MEETING OF THE

Clutha District Council

Thursday 25 January 2024

Commencing at 1.30pm

At the Council Chambers

1 Rosebank Terrace

BALCLUTHA

CLUTHA DISTRICT COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that a Meeting of the Clutha District Council will be held in the Council Chambers, 1 Rosebank Terrace Balclutha on Thursday 25 January 2024, commencing at 1.30pm.

Steve Hill CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Committee Members

Mayor: Bryan Cadogan

Councillor Ken Payne Councillor Kevin Barron Councillor Bruce Vollweiler Councillor Gaynor Finch Councillor Brent Mackie Councillor Bruce Graham Councillor Michele Kennedy Councillor Alison Ludemann Councillor Wayne Felts Councillor Dean McCrostie Councillor Dane Catherwood Councillor Simon McAtamney Councillor Jock Martin Councillor John Herbert

CLUTHA DISTRICT COUNCIL Thursday 25 January 2024

APOLOGIES

None at the time of printing this agenda.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None at the time of printing this agenda.

PUBLIC FORUM

None at the time of printing this agenda.

MEETING PURPOSE

This is an additional Council meeting to consider Long Term Plan 2024-34 matters.

Item	Page #	Title	
1	5	LTP Revised Timelines arising from Central Government announcements of 14 December 2024 (For Council's Decision) This report provides information and proposed course of action and revised timelines in response to the Central Government announcement of 14 December on LTP development and related matters.	
2	14	LTP Workshop Discussion (For Council's Confirmation) This report provides information and proposed course of action and revised timelines in response to the Central Government announcement of 14 December on LTP development and related matters.	
3	16	Decisions arising from workshop directives considered under Item 2. (For Council's Decision) This report seeks to formalise key decisions arising from workshop discussion for inclusion in the pre-audit documents (Consultation Document, Financial Strategy and Investment Strategy) to be considered at Council's next meeting on 15 February 2024.	

417(For Council's Decision)417To endorse the draft Waste Minimisation Mana		To endorse the draft Waste Minimisation Management Plan for public release and comment as a supporting document to the
5	26	Clutha District Climate Change Strategy (TBC) (For Council's Decision) To endorse the draft Clutha District Climate Change Strategy for public release and comment as a supporting document to the LTP Consultation Document.
6 66 Our Place Taieri Mouth Consultation (For Council's Decision) To endorse the draft Our Place Taier		Our Place Taieri Mouth Consultation

Clutha District Council

Item for DECISION

Report	Long Term Plan 2024-34 Revised Timelines		
Meeting Date	25 January 2024		
Item Number	1		
Prepared ByPeter Stafford, Strategy Planning Manage			
File Reference	882396		

REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides information on the proposed course of action and revised timelines in response to the Government announcements on Long Term Plan 2024-34 (LTP) development and related matters.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That Council receives the 'LTP Revised Timeline's' report.
- 2. That Council confirms the revised LTP timelines in response to advice received by the Minister of Local Government.

REPORT

1 Background

Council were briefed at its workshop on 14 December 2024 on the timetable for completion of the LTP 2024-34.

At that workshop it was noted that the timetable was subject to advice from the Minister of Local Government, The Hon. Simeon Brown on policy changes affecting the LTP. That advice was subsequently received on the same day 14 December 2023 (Attachment A).

The Minister Responsible for RMA Reform, the Hon Chris Bishop also provided a letter on 13 December 2023 in relation to Resource Management Act (RMA) Reform (Attachment B).

Repealing the previous Government's water services legislation (Attachment A, p1)

The Governments intends to introduce a repeal bill that will restore council ownership and control of water infrastructure and services.

3 Waters wes previously excluded from the LTP under legislation - and technically this remains the case until the Government's repeal legislation is given effect – expected in the second half of February 2024.

This has significant impacts on Council's LTP plan including (but not limited to)

- Council future budget position
- Need to add significant additional content to the LTP in the form of
 - A full 3 Waters Activity Management Plan in place of a transitional 'Mini-AMP Addendum to facilitate transition of 3 Waters to the NTU
 - o Substantial additional 3 Waters elements to the LTP itself.

Options to support Council to complete its 2024-34 long-term plan (Attachment A, p2)

The Minister of Local Government recognises in their letter the need to provide flexibility for Council to respond to these changes in the LTP development requirements.

For Clutha District Council this includes provision for the statutory deadline by which the 2024 long-term plan must be adopted - to be extended by three months to 30 September 2024.

Councils will be permitted to have unaudited long-term plan consultation documents. This would allow auditing of the final long-term plan to proceed in tandem with consultation, to help achieve statutory deadlines.

The deadline for adopting the 2023/24 annual reports will also be extended, to reflect the possible overlap in auditing processes if councils are taking longer than usual to finalise the long-term plan.

<u>Repeal the Natural and Built Environment Act 2023 and the Spatial Planning Act 2023</u> (Attachment B, p1)

The Minister Responsible for RMA Reform has advised; and the Government has since acted to repeal the NBA and SPA

In the second phase of the reform, the Government will amend the RMA to make it easier to consent new infrastructure including renewable energy, allow farmers to farm, build more houses, and enable aquaculture and other primary industries.

The third phase of the reform will replace the RMA with new resource management laws based on the enjoyment of property rights.

Replace the National Policy Statement for Freshwater 2020 (Attachment B, p2)

The Minister Responsible for RMA Reform has also advised a review and replacement of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM).

This will include changes to the application of the hierarchy of obligations contained in the Te Mana o te Wai provisions of the NPS-FM. The intent is to clarify that consent applicants do not have to demonstrate how their individual activity adheres to the hierarchy, and to disapply the hierarchy from council consent decisions.

2 Consideration in relation to LTP Timelines

<u>Audit</u>

Council is in discussion with the LTP Auditors, Deloitte on the practical application of the Government's advice to date. Further information will be provided at Council's meeting on 25 January 2024.

Revised timelines

Taking the above the Governments advise and subject to further discussion with Deloitte the bringing forward to Council of the Consultation Document package for pre-audit approval has been phased back by 3 weeks to 15 February 2024. This is expected to be followed by

- An audit with dates to be advised/agreed with Deloitte.
- Consultation of 4 weeks in late March/April
- Submissions hearings in 7 & 8 May as previously advised.
- Decisions in late May
- Finalisation of the LTP in late June/early July 2024

In effect – it is intended the initial phase back of approvals in January/February is to be 'caught up' over March/April by removal of the the central government 'Hot Audit' requirements (saving at least 2 weeks) and use of improved submission technology to reduce time required between closed of submission and hearings.

A more definitive timeline will be tabled at the Council meeting in light of discussion with Deloitte.

3 Legal Considerations

Legal consideration have been addressed in the letters from the Minister for Local Government

4 Financial Impact

Not applicable

5 References – Tabled/Agenda Attachments

Attachment A: Letter of 14 December 2024 from Minister of Local Government, The Hon. Simeon Brown on policy changes affecting the LTP

Attachment B: Letter of 13 December 2024 from the Minister Responsible for RMA Reform, the Hon Chris Bishop in relation to Resource Management Act (RMA) Reform.

Hon Simeon Brown

MP for Pakuranga

Minister for Energy Minister for Auckland Minister of Local Government Minister of Transport Deputy Leader of the House



Mayor Bryan Cadogan Clutha District Council Email: bryan.cadogan@cluthadc.govt.nz

cc. Steve Hill Chief Executive Email: steve.hill@cluthadc.govt.nz

Dear Mayor Cadogan

New direction for water services delivery

This morning I announced that earlier this week Cabinet agreed to repeal the previous government's water services legislation. I also signalled next steps for implementing our plan for water services, Local Water Done Well.

I wish to provide you with further information about three key aspects of our plan, to ensure you have the clarity and certainty you need as you develop your council's 2024-34 long-term plan and prepare for your next financial year:

- 1. Repeal of the previous government's water services legislation
- 2. Options to help your council complete its 2024-34 long-term plan
- 3. Local Water Done Well key principles of our future direction for water services.

I want to acknowledge that councils across the country are facing multiple challenges, including pressures with water infrastructure. I also want to acknowledge that many councils have done a good job of managing their water infrastructure, and that there is not a one size fits all solution to moving to more financially sustainable water services.

The Government is committed to addressing the longstanding challenges this country is facing with our water services infrastructure.

Our Local Water Done Well approach recognises the importance of local decision making and flexibility for communities and councils to determine how their water services will be delivered in future. We will do this while ensuring a strong emphasis on meeting rules for water quality and investment in infrastructure.

1. Repealing the previous Government's water services legislation

Cabinet has agreed to introduce a repeal bill that will restore council ownership and control of water infrastructure and services. The bill makes the following changes:

• All legislation relating to water services entities will be repealed (Water Services Entities Act 2022, Water Services Entities Amendment Act 2023, and Water Services Legislation Act 2023).

- Previous legislation related to the provision of water services will be reinstated (including local government legislation). This will restore continued council ownership and control of water services, and responsibility for service delivery.
- The Northland and Auckland Water Services Entity (the only entity that had been legally established under the Water Services Entities Act 2022) will be disestablished and any outstanding work on the entity's set-up will cease.
- Councils will need to add and integrate information about water services into their 2024 long-term plans. Some transitional support options are available to assist you (below).

The repeal bill is expected to be introduced in February 2024 and enacted as soon as possible.

