.

DISCUSSION

- [7] Part 3 of the NPS sets out what regional councils must do to implement or give effect to the NPS policies on cumulative effects and updating emissions plans.

- [8] The NPS states at 3.2:

Every regional council must include the following policy (or words to the same effect) in its regional plan:

“Before granting a resource consent for the discharge of greenhouse gases to air from heat devices on a site, the regional council must:

- (a) consider the total discharges of greenhouse gases from all heat devices on the site that the application relates to; and*
- (b) recognise that, cumulatively, all discharges of greenhouse gases resulting from the production of industrial process heat, regardless of volume, contribute to climate change, and any reduction in greenhouse gas emissions contributes to mitigating climate change.”*

- [9] The NPS states at 3.3:

Every regional council must include the following policy (or words to the same effect) in its regional plan:

“When considering an emissions plan as part of an application for a resource consent for a restricted discretionary activity relating to discharges to air of greenhouse gases from heat devices, the consent authority must consider:

- (a) the timing and content of updates of the emissions plan to be made by the holder of the consent; and*
- (b) how those updates will reflect changes in technology and best practices.”*

- [10] The changes to regional plans required by the NPS are amendments referred to in section 55(2) of the RMA. This means that the changes can be made without using the RMA Schedule 1 process for the preparation, change, and review of plans. However, the Council must give public notice of the amendments within five working days after making them.

- [11] While there are no timescales attached to the requirement to include the policies in the regional plan, it is proposed to include these two policies in the Air Plan immediately.

- [12] It is also proposed to adjust the NPS policy wording to “the regional council ~~will~~ **must**” and “the consent authority ~~will~~ **must**” to align them with the other policies in the Air Plan. The two new policies will be inserted as Policies 15A.1.1 and 15A.1.2 in the Air Plan and these will be taken forward as part of the Air Plan review.

- [13] In addition to the changes to the current Air Plan, amendments to the AIR chapter of the proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement (pORPS) that is currently being heard may be required if there is scope to remove conflicts with the higher order planning document. If there is no scope Council will use its RMA Schedule 1 clause 16 powers to make any required amendments.

OPTIONS

- [14] There are no timescales attached to the NPS requirement, and the Council could decide to delay inclusion of the policies until the Air Plan review. However, the Air Plan will not be notified until June 2025 and the RMA requires us to avoid unreasonable delay in carrying out duties under the Act. In addition, the mitigation of climate change and its adverse effects is an urgent issue. Delaying the inclusion of the policies is therefore not recommended.

CONSIDERATIONS

Strategic Framework and Policy Considerations

- [15] ORC's strategic directions commit Council to taking leadership on issues of significance and importance to Otago communities, including enabling climate change mitigation and meeting New Zealand's emission targets. These proposed changes directly contribute towards climate change mitigation by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Financial Considerations

- [16] Reviewing the Air Plan, including changes to the current Air Plan, is a funded activity under ORC's 2021/31 Long Term Plan. This plan amendment can be accommodated within existing budgets.

Significance and Engagement Considerations

- [17] Under section 55(2) of the Resource Management Act 1991, the Council is not required to consult on the proposed amendments.

Legislative and Risk Considerations

- [18] These proposed changes are part of ORC's role and responsibilities under section 55(2) of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Climate Change Considerations

- [19] These proposed changes amendments directly contribute towards climate change mitigation by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Communications Considerations

- [20] The Council must give public notice of the amendments within five working days after making them.

NEXT STEPS

- [21] If approved by Council, the amendments to the Air Plan will be made and publicly notified by 30 September 2023.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

9.5. Policy for considering requests for ORC support for external funding bids by third parties

Prepared for: Council

Report No. GOV2327

Activity: Governance Report

Author: Amanda Vercoe, GM Governance, Culture, Customer

Endorsed by: Richard Saunders, Chief Executive

Date: 23 August 2023

PURPOSE

- [1] To approve a policy for considering requests for ORC support for external funding applications.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [2] Following discussion at the Council meeting in April 2023, Council requested a policy be brought back for consideration for considering requests for ORC support for external funding applications.
- [3] These requests often come in toward a due date for submission (after the project completes required work to pull together a funding application). Once the entity/individual knows they have a viable project they may be required by funders to seek endorsement from relevant local stakeholders, agencies, etc as part of the application process. Endorsement from a key Council organisation such as ORC can add significant weight to the probability of success of an application.
- [4] This paper sets out a draft policy position for consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Approves** the policy position as set out below.