2. Options to help your council complete its 2024-34 long-term plan

I have heard that councils are seeking legislative certainty for your 2024-34 long-term plan and are seeking direction and support for how to continue to plan for and finance water services.

I am also conscious that different councils will have different needs and preferences and will be at various stages of developing their long-term plans.

To provide flexibility for these local circumstances, Cabinet has agreed the repeal bill will include temporary modifications to local government legislation for the transitional period affecting the 2024 long-term plans. Once the bill is passed, these options will be available for councils to use, as appropriate.

I recognise a few councils are preparing an unaudited three-year plan, with a focus on cyclone recovery, rather than a standard 10-year plan. As such, some of the proposed modifications may be less relevant to you.

If your council is…	Options available
Starting to prepare or consult on long- term planning material that	The enacted provisions clarify that the council can include water services material in the final plan, without re- consulting, but:
includes water services	 Must include new/updated information on water services in its final plan – to reflect the continuation of its responsibilities;
information – ahead of the repeal bill being enacted	 Must consider the views and preferences of affected and interested persons as it considers appropriate; and
	 Does not have to delay the adoption of its long-term plan past 30 June 2024 (in order to provide opportunities for public consultation on its revised proposals).
	Transitional provisions will also help ensure the risks of future legal challenge (associated with concerns about possible issues in process) will be minimised.

If your council is	Options available		
Needing more time to develop and consult on long- term planning material	 The statutory deadline by which the 2024 long-term plan must be adopted will be extended by three months – to 30 September 2024. This flexibility may be desirable to smaller councils with fewer resources, or those councils that would prefer to wait until the repeal legislation is enacted before starting consultation. The deadline for adopting the 2023/24 annual reports will also be extended, to reflect the possible overlap in auditing processes if councils are taking longer than usual to finalise the long-term plan. 		
	Councils will be permitted to have unaudited long-term plan consultation documents. This would allow auditing of the final long-term plan to proceed in tandem with consultation, to help achieve statutory deadlines.		

3. Local Water Done Well – key principles of our future direction for water services

With Local Water Done Well we are going to do things in a way that recognises the importance of local decision making and flexibility for communities and councils to determine how their water services will be delivered in future. We will do this while ensuring a strong emphasis on meeting rules for water quality and investment in infrastructure.

We want to enable councils and communities to determine what works best for them, while establishing clear expectations and bottom lines.

Key principles of our future plan for the delivery of water services include:

- Introducing greater central government oversight, economic and quality regulation.
- Fit-for-purpose service delivery models and financing tools, such as improving the current council-controlled organisation model and developing a new class of financially separate council-owned organisation.
- Setting rules for water services and infrastructure investment.
- Ensuring water services are financially sustainable. Financial sustainability means revenue sufficiency, balance sheet separation, ring-fencing and funding for growth.

I intend to work with all councils on the development of our Local Water Done Well policy to ensure it reflects your local needs and circumstances.

I look forward to working with you in the New Year to refine our approach to water services delivery.

Yours sincerely,

Sim Bru.

Hon Simeon Brown Minister of Local Government

Hon Chris Bishop

Minister of Housing Minister for Infrastructure Minister Responsible for RMA Reform Minister for Sport and Recreation Leader of the House Associate Minister of Finance



13 December 2023

Tēnā koe,

Intention to repeal the Natural and Built Environment Act 2023 and the Spatial Planning Act 2023 and replace the National Policy Statement for Freshwater 2020

It is a privilege to be able to write to you as the new Minister Responsible for RMA Reform. I look forward to meeting with you in due course.

As you may be aware, the Government has set out its commitments for its first 100 days in office. These include changes to resource management legislation.

Repeal of Natural and Built Environment Act and the Spatial Planning Act

Our first step is to repeal the Natural and Built Environment Act 2023 (NBA) and Spatial Planning Act 2023 (SPA) before Parliament rises at the end of 2023, a commitment made in the Government's coalition agreements. Once the repeal is finalised, legislation will revert to the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA).

To avoid unnecessary disruption through the repeal, a limited number of NBA functions will be retained including the fast-track consenting process while the Government develops a replacement fast-track consenting regime. We will introduce this new regime within the first 100 days of taking office alongside other changes to make the RMA faster and easier to use.

The Government is committed to reforming the resource management system. Repealing the NBA and SPA is the first phase of this reform.

In the second phase of the reform, the Government will amend the RMA to make it easier to consent new infrastructure including renewable energy, allow farmers to farm, build more houses, and enable aquaculture and other primary industries.

The third phase of the reform will replace the RMA with new resource management laws based on the enjoyment of property rights.

The Government is committed to honouring the undertakings made by the Crown through Treaty of Waitangi settlements and other arrangements. Treaty settlement arrangements reached between iwi and the Crown will be protected through the repeal and any future resource management reform processes.

Changes to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management

We have also decided to review and replace the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPS-FM) in this term of Government, following normal RMA processes for national direction.

We will also use the repeal legislation mentioned above to extend the RMA's statutory deadline for notifying freshwater planning instruments to implement the NPS-FM by three years to 31 December 2027. This will allow time to replace and then implement a revised NPS-FM.

We intend to use the planned RMA amendment bill to progress changes to the application of the hierarchy of obligations contained in the Te Mana o te Wai provisions of the NPS-FM. Our intent is to clarify that consent applicants do not have to demonstrate how their individual activity adheres to the hierarchy, and to disapply the hierarchy from council consent decisions. We will undertake targeted engagement with iwi/ hapū/Māori on these matters before making final decisions.

I appreciate the expertise that local government holds and the key role you will continue to play in the resource management system. I acknowledge that over the last two years or more you may have committed significant time and resources into the broader resource management reforms.

I look forward to working with you and understanding your perspective as we move forward. Should you have any questions in the meantime, please contact <u>RM.reform@mfe.govt.nz</u>.

Yours sincerely,

Chap Bog

Hon Chris Bishop Minister Responsible for RMA Reform

Clutha District Council Item for CONFIRMATION

Report	LTP Workshop Discussion
Meeting Date 25 January 2024	
Item Number	2
Prepared By	Peter Stafford, Strategic Planning Manager
File Reference	882640

REPORT SUMMARY

Discussion and direction by Council of a number of LTP items in a workshop discussion format. The discussion to be proceeded by motions to suspend standing orders, followed by a motion to resume standing orders.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That Council receives the LTP Workshop Discussion Report, dated 25 January 2024.
- 2. That Council suspends Standing Orders to facilitate discussion as this is a workshop item.

Following consideration of the item

3. That Council reinstates Standing Orders.

REPORT

1 Workshop Sessions

Workshop session pre-reading will be circulated on Monday 22 January 2024.

Workshop session will address the following.

Workshop Session 1 - <u>Financial Strategy – Budget and Rate assumptions and impacts</u> (eg rates limits, debt cap/credit rating, rates rebates CE proposal etc).

Workshop Session 2 - Financial Strategy – Fees and Charges

Workshop Session 3 - <u>Financial Policies – Information item on policies to be considered</u> by Risk and Assurance Committee for final endorsement at Council Meeting of 15 February 2024.

Workshop Session 4 - <u>Residual matters from Council Workshops of 7 and 14 Dec 2023</u> in relation to community projects.

Workshop Session 5 - Consultation Document Outline and Questions

Workshop Session 7 - <u>Infrastructure Strategy and supporting AMPS</u>- Review (amended content only) prior to Council pre-audit decision on 15 February 2024.

Clutha District Council

Item for DECISION

Report	Decisions arising from workshop directives of 25 January 2024
Meeting Date	25 January 2024
Item Number	3
Prepared By	Peter Stafford, Strategic Planning Manager
File Reference	882529

REPORT SUMMARY

This report seeks to formalise key decisions arising from workshop discussion of 25 January 2024 for inclusion in the pre-audit documents (Consultation Document, financial Strategy and Investment Strategy) to be considered at Council's next meeting on 15 February 2024.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That Council receives the 'Decisions arising from workshop directives of 25 January 2024' report.
- 2. That Council reviews directions made at the Council Workshop session of 25 January 2024 and for each direction provides decisions.

Clutha District Council

Item for DECISION

Report	Draft Waste Minimisation Management Plan 2024		
Meeting Date	25 January 2024		
Item Number	4		
Prepared By	Laura Gourley Waste Management Officer		
File Reference	882398		

REPORT SUMMARY

This statement of proposal has been prepared as part of the Special Consultative Procedure in accordance with section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 and part 4, sections 44 and 50 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA).

Clutha District Council (the Council) is consulting on a new Waste Minimisation and Management Plan (WMMP). The WMMP is the Council's proposed strategy for the management and minimisation of solid waste in Clutha for the next six years.

It identifies Council's vision, goals, objectives, targets, and methods for achieving effective and efficient waste management and minimisation. The WMMP covers all activities and facilities relating to solid waste in the district, including diverted material and hazardous waste.

Attachment A is provided under separate cover.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 That Council receives the 'Draft Waste Minimisation Management Plan 2024' report
- 2 That Council adopts the Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2024 for consultation (Attachment A).
- 3 That Council adopts Statement of Proposal for the Draft Waste Minimisation Management Plan 2024 (Attachment B)
- 4 That Council adopts the timeframe of 25 January 2024 to 30 June 2024 for the consultation and submission period for the Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.

REPORT

1 Background

The Council has a statutory responsibility under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA) to "promote effective and efficient waste minimisation" and, for this purpose, to "adopt

a waste management and minimisation plan". The WMA also requires the Council to carry out a waste assessment and a review of the current WMMP.

The waste assessment establishes the planning foundations for the waste management and minimisation plan (WMMP) by describing the waste situation, setting the vision, goals objectives and targets for the district, and developing options for meeting future demand. Much of the key information presented in the waste assessment is summarised in the final WMMP.

The waste assessment completed in July 2023 determined that:

- Clutha will need to introduce mandated glass collections by 2027 and food waste collections by 2030 to Balclutha and Milton.
- Reviewing and updating the Solid Waste Bylaw and rating policy in regard to wheelie bin collection areas is needed.
- Mt Cooee Landfill's consent renewal outcome is still an unknown. A closure plan needs to be developed for the current cell when the application outcome has been decided.
- New mandated requirements will impact on both current and proposed infrastructure.
- Access to services for rural areas under legislative requirements will need to be considered. Greenwaste and glass service provisions will need to be considered if increased kerbside collections are decided against for rural areas.
- Councils transfer station model does not allow for robust data collection, are no longer fit for purpose, and need to be reviewed.
- Clutha currently has little to no diversion facilities and either no, or low access to reprocessing infrastructure.
- There is lack of data on rural and industrial, commercial, and institutional (ICI) waste streams due to little information available for waste that does not come to Mt Cooee
- Diversion potential of some material streams is not being realised.
- There are limited options for organic waste collection and processing.
- Lack of options for resource recovery and repair has resulted in a higher than desired levels of divertible material going to landfill.
- Our waste strategic direction is not reflective of Te rautaki para–Waste Strategy, and previous actions have been aimed at lower levels of the waste hierarchy.
- There is no formal mechanism for waste collaboration in Otago.
- We are not well placed for regional disaster waste planning, continued collaborative project work or consistency across Otago region service provision section and the regional resource recovery network.

The 2018 WMMP was subsequently reviewed regarding the following:

- the vision, goals, objectives, targets, and preferred options of the recently completed 2023 Waste Assessment
- Clutha District Council's Significance and Engagement Policy
- Ministry for the Environment's 2015 guide: Waste Assessments and Waste Management and Minimisation Planning a guide for Territorial Authorities
- Is the plan still fit for purpose?
 - should it be retained as is, or
 - does it require amendment, or
 - does it require revoking and replacement with a newly written WMMP.

As a result of the review, Council endorsed the writing of a new WMMP at the 14 September 2023 Council meeting.

2 Strategic Goals and Outcomes

With a new national strategic direction set by Te rautaki para–Waste Strategy, rewriting our existing WMMP will ensure that we are aligned to its circular economy focus and that we will be well placed to comply with the new legislative framework.

This will also support Councils' community outcomes and key priority areas below.

2.1 Community Outcomes

• Healthy Sustainable Environment

2.2 Key Priority Areas

- Healthy Safe Communities
- Adapt to Climate Change
- Invest in Infrastructure
- Improved Environmental Footprint

3 Assessment of Options

This WMMP will provide the Council with a blueprint for achieving its waste management and minimisation aims in a structured way. Council has set their strategic direction for managing and minimising waste in the Draft WMMP district through a vision, goals, objectives, and targets that align with the Te rautaki para -The New Zealand Waste Strategy.

Specific actions have been identified in the Action Plan (Part B) to help address these issues and opportunities.

In summary the key actions proposed in the WMMP are to:

- Promote upstream waste hierarchy, minimisation, and local circular economy principles through collaboration.
- Divert more from kerbside collection services.
- Improve access to appropriate waste services for townships and the rural communities they support.
- Using Council facilities to divert more from the overall waste stream:
- Ensure regulations and collaboration enables Clutha District's objectives, targets, and resilience.
- Investigate and provide effective environmental and economic disposal solutions.

4 Consultation

Under Section 44 of The Act, in preparing, amending, or revoking a Waste Management and Minimisation Plan, a territorial authority must use the special consultative procedure set out in section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 and, in doing so, the most recent assessment undertaken by the territorial authority under section 51 must be notified with the statement of proposal.

Draft timetable for consultation

- 25 January 2024 Council adopts the draft WMMP and this Statement of Proposal
- April 2024* Statement of Proposal and draft WMMP are made available online and hard copies at Council Service Centres and libraries.
- April 2024* Facebook posts, Council newsletter, and Council's 'yoursay' consultation portal.
- Late April 2024* Submissions close 5pm at the same time as submission to the LTP Consultation Document expected late April.
- 7 & 8 May 2024 Submissions heard by full Council.
- 20 June 2024 Council considers outcome of consultation process and adopts the WMMP including any revisions arising from consultation.

*The exact date for the consultation period and close of submissions will be determined by Council at its meeting on 15 March 2024 in conjunction with post-audit approval to release the Long Term Plan (LTP) Consultation Document.

Right to make submissions and be heard

WMMP consultation submission questions are included in the Draft Long Term Plan 2024-34 Consultation Document to be finalised for pre-audit release on 15 February 2024.

Any person or organisation making a submission may request to be heard in support of their submission. The hearings dates are currently set down for 7 & 8 May 2024.

Submissions can be made in the following ways:

- Online (Council's preferred approach)
- Emailed to <u>help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz</u>
- Posted to: Proposed Waste Management and Minimisation Plan Clutha District Council
 1 Rosebank Terrace Balclutha 9230

All submissions received will be acknowledged and will become publicly available information. Should we include a close off date and time for submissions?

4.1 Distribution & Communication

This draft WMMP will be made available at all Council Service Centres as well as on the Council's website.

Distribution of the draft WMMP includes:

- Council Media Release.
- Public notices in the Otago Daily Times, Southland Times and Clutha Leader.
- Letters to Key Stakeholders and interested parties.
- Draft Long Term Plan 2024-34 Consultation Document.

5 Policy Considerations

Compulsory kerbside recycling and performance standards were gazetted under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008. The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 and the Litter Act 1979 are currently under review, and it is anticipated these two acts will be merged.

Having mandated requirements to meet will have financial impacts. The rating policy for wheelie bins will need to be considered as part of the Long Term Plan.

6 Legal Considerations

Revoking the CDC 2018 WMMP and preparing a new plan will involve a special consultative procedure, as required by the Waste Minimisation Act and the Local Government Act.

7 Financial Impact

The WMMP provides information on how the Council intends to fund the activities of the WMMP over the next six years. The mechanisms available include:

- General rates,
- Targeted rates,
- Fees and charges (including gate fees and user charges),
- Subsides and grants, including the Waste Levy Fund and other Ministry for the Environment grants,
- Debt (if required for capital works).

8 References – Tabled/Agenda Attachments

- Attachment A Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2024 (under separate cover)
- Attachment B Statement of Proposal

Statement Of Proposal

Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2024

This statement of proposal has been prepared as part of the Special Consultative Procedure in accordance with section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 and part 4, sections 44 and 50 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA).

Clutha District Council welcomes your feedback on the Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2024 (WMMP). This plan outlines how Council will effectively manage and minimise waste throughout the Clutha District.

It identifies Council's vision, goals, objectives, targets, and methods for achieving effective and efficient waste management and minimisation. The WMMP covers all activities and facilities relating to solid waste in the district, including diverted material and hazardous waste.

Why is the Council proposing a new WMMP?

The Council has a statutory responsibility under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA) to "promote effective and efficient waste minimisation" and, for this purpose, to "adopt a waste management and minimisation plan". The WMA also requires the Council to carry out a waste assessment and a review of the current WMMP.

The waste assessment establishes the planning foundations for the waste management and minimisation plan (WMMP) by describing the waste situation, setting the vision, goals objectives and targets for the district, and developing options for meeting future demand. Much of the key information presented in the waste assessment is summarised in the final WMMP.

The waste assessment completed in July 2023 determined that:

- Clutha will need to introduce mandated glass collections by 2027 and food waste collections by 2030 to Balclutha and Milton.
- Reviewing and updating the Solid Waste Bylaw and rating policy in regard to wheelie bin collection areas is needed.
- Mt Cooee Landfill's consent renewal outcome is still an unknown. A closure plan needs to be developed for the current cell when the application outcome has been decided.
- New mandated requirements will impact on both current and proposed infrastructure.
- Access to services for rural areas under legislative requirements will need to be considered. Greenwaste and glass service provisions will need to be considered if increased kerbside collections are decided against for rural areas.
- Councils transfer station model does not allow for robust data collection, are no longer fit for purpose, and need to be reviewed.
- Clutha currently has little to no diversion facilities and either no, or low access to reprocessing infrastructure.
- There is lack of data on rural and industrial, commercial, and institutional (ICI) waste streams due to little information available for waste that does not come to Mt Cooee

- Diversion potential of some material streams is not being realised.
- There are limited options for organic waste collection and processing.
- Lack of options for resource recovery and repair has resulted in a higher than desired levels of divertible material going to landfill.
- Our waste strategic direction is not reflective of Te rautaki para–Waste Strategy, and previous actions have been aimed at lower levels of the waste hierarchy.
- There is no formal mechanism for waste collaboration in Otago.
- We are not well placed for regional disaster waste planning, continued collaborative project work or consistency across Otago region service provision section and the regional resource recovery network.