BACKGROUND

- [5] Nil.

DISCUSSION

- [6] *Draft Policy position:* Otago Regional Council wants to support the ambitions of other groups when it comes to seeking funding from third parties for projects or work that aligns with the vision and role of the Council.
- [7] When a request for support from ORC for an external funding application is received, if the following criteria are met, then the Chairperson and Chief Executive have the delegation to approve the request in writing.
- [8] Criteria:
- a. The application is to an external funding source
-

- b. The application is not seeking funding support directly from the ORC (this would need to be handled through a different assessment process)
 - c. The application is for an initiative that supports existing ORC strategic priorities.
- [9] Requests that meet the criteria above, and are endorsed under the above policy by the Chair or Chief Executive should be:
- a. Made in writing by the Chair of the Council
 - b. Shared with Council.

OPTIONS

- [10] To approve the draft policy with or without amendments.

CONSIDERATIONS

Strategic Framework and Policy Considerations

- [11] It is proposed that support would be provided if initiatives align with the ORC's strategic priorities.

Financial Considerations

- [12] This policy is only for funding requests from non-ORC agencies, so there is no financial impact.

Significance and Engagement

- [13] Nil.

Legislative and Risk Considerations

- [14] Nil.

Climate Change Considerations

- [15] Nil.

Communications Considerations

- [16] Nil.

NEXT STEPS

- [17] Future requests for support for funding applications will be assessed against the agreed policy.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

9.6. Documents Signed Under Council Seal

Prepared for: Council
Report No. GOV2328
Activity: Governance Report
Author: Kylie Darragh, Governance Support Officer
Endorsed by: Amanda Vercoe, GM Governance, Culture and Customer
Date: 23 August 2023

PURPOSE

- [1] To inform the Council of delegations which have been exercised requiring application of the Council Seal during the period of 2 February 2023 to 31 July 2023.

2023		Date of application of seal	Description
CS2023	790	28/02/2023	Deed of Lease between JJireh Holdings Limited and Otago Regional Council for Unit SO11, lvl 1, Aurum House, 1088-1092 Frankton Road, Terrace Junction, Frankton, Queenstown.
CS2023	791	29/06/2023	Deed of Variation of Lease Phillip Laing House – Second Floor between Phillip Laing House Limited and Otago Regional Council
CS2023	792	29/06/2023	Deed of Variation of Lease Phillip Laing House – Sixth Floor between Phillip Laing House Limited and Otago Regional Council
CS2023	793	29/06/2023	Deed of Renewal of Licence and Review of Licence Fee between Otago Regional Council and Queenstown Lakes District Council
CS2023	794	13/07/2023	Deed of Funding between Ministry for the Environment and Otago Regional Council for analysis of nature-based solutions for flood and erosion mitigation in the Dart-Rees Floodplain to Inform the Head of Lake Wakatipu Natural Hazards Adaption Strategy
CS2023	795	13/07/2023	Deed of Funding between Ministry for the environment and Otago Regional Council for Modelling of the Te Hikapupu Catchment to investigate Flood Mitigation

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) **Notes this report.**

Nil

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under [section 48\(1\)](#) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
<i>The Confidential Minutes of 24 May 2023</i>	Section 7(2)(a) To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons	Subject to subsection (3), a local authority may by resolution exclude the public from the whole or any part of the proceedings of any meeting only on 1 or more of the following grounds: (a) that the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.

This resolution is made in reliance on [section 48\(1\)\(a\)](#) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by [section 6](#) or [section 7](#) of that Act or [section 6](#) or [section 7](#) or [section 9](#) of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public.