The 2018 WMMP was subsequently reviewed regarding the following:

- the vision, goals, objectives, targets, and preferred options of the recently completed 2023 Waste Assessment
- Clutha District Council's Significance and Engagement Policy
- Ministry for the Environment's 2015 guide: Waste Assessments and Waste Management and Minimisation Planning a guide for Territorial Authorities
- Is the plan still fit for purpose?
 - should it be retained as is, or
 - does it require amendment, or
 - does it require revoking and replacement with a newly written WMMP.

As a result of the review, Council endorsed the writing of a new WMMP at the 14 September 2023 Council meeting.

What is Council proposing in the new WMMP?

This WMMP will provide the Council with a blueprint for achieving its waste management and minimisation aims in a structured way. Council has set their strategic direction for managing and minimising waste in the Draft WMMP district through a vision, goals, objectives, and targets that align with the Te rautaki para -The New Zealand Waste Strategy.

Specific actions have been identified in the Action Plan (Part B) to help address these issues and opportunities.

In summary the key actions proposed in the WMMP are to:

- Promote upstream waste hierarchy, minimisation, and local circular economy principles through collaboration.
- Divert more from kerbside collection services.
- Improve access to appropriate waste services for townships and the rural communities they support.
- Using Council facilities to divert more from the overall waste stream:
- Ensure regulations and collaboration enables Clutha District's objectives, targets, and resilience.
- Investigate and provide effective environmental and economic disposal solutions.

Funding the Plan

The WMMP provides information on how the Council intends to fund the activities of the WMMP over the next six years. The mechanisms available include:

- General rates,
- Targeted rates,
- Fees and charges (including gate fees and user charges),
- Subsides and grants, including the Waste Levy Fund and other MfE grants,
- Debt (if required for capital works).

Distribution & Communication

This draft WMMP will be made available at all Council Service Centres as well as on the Council's website at www.cluthadc.govt.nz/draftwmmp

Distribution of the draft WMMP includes:

- Council Media Release.
- Public notices in the ODT, Southland Times and Clutha Leader.
- Letters to Key Stakeholders and interested parties.
- Draft Long Term Plan 2024-34 Consultation Documents .

Proposed timetable for consultation

- 25 January 2024 Council adopts the draft WMMP and this Statement of Proposal
- April 2024* Statement of Proposal and draft WMMP are made available online and hard copies at Council Service Centres and libraries.
- April 2024* Facebook posts, Council newsletter, and Council's 'yoursay' consultation portal.
- Late April 2024* Submissions close 5pm at the same time as submission to the LTP Consultation Document expected late April.
- 7 & 8 2024 Submissions heard by full Council.
- 20 June 2024 Council considers outcome of consultation process and adopts the WMMP including any revisions arising from consultation.

*The exact date for the consultation period and close of submissions will be determined by Council at its meeting on 15 March 2024 in conjunction with post-audit approval to release the Long Term Plan (LTP) Consultation Document.

Right to make submissions and be heard

Any person or organisation making a submission may request to be heard in support of their submission. The hearings dates are currently set down for 7 & 8 May 2024.

Submissions can be made in the following ways:

- Online (Council's preferred approach)
- Emailed to <u>help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz</u>

• Posted to:

Proposed Waste Management and Minimisation Plan Clutha District Council 1 Rosebank Terrace Balclutha 9230

All submissions received will be acknowledged and will become publicly available information. Should we include a close off date and time for submissions?

Clutha District Council

Item for DECISION

Report	Draft Climate Change Strategy
Meeting Date	25 January 2024
Item Number	5
Prepared By	Mike Goldsmith, GHC Consulting
File Reference	881749

REPORT SUMMARY

A draft Climate Change Strategy for the Clutha District has been prepared and is attached. The strategy is intended to satisfy the requirements of stage 3 of Council's climate change leadership and response plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That Council receives the Draft Climate Change Strategy Report, dated 25 January 2024.
- 2. That Council approves the release of the draft Climate Change Strategy, or as amended, for consultation alongside the LTP Consultation.
- **3.** That Council delegates Chief Executive's edits for corrections and updates to the draft Climate Change Strategy if required.

REPORT

1 Background

Through the 2019-20 annual plan process Council committed to developing a climate change project which would demonstrate leadership, fulfil obligations, and help plan for the future impacts of climate change in the Clutha District. The timeline for development of this project is summarised below, grouped into three key stages.

As requested at Council's 9 Nov 2023 workshop, a draft Climate Change Strategy (attached) has been prepared for public consultation. The strategy, once approved, will complete Stage 3 of the climate change project.

Table 1: Summar	y of Strategy	Development and	proposed finalisation.
-----------------	---------------	------------------------	------------------------

Stage	Date	Outcome
0	16 May 2019	Council workshop - outline components and timeline for
(Initiation)		Climate Change Leadership and Response Plan
1	Late 2019	Technical investigations and consultation with local
_		experts to inform Stage 1 report

(Impacts of climate change)	25 June 2020	Council meeting – adopt Stage 1 report
2 (Risk to the built	15 Feb 2021	<i>Staff workshop</i> – identify the vulnerability of Council assets, and the consequence of damage or failure
environment)	22 July 2021	Regulatory & Policy Committee – adopt Stage 2 report
	8 Dec 2022 3 Aug 2023 9 Nov 2023	<i>Council workshops</i> At the 9 Nov 2023 workshop, Councillors requested that staff bring back the draft strategy for approval.
3 (Climate change	25 Jan 2024	Council meeting – adopt draft strategy for consultation
strategy)	April-May 2024	Public consultation on draft strategy, as part of 2024-34 Long Term Plan process.
	20 June 2024	<i>Council meeting</i> – adopt final strategy (to be c confirmed).

2 Strategic Goals and Outcomes

This project is intended to improve the understanding of climate change impacts in the Clutha District, help deliver resilient infrastructure services, and guide decision making. As such, it will help Council and the community progress the priority areas identified in the *Living and Working in Clutha Strategy*. In particular:

- Invest in Infrastructure
- Quality Housing
- Adapt to Climate Change
- Healthy Safe Communities.



Living & Working Strategic Framework

3 Consultation

Public consultation on the draft strategy is scheduled for April – May 2024.

Feedback (including verbal submissions) will be collated and presented to Council and may inform changes to the strategy prior its adoption in June 2024.

It is noted that previous feedback from Otago Regional Council staff has been incorporated into the draft strategy.

4 Discussion

The attached draft Climate Change Strategy is intended to raise awareness of the likely impacts and risks associated with climate change, and ensure this information is incorporated into appropriate planning, decision-making and responses. The strategy will assist Council as it looks to coordinate and share the management of risk and communicate with stakeholders about priorities.

The strategy provides relevant context (environment, impacts, risk); summarises legislative requirements; defines a series of underlying principles; and identifies a range of prioritised actions.

5 Legal Considerations

N/A

6 Financial Impact

This project has been funded through the Strategic Planning budget.

7 References – Tabled/Agenda Attachments

Attachment A Draft Clutha District Climate Change Strategy

Draft Clutha District Climate Change Strategy

January 2024



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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

To be prepared by Mayor Cadogan. Could reference the impacts of cyclone Gabrielle in the North Island in February 2023. Human cost (including loss of life) and financial burden, especially to replace infrastructure.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Preparing for, and responding to, the impact of climate change is an urgent issue for local government in New Zealand.^[1] The Clutha District Council ('Council') has specific responsibilities to consider the impacts of climate change and to promote social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being.

A clear strategy to demonstrate leadership and response to climate change is therefore crucial. This must consider what is happening at the global and national level, but also remain relevant for local communities in the Clutha District. The decisions that we take now will be critical to ensuring the ongoing wellbeing of our people and our communities.

1.1 WHAT IS CLIMATE CHANGE?

Carbon dioxide and other 'greenhouse' gases in the atmosphere trap heat from the sun, which is necessary to keep earth warm (Figure 1-1). Since the Industrial Revolution humans have released increasing amounts of these gases into the atmosphere. As the concentration of gases increases, more heat is trapped, warming the earth at an unprecedented rate. This process is known as climate change.

Within the Clutha District, climate change is expected to bring higher temperatures, more frequent and heavier rainfall, higher sea levels, and more flood events.^[2] How the climate continues to change in the future will largely depend upon how we as a global community act to reduce greenhouse gases. However, even if we manage to reduce our emissions, the effects of climate change will continue. Some of the consequences are already locked in.

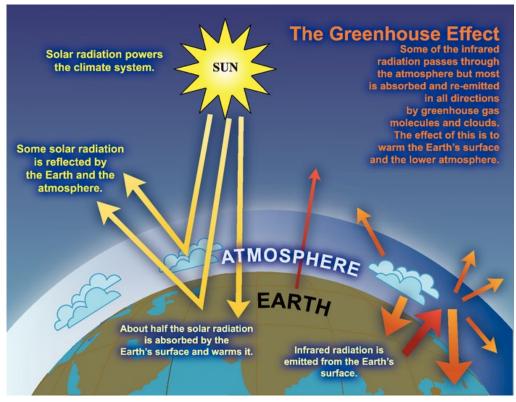


Figure 1-1 An idealised model of the greenhouse effect [13]

DRAFT

1.2 CLUTHA DISTRICT CLIMATE CHANGE PROJECT

Council's ability to provide services and key infrastructure for the community may be significantly impacted if we don't consider climate change impacts through our strategic planning processes. We currently do this through our Infrastructure Strategy, Activity Management Plans, and the implementation of various projects.

To enable a consistent approach and provide clear direction, Council commenced work on a major climate change project in 2019. The aim of this project is to provide well-researched and locally relevant information about the likely impacts and risks associated with climate change, with input from local and external experts. The first two stages are now complete and have helped to inform this strategy. More information about the project is available at <u>www.cluthadc.govt.nz/council/plans-andstrategies/climate-change</u>.

The third stage is to ensure that information about the likely impacts and risks associated with climate change are incorporated into appropriate planning, decision-making, and responses. This information will enable Council to share and coordinate the management of risk, and to communicate with stakeholders about priorities.

This Climate Change Strategy, guided by a set of principles, is a roadmap for reaching our climate change objectives. A series of action plans are also included, to identify the specific steps we will take to get there.

1.3 VISION, PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES



Vision

Clutha District Council will take an active leadership role and adapt our activities to withstand the impacts of climate change, so that our communities are resilient and can anticipate and respond to new challenges as they arise.

Strategy purpose	Strategy objectives
The purpose of this strategy is to align the relevant activities already underway throughout the Clutha District. This strategy aims to provide a framework for collaboration across our district and beyond – this includes neighbouring Councils, iwi partners, local and central government, private industry, NGOs, education, and most importantly our communities and people.	 The objectives of this strategy are to: Show leadership on the issue of climate change. Provide a starting point for conversations with our communities, and to raise awareness of climate change impacts and risks. Integrate and coordinate climate change-related work throughout different areas of Council. Provide an agreed base-line dataset, which can be incorporated into planning, decisions, and responses.

2.0 ENVIRONMENT SETTING

The Clutha District covers an area of 6,362 km², stretching from the Umbrella Mountains in West Otago to Taieri Mouth in the east, and from the Lammerlaw Range in the north to the Catlins in the south (Figure 2-1). The district is bisected by the Clutha River/Mata-Au, which drains the largest catchment by area and flow in New Zealand.

This diverse physical environment is home to about 18,500 people, who have historically relied on a relatively stable, benign climate. However, a range of new challenges and opportunities will need to be faced in the future, and action taken to ensure our communities and the physical environment remain resilient.

2.1 THE CLUTHA DISTRICT

Across the Clutha District, it is projected that there will be local variations in the amount of change experienced - some areas will warm more, while others will experience higher increases in precipitation. For this reason, previous work ^[2] divided the Clutha District into four distinct areas so we could summarise localised climate change impacts. These areas generally experience similar climatic conditions, or contain similar geographic features:

- Coastal and Eastern Clutha: This area includes much of Clutha's coastline from Molyneux Bay to Taieri Mouth. It incorporates the Balclutha, Kaitangata and Bruce wards, and the towns of Balclutha, Milton and Waihola. This area is agriculturally dominated, has extensive low-lying areas, and can be prone to floods. The population of this area is about 10,700, which is approximately 57% of all Clutha residents.
- **The Catlins:** The sparsely populated Catlins Ward stretches from Chaslands and the Catlins conservation park in the south, to Kaka Point in the north. It is the Clutha District's wettest environment, boasting native forests, stunning coastal landforms, and agriculture in the hinterland. The population of this area is approximately 1,300.
- **Central Clutha:** This area includes the fertile Clutha Valley, the Clutha River, and its tributary, the Pomahaka. It incorporates the Clinton, Clutha Valley and Lawrence-Tuapeka wards, extending from the town of Clinton in the southwest to Lawrence and Waipori in the northeast. The combined population of this area is approximately 3,800.
- West Otago: This area includes the West Otago Ward and the towns of Tapanui, Heriot and Edievale. The terrain comprises steep high country, rolling hills, and broad floodplain areas. This area also experiences the greatest temperature extremes; it can be the warmest part of the Clutha District in summer, but also the coolest in winter. Approximately 2,300 people live in West Otago.





Figure 2-1 The Clutha District, separated into four distinct geographic and climatic areas

2.2 THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN CLUTHA

The Clutha District is already vulnerable to natural hazards including droughts, slips, flooding, and coastal erosion/inundation. Climate change will mean that the consequences of existing hazards becoming more serious, and the district will also face new challenges and opportunities. Locally and globally, community awareness and concern for this issue is growing. Previous community consultation has shown us that people are concerned about climate change and its impacts on the place we call home and want to see action.

Council undertook work in 2020 to better understand the impacts of climate change in Clutha,^[2] with the key findings summarised in Figure 2-2.



Figure 2-2 Likely impacts of climate change for the Clutha District

2.3 RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH CLIMATE CHANGE IN CLUTHA

Previous work by Council ^[6] has found that the highest risks facing infrastructure in the Clutha District are those associated with:

- potable water treatment plants
- road networks
- homes and buildings, and
- flood or coastal defence mechanisms.

These risks are created by an exposure to flooding, coastal inundation, or heavy rainfall events, all of which are predicted to increase due to climate change. Roads, buildings, and potable water treatment plants are important lifelines that, if damaged would significantly disrupt the social and economic functioning of the district. Flood and coastal defence mechanisms provide protection to some of this critical infrastructure, particularly along the Clutha River/Mata-Au, and so the consequence of these systems failing is also extreme.

Other potential concerns for the district include risks to community facilities (such as halls, libraries & recreation centres), and contamination from closed landfills due to flooding or coastal inundation, heavy rainfall events, or ongoing coastal erosion.

Sector	Risk description	Risk ^a (consequence)
Three Waters Infrastructure	Risk to stormwater pipes due to heavy rainfall and increased flood events throughout the district.	Moderate
	Risk to potable water intakes and treatment plants due to contamination during heavy rainfall periods, flood events, or coastal inundation.	Extreme
Transport	Risk to road networks due to coastal or flood inundation.	Extreme
Homes and buildings	Risk to homes, community housing units and commercial buildings in low-lying areas exposed to coastal or flood inundation.	Extreme
Public Amenities	Risk to community facilities (halls, libraries, recreation centres) due to flood or coastal inundation.	Major
Waste	Risk of contamination from closed landfills due to flood or coastal inundation.	Major
Flood and coastal defence	Risk to flood and coastal defence mechanisms (both ORC and CDC assets) as a result of more frequent inundation caused by floods or coastal hazards.	Extreme

Table 2-1	Summary of the top climate change risks for infrastructure in the Clutha District
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2.4 CARBON EMISSIONS IN CLUTHA

In 2023, Clutha's economy generated approximately \$1.2 billion in GDP (8% of Otago's GDP). Our economy is heavily reliant on the primary sector, which accounts for one third of the district's total GDP share. Manufacturing and construction are the two other biggest sectors in Clutha, accounting for 10% and 6.4% of GDP respectively (Figure 2-3).

^a The consequence ratings ^[6] range from insignificant, to minor, moderate, major, and extreme.



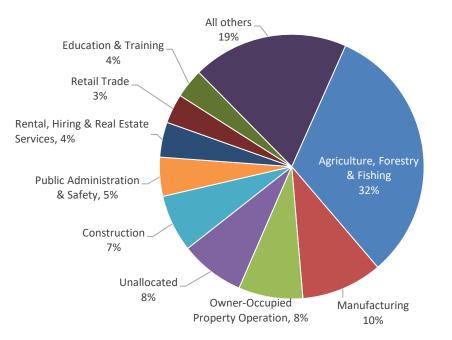


Figure 2-3 Proportion of GDP by industry in the Clutha District in 2020

2.4.1 Clutha District Council emissions

Clutha District Council is yet to undertake a Council-specific greenhouse gas emission inventory, but this is planned as part of the action plan associated with this strategy (along with other opportunities to reduce our emissions going forward, as listed in section 6.1).

Council currently owns 68 vehicles, and our contractors also use large machinery for mowing and vegetation control. The Council is considering options for converting some of the corporate fleet to electric or hybrid vehicles where possible and installed an electric car charger at its Rosebank site in 2021. Clutha District emissions

A report prepared for the ORC ^[11] identified the following key insights for the Clutha District:

- Gross emissions in Clutha are estimated at 1,829,896 tonnes of CO₂e.^b This is approximately 31% of the Otago Region's gross emissions.
- Net emissions for the district are much lower, at an estimated 270,119 tonnes of CO₂e (the lowest in the Otago Region) due to our significant forest estate, which is an emissions sink.
- Emissions come primarily from the agriculture sector (Figure 2-4). Clutha has the highest number of sheep and dairy cattle in the Otago Region, and these contribute 43% and 31% to our agriculture emissions respectively. Clutha also applies a large amount of fertiliser, and this accounts for 15% of agriculture emissions.
- Stationary energy is the next largest emitting sector, with large amounts of coal (almost 60,000 tonnes) being used, primarily by manufacturing industries.

^b CO₂e, or carbon dioxide equivalent, is a measure for how much global warming a given type and amount of greenhouse gas causes, using the equivalent amount of carbon dioxide as the reference.

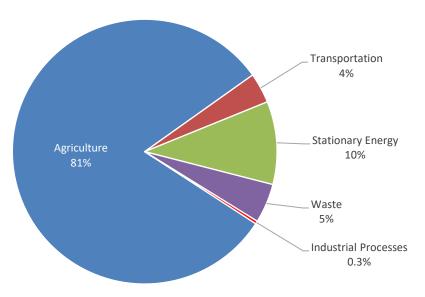


Figure 2-4 Greenhouse gas emissions for Clutha by source

The figures above reflect the rural nature of our district, the primary industries that support our economy, and the travel distances between urban centres. The agriculture industry is working hard to embrace innovation and find new ways of working to curb some of the emissions it produces,^c and this will be particularly important for the Clutha District.

We need to work together to address our district's carbon emissions. In our climate change action plans (section 6.0), we outline what we will do to reduce the Council's emissions, and how we will work with our communities to reduce our district's overall footprint.

2.5 WORK CURRENTLY UNDERWAY

The potential impacts of climate change are already being considered when undertaking work to replace or improve infrastructure across the district. Two examples of work being undertaken by the Clutha District Council are summarised below, while Box 1 describes adaptation work planned by the Otago Regional Council for the Clutha Delta area.

2.5.1 Hina Hina Bridge

The Hina Hina Bridge across Catlins Lake was opened in July 2021, replacing the previous bridge which was built in 1957. The single lane, \$3.6 million bridge was jointly funded by Clutha District Council and Waka Kotahi, has a design life of 100 years, and is designed to be above any future flood levels, even with the prospect of rising sea level due to climate change. However, the bridge does link to some low-lying roads in the Hina Hina area which are already vulnerable to inundation and erosion.^[2]

^c <u>Beef + Lamb</u>, <u>Fonterra</u>



Figure 2-5 The new Hina Hina Bridge

2.5.2 Resilient water supply

The establishment of a new water supply from the Clutha River was confirmed by Council in July 2021, with a budget of \$19.8 million. This project will provide a high-quality, reliable source of water for much of central Clutha, including the Lawrence, Waitahuna, Tuapeka and Hillend areas, with construction expected to be completed in late 2024 (Figure 2-6). The Clutha River is less likely to be impacted by climate change than current water sources such as the Waitahuna and Tuapeka rivers, which can be affected by drought (limiting supply) and floods (sedimentation, flood damage). Local knowledge, climate change predictions, and significant community support were factors which led to Council's decision to create a new single water source and treatment plant.



Figure 2-6 Pipe welding and installation (left) as part of the Greenfield Water Scheme Project which will link from the lower Clutha River (right) to Lawrence

Box 1. Clutha Delta Natural Hazards Adaptation Strategy

The Clutha Delta extends from 4km north of Balclutha to the sea. This area is exposed to risks from coastal and flood hazard risks, which are projected to increase due to the impacts of climatic change (section 2.3). The Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme (the scheme) helps to mitigate the risk of flooding and provides effective land drainage across the delta. The scheme covers an area of about 9,300 hectares and is managed by the Otago Regional Council (ORC).

The scheme combines flood protection (flood banks) and land drainage and is a critical piece of infrastructure which provides protection to people and property and supports the rural and urban economy of Balclutha and the Clutha Delta. Much of the area protected by the scheme is less than 1 meter above mean sea level.

ORC is following the Dynamic Adaptative Pathways Planning approach (DAPP, or 'Adaptation Pathways') ^[16] to aid the development of a Clutha Delta natural hazards adaptation strategy. Community engagement is at the centre of this approach, recognising that effective engagement is essential for successful natural hazards and climate change adaptation planning and decision-making. Community engagement activities for the programme are planned to kick-off in 2024.

Development of the natural hazards adaptation strategy will include detailed natural hazards and risk assessments, a review of the performance of the scheme, and a review of adaptation options (e.g., the PARA framework; Protect, Accommodate, Retreat, Avoid) ^[19]. Scheme performance and risk assessments for will commence early in 2024. A separate workstream will focus on Emergency Management planning (e.g., flood warning and preparedness).

The ORC programme will focus on core natural hazards concerns, including:

- Balclutha township flood risks, safety and resilience.
- Flood risk to the wider delta, including Stirling, Kaitangata and other rural communities.
- Rising groundwater levels and agricultural sustainability.
- Management of the interface between land and sea, including key infrastructure.
- Seismic hazards such as liquefaction and lateral spreading.

Broader aspects such as biodiversity and ecology will also be considered as important factors in the assessment of adaptation approaches, and the programme will consider potential opportunities in these areas.



View of the lower Clutha Delta and Molyneux Bay



3.0 STRATEGIC & LEGISLATIVE SETTING

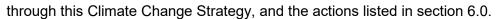
There is a wealth of advice (and some important legal requirements) for local councils, as they look to find the best way to respond to the impacts of climate change. This section looks at the strategic direction and legislative requirements which are particularly relevant to the Clutha District. A key message is that central, regional, and local government need to pursue similar climate objectives. Similarly, Council will need to build effective relationships and open communication with the local communities that it serves, as this is where the impacts will ultimately be felt.

3.1 LIVING AND WORKING IN CLUTHA STRATEGY

The *Living and Working in Clutha Strategy* describes, at the highest level, where we want the district to head, and how Council intends to work towards its objectives. Adapting to climate change is included as a priority work area.

The strategy identifies some high-level climate objectives, including the ability to plan for changing land use opportunities & limitations, improved risk management & communication, and a reduction in the use of fossil fuels.

The strategy notes that ongoing work will be required across all Council activity areas, to incorporate new information on impacts and risk into work programs and decision-making. Additional direction on this process is provided



3.2 TAITUARĀ – ADVICE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The role of local government is under close scrutiny at present, and a recent report ^[14] prepared by Taituarā^d provides some strategic oversight regarding a range of drivers (including climate change).

The report introduces some key considerations for local government, so it can better support communities as they face a period of rapid transition due to changes in climate and other key drivers. A key message is the need to transition to a 'new normal', and to change some of our underlying assumptions and the way we do things in response to a 'disrupted' climate (Appendix A2.0).

For example, extreme weather events were previously considered to be rare. As they become increasingly frequent, land use decisions will need to consider the impacts of these type of events. Similarly, while there has previously been an assumption that all settlements will remain viable, in the future, built infrastructure may need to be moveable and vulnerable communities eventually relocated to 'safe zones'.





^d Local Government Professionals Aotearoa

3.3 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991

The *Resource Management Act 1991* (RMA) remains a key piece of legislation in New Zealand. Under the RMA, local government is required to consider the effects of a changing climate on communities, and to incorporate climate change into existing frameworks, plans, projects, and standard decision-making procedures. The RMA is a key guiding document for how the Council considers climate change.^e

The Clutha District Plan was made operative seven years after the RMA was enacted, in 1998. The plan notes that sites within the district "may be susceptible to sea level rise" and provides Council with the ability to exercise some control over the design of new buildings near the coast. However, it has limited ability to require new development to be located away from hazard-prone areas, with the exception of flood-risk areas in Milton.^[7]

3.4 NEW ZEALAND COASTAL POLICY STATEMENT 2010

The *New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010* (NZCPS) provides national policy direction for coastal management in New Zealand. It states policies to achieve the RMA's purpose of

promoting sustainable management on a range of issues including coastal subdivision and coastal hazard risks. The NZCPS directs that climate change be taken into account in managing coastal hazard risk, and that management of these risks be done proactively by:

- locating new development away from areas prone to such risks
- considering responses, including managed retreat, for existing development in this situation, and
- protecting or restoring natural defences to coastal hazards.

A key policy in the NZCPS is to have regard to hazard risks and processes such as sea level rise over at least 100 years. Council's District Plan must give effect to the NZCPS.

3.5 MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT GUIDANCE

The Ministry for the Environment's *Coastal Hazards and Climate Change* report ^[16] provides useful guidance for local government, including future projections for coastal areas, the leadership role of Councils, and the need for ongoing community involvement. The following section is relevant:

"Local government will need to identify communities that are vulnerable to the effects of sea-level rise and address the implications. Climate change will create risks for communities...that will increase over time. Different effects of climate change will be felt by vulnerable communities first, and some are already on the front line."

This report was published in 2017 and a full review of this guidance is expected from the Ministry for the Environment in 2024.

New Zealand

Coastal Policy

Statement 2010



^e In November 2023, the new Government announced it would cancel the proposed resource management reforms developed by the previous Labour Government (including the Climate Adaptation Act). The new Government has signaled it will develop new legislation to replace the RMA during its tenure.



3.6 REGIONAL CONTEXT

3.6.1 Regional Policy Statement

Current Regional Policy Statement

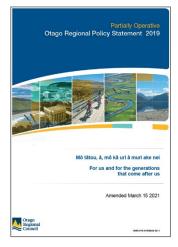
The current partially operative *Otago Regional Policy Statement* (RPS) includes an objective that 'Otago's communities are prepared for and able to adapt to the effects of climate change'.

This is supported by two policies which provide consistent guidance for local communities on the adverse effects of climate change.

Sea level rise

"Ensure Otago's people and communities are able to adapt to, or mitigate the effects of sea level rise, over no less than 100 years, by using:

- a) A sea level rise of at least 1 metre by 2115, relative to 1990 mean sea level (Otago Metric Datum); and
- b) Adding an additional 10mm per year beyond 2115, or the most up-to-date national or regional guidance on likely sea level rise."



Climate change:

Ensure Otago's people and communities are able to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change, over no less than 100 years, by all of the following:

- a) Taking into account the effects of climate change, including by using the best relevant climate change data.
- b) Applying a precautionary approach when assessing and managing the effects of climate change where there is scientific uncertainty and potentially significant or irreversible effects.
- c) Encouraging activities that assist to reduce or mitigate the effects of climate change.
- d) Encouraging system resilience.

A range of methods are listed in the RPS to achieve this objective, including:

- Regional, City and District Council relationships ^f
- Regional, City and District Plans
- Research, monitoring, and reporting
- Non-RMA strategies and plans
- Education and information
- Advocacy and facilitation.

New Regional Policy Statement

A new Regional Policy Statement is expected to be finalised in 2024. This will include integrated consideration of climate change within its policy framework.

3.6.2 Regional climate change collaboration

Under the Otago Mayoral and CE Forums, Council participates in the Otago Climate Officers' Group (OCOG), which helps to coordinate the wide range of climate change – related activities undertaken by local government in the Otago Region. Core work includes sequestration,

emissions scenario modelling and greenhouse gas emissions inventory at both regional and district levels.

3.6.3 Greenhouse gas emission inventory

The OCOG group is coordinating a greenhouse gas emission inventory report which is expected to be finalised in 2024. This will include various sources of greenhouse gas emissions. Of particular importance to the Clutha District is inventory data with respect to agriculture and forestry that addresses both carbon dioxide (CO2) and methane (CH4) greenhouse contributions. The inventory is expected to be updated on a bi-annual basis.

3.7 CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE ACT 2002

The *Climate Change Response Act 2002* provides a framework through which New Zealand can implement policies to contribute to the global effort under the <u>Paris Agreement</u> to limit the global average temperature increase to 1.5° Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

In 2019, this act was amended through the *Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019.* The amendments do four key things:

- 1. Set new domestic greenhouse gas emissions reduction target for New Zealand. These require:
 - \circ all greenhouse gases, other than biogenic methane, to reach net zero by 2050.
 - emissions of biogenic methane to reduce to at least 10 per cent below 2017 levels by 2030, and to at least 24–47 per cent below 2017 levels by 2050.
- 2. Establish a system of emissions budgets to act as stepping stones towards the long-term target.
- 3. Require the Government to develop and implement policies for climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- 4. Establish a Climate Change Commission to provide expert advice and monitoring to help keep successive governments on track to meeting long-term goals.

3.7.1 National Adaption Plan and the Emissions Reduction Plan

The *national adaptation plan* and the *emissions reduction plan* are both requirements under the Climate Change Response Act 2002. They are not regulations in themselves, but they do set out the Government's plans to meet New Zealand's climate goals.

The *national adaptation plan* ^[21] sets out the Government's strategies, policies and proposals to address key climate change risks including:

- *Natural* (e.g., ecosystems, invasive species)
- Human (social cohesion and community wellbeing, displacement of communities)
- *Economy* (e.g., lost productivity, disaster relief expenditure)
- Built (e.g., risks to water supplies and buildings), and
- *Governance* (institutional arrangements are fit for climate change adaptation).

The government's *emissions reduction plan* ^[20] includes actions to help maximise opportunities and transition to lower emissions for the following sectors:

- *Transport* i.e., changing the way we travel, improving our passenger vehicles and promoting a more efficient freight system.
- *Energy and industry* preparing our renewable electricity sector to power the lowemissions economy, moving away from fossil fuels, and speeding up industrial decarbonisation through fuel switching and energy efficiency.

- Agriculture continuing to develop and adopt the technology and practices that keep this sector on track to meet the biogenic methane targets and reduce long-lived emissions.
- Waste and HFCs supporting the waste hierarchy, prioritising the reduction and diversion of waste from landfill (particularly organic), and reducing hydro-fluorocarbons (HFCs) with high-global warming potential.
- *Building and construction* reducing building-related emissions and realising health or other co-benefits where possible.
- *Forestry* establishing forest sinks that remove carbon from the atmosphere and promote biodiversity and wider environmental outcomes where possible.

Most of these sectors play an important part in Clutha's economy, and Council will monitor any legislative changes, and work with key stakeholders to implement any requirements.

Additional guidance for local government on how they should have regard to the *national adaptation plan* and the *emissions reduction plan* is available through a guidance note prepared by the Ministry for the Environment ^[22].

3.8 TE RUNANGA O NGAI TAHU CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

A strategy ^[18] and action plan have been prepared by Ngai Tahu, to guide responses to the risks and opportunities presented by climate change, across the whole spectrum of Ngai Tahu interests, assets and activities. The strategy was developed through a comprehensive engagement process with whanau.

The central theme is kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and includes actions grouped under eight pou, including:

- Emit no greenhouse gases
- Marae and whanau resilience
- Careful wai (water) use
- Operations do not harm the environment
- Operations do not harm ecosystems
- Eliminate waste
- Grow renewable energy, and
- Education & community.



The strategy states that "Te Rūnanga will take appropriate action to adapt all areas of tribal interests and activity to withstand the compounding effects of our changing climate, to ensure Ngāi Tahu activities are aligned to ... projected climate change outcomes, and to make the most of opportunities, so that Ngāi Tahu Whānui have every chance to thrive even in the most extreme scenarios."

It will be essential that Clutha District Council's adaptation and mitigation activities (as identified in section 6.0) evolve in an ongoing manner in response to insights from Māori. As Council listens more closely to the voices of iwi and hapū, improved knowledge and insights about the real impacts of climate change from a Māori perspective will emerge.

4.0 WHY CREATE THIS STRATEGY?

"Responsive leadership and a holistic approach to climate change is urgent. We must act now to avoid future risk and, at the same time, agree how to manage safety, existing risks, limitations and liabilities to underpin effective mitigation and adaptation." ^[4]

There is a risk that the approach towards climate change adaptation in the Clutha District may be somewhat disjointed, focus on responding to certain types of natural hazard events, or concentrate only on certain locations. Although Council does consider the impacts of climate change through the Infrastructure Strategy and our Activity Management Plans, we don't necessarily have the consistent guidance, resources, and tools that we need.

Future-focused decision-making can be challenging, and people can be reluctant to engage on this issue - there are always plenty of other, 'more urgent' issues to address. The scale of change that is required for communities to adapt to climate change may be significant and at this stage, is not well understood.

There are a range of physical and human systems which may be affected by the impacts of climate change into the future. These include land-use planning; stormwater, wastewater, and drinking water infrastructure; roading and transport; and the finance and insurance sectors. Climate change impacts and implications can also spread or 'cascade' across systems, compounding to form multiple impacts across sectors.^[5]

There may be cases where managed retreat needs to be considered. However, this should be a last resort option, and it is acknowledged that Council and local communities have a limited understanding of how a managed retreat process would be approached. One of the few examples of managed retreat in New Zealand occurred in the Clutha District at Kelso, after a series of major flood events in the 1970's and 1980's.^[17]

There may be significant implications for local authorities, in terms of how climate change risks are managed. These include:

- The adequacy of current institutional arrangements.
- Interdependencies between agencies and assets for example Three Waters, transport, flood risk management, and utility providers.
- The planning and design life of assets.
- Managing community expectations regarding future levels of service.
- Addressing uncertainty and changing risk profiles.
- Community understanding and engagement.
- Funding.
- Legal liability and legal challenges to delayed action.

Despite these challenges, Council (together with strategic partners such as the ORC) believes that it has a good understanding of the risks facing our district, and that it is best placed to engage with local communities on climate change adaptation. Additional work will be required, and this will need to focus on providing positive solutions to the challenges and opportunities that exist. This work is urgent, as the costs of inaction will be greater than the costs of action.



Figure 4-1 Pounawea, during a major storm surge event in April 2006 (Otago University Geography Dept)



Figure 4-2 Ross Place, Lawrence, following an intense downpour in February 2023

Council has some important responsibilities in relation to climate change. We have some good information about the impacts, key risks, and the uncertainties we are likely to face (noting that this information will continue to be refined into the future). We must use this information to inform our discussions with communities and other stakeholders, and where necessary, be prepared to assess a range of adaption options. This strategy is intended to provide a common framework through which climate change work can be integrated and coordinated throughout Council and between other agencies.

5.0 PRINCIPLES

This Climate Change Strategy is intended to provide a shared framework through which Council, the community, and other agencies can work to manage the risks associated with climate change. The strategy is based on a set of principles which are intended to guide the actions identified below, as well as future projects and decisions.

The principles are grouped under three core concepts, which are aligned with our overall goal to promote the environmental, social, cultural, and economic well-being of our communities. The principles draw from previous risk management work undertaken by Council,^[7] national guidance,^[8] and declarations by other councils.^{[9] & [10]}



5.1 ENSURE SAFETY

- → As we manage the risks associated with climate change (both now and into the future) we will ensure the safety of people, and the effective operation of community infrastructure and public and private assets.
- → We will acknowledge those most affected, and address community concerns about the risks associated with climate change.
- → We will support our communities to adapt to climate change, recognising that capacity to do so is dependent on physical, social, economic, and political factors.
- → Actions to manage or mitigate the impacts of climate change will not negatively impact the wider community.

5.2 PLAN AHEAD

- → We will use resources wisely, so that the location and form of community assets and infrastructure will result in a more resilient community.
- → We recognise that allocating funding now to reduce the risks associated with climate change is an investment for the future.
- → We will manage for uncertainty by taking an adaptive risk management approach, to allow for changes in risk and in our understanding of natural hazards.
- → We recognise that the effects of climate change (including sea level rise) may not be felt until late within the planning horizon. We will ensure that future generations do not have to cope with the results of poor planning decisions made today.
- → We will adopt a responsible approach when considering new development on land which may be increasingly affected by climate-change impacts, and when mitigating the risk of existing development.

→ The risk associated with climate change will reduce over time by taking a broad-scale, adaptive approach over the longer term. The ability to respond to changes in the nature and extent of risk and provide the level of safety desired by the community is essential.

5.3 SUSTAINABLE LAND USE

- \rightarrow Decisions enabling the sustainable and appropriate use of land will be informed by:
 - Community awareness and acknowledgement of both the benefits and the risks that exist for development already located in hazard-prone areas.
 - Consideration of all available options to manage climate change risk, including structural and non-structural options.
 - Land use planning controls.
- → We accept that some parts of our district may require retreat and removal of infrastructure to adequately manage risks.
- → We will explore opportunities to build awareness of risk and encourage community-led steps to increase preparedness and resilience.
- → We will consider the predicted impacts of climate change on planning, constructing and renewal of key infrastructure to improve community resilience.

6.0 CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLANS

The Clutha District Climate Change Project aims to provide a base-line data set to be incorporated into planning and decision-making. This data is summarised in sections 2.2 and 2.3 above, as well as through previous Council reports ^[2,6].

Future planning and decision-making will involve a range of processes at the Council and community level, and the following sections identify actions, grouped under five key areas. Some actions will need to be re-evaluated over time, and additional actions, to be implemented over the longer term (50-100 years), will also need to be developed.

Notes:

- 1. Where work has, or is already being undertaken, this is shown with a ✓ as well as any relevant references (section 8.0).
- 2. All actions listed in this strategy are important, but they need to be prioritised to enable efficient implementation.
- 3. The actions have been grouped into the following:
 - Highest priority actions
 - Medium priority actions
 - Other actions.
- 4. The tables below show the highest actions at the top, with lower priority actions listed below.

6.1 EMISSIONS

The actions listed below will help to reduce Council's own emissions and help us as we work with our communities to reduce the district's overall footprint. They include actions relating to waste management, as this activity can have a high emissions profile.

Priority	Action	Key partners
	 Identify landfills susceptible to climate change impacts and monitor risk over time.^g 	
High	 Undertake regular district greenhouse gas emissions inventory, to allow us to monitor changes over time. ✓ ^[11] 	 Otago Regional Council
Medium	3. Undertake regular Council greenhouse gas emissions inventory, so we can set realistic goals.	
	 Reconfigure Council's waste management contracts to have a greener focus (e.g., focus on diverting material from the waste stream, landfill methane gas collection system). 	 Waste management contractors
	 Reduce the amount of waste generated by Council - incorporate packaging and life-cycle considerations within Council's Procurement Policy (see section 3.7). 	Suppliers
Other	 6. Provide for increased energy efficiency of Council activities. Opportunities include: Community housing upgrades. Enviroschools education program. Upgrades to water supply and wastewater infrastructure. Promote travel efficiency & support public transport initiatives. Direct emissions – e.g., replace coal-fired boilers or transition to low-emission vehicles. 	 Suppliers Community- based public/shared transport providers
	7. Support initiatives by the private sector to reduce emissions (advocacy, leadership).	 Agriculture sector ^h
	8. Support initiatives to improve the network of electric car chargers in the district. In early 2024, there were six public EV charging stations in the Clutha District.	• Various ⁱ
	9. Promote active transport, including support for local walking and cycling initiatives.	Community

^g Council is aware there may be closed landfills that have not yet been identified, which may be susceptible to coastal or riverbank erosion.

^h Further work is required to understand what role Council might play in reducing private sector (e.g., agriculture, industry) greenhouse gas emissions – for example through our land use planning and building authority roles. Future versions of this strategy will include actions to address this matter.

ⁱ This action might be achieved through Council processes or relationships with stakeholders (e.g., PowerNet, Waka Kotahi).

6.2 COASTAL AND FLOOD DEFENCES

Parts of the Clutha District are heavily reliant on flood and coastal defence mechanisms. These include the Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme, and other flood banks and seawalls maintained by CDC. Previous work by ORC ^[12] notes that parts of the scheme will likely be under threat within the next few decades due to the impacts of climate change, including sea level rise and coastal erosion. The low-lying nature of the lower Clutha Delta provides limited topographical resistance to inundation from the sea or the river (Figure 6-1). ORC intends to review the performance of the scheme as part of the development of a natural hazards adaptation strategy (section 2.5 – Box 1). Actions for CDC are listed below.

Priority	Action	Key partners
High	 Advocate on behalf of the community and ensure that the principles underlying this strategy are incorporated into ORC's review of the Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme. 	ORCCommunity
	 Support/work with ORC to monitor sea and groundwater levels, and shoreline change on the Clutha Delta. ✓ 	• ORC
Other	 Work with other agencies to maintain a robust warning, prediction, communication, and response system for natural hazard events. ✓ 	Emergency Management OtagoORC

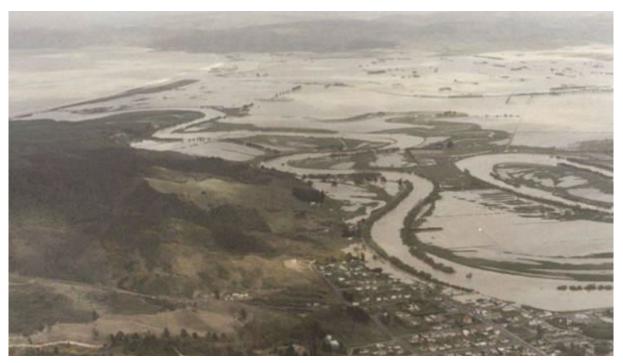


Figure 6-1 The lower Clutha Delta in flood (looking from Kaitangata towards Paretai) 15 October 1978 (ORC)

6.3 LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE AND EDUCATION

As a Council, we believe it is important to show leadership when it comes to climate change. We also understand that it is important to work together with other groups and individuals, because none of us can effectively respond to this challenge alone. Important considerations include meeting our legal liabilities, and that that our institutional arrangements are adequate to meet the changing risks and potential loss of service levels to the community. The actions listed below relate to Council's leadership, governance, and education roles.

Priority	Action	Key partners
Medium	 Maintain active working relationships with key stakeholders such as the agricultural sector, primary industry, mana whenua and youth. 	 Community groups Clutha District Youth Council
	 Work with regional and central government on climate change related issues, and make submissions, as appropriate, on proposed policy and legislation. 	 Schools Neighbouring councils
0.1	 Investigate options for community collaboration to improve understanding, and to mitigate climate change impacts. 	 Mana whenua ORC
Other	 Continue working with ORC and other councils in the region to discuss climate change issues and progress joint projects. 	 Central Government

Goal 2: Our key documents, decisions, and operating procedures align with our climate change principles.

Priority	Action	Key partners
Medium	 Ensure that Council documents, decisions and operating procedures align with the climate change principles listed in this strategy. 	
	2. Maintain organisational awareness of the climate change principles and actions.	
Other	 Incorporate the actions in this strategy into documents due for review (e.g., Activity Management Plans, Long Term Plan). ✓ 	Community
Other	4. Report on progress towards actions in annual reports.	
	5. Review this Climate Change Strategy every three years.	

Goal 3: The community understands climate change issues and Council's response.

Priority	Action	Key partners
	 Raise awareness about climate change impacts and risks through Council platforms (e.g., website, libraries). 	. Community
	2. Develop a 2-page 'plain English' summary of this strategy.	CommunityCouncil library
Other	3. Celebrate success and key milestones.	and service
	 Continue to review and update communications material and methods. 	centre staff

6.4 LAND USE AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

To be resilient to the impacts of climate change, our communities will increasingly rely on appropriate use of land, as well as a robust built environment. The actions listed below aim to improve the resilience of community infrastructure and ensure that land use activities can cope with anticipated climate change impacts.

Goal 1: Existing and future development is	resilient and avoids the work	t impacts of climate change
Goal 1. Existing and future development is	resilient and avoius the wors	si impacts of chinate change.

Priority	Actions	Key partners
	 Incorporate climate change awareness and risk mitigation into relevant council activities (including land-use zoning, urban design, building consents and infrastructure planning). ✓ ^[7] 	
High	 2. Give effect to existing legislation and policy: Regional Policy Statement, NZ Coastal Policy Statement Resource Management Act, Building Act National Adaptation Plan National Emissions Reduction Plan 3. Identify opportunities for enhanced and climate resilient building specifications and design. Examples include alternative types of development such as eco-villages and cohousing, infrastructure improvements to provide increased capacity for urban intensification, and green infrastructure. 	 Local communities ORC Central Government

Goal 2: Identify, understand, and reduce risk to communities, and the infrastructure and services which support them.

Priority	Actions	Key partners
Priority	 Actions 1. Identify the impacts of climate change on local communities. ✓ ^[2] 2. Identify key risks to the infrastructure which supports local communities. ✓ ^[6] 3. Monitor ongoing impacts (e.g., through customer service requests and complaints) and use this information to inform decisions on land use and infrastructure projects. ✓ 4. Provide relevant information through LIM's. ✓ 5. Council's Infrastructure Strategy to: a. Identify work required to future proof critical infrastructure, and likely timing of that work. b. Identify potentially redundant infrastructure. 6. Collaborate with ORC on the Clutha Delta natural hazards adaptation strategy (section 2.5 – Box 1), and on the development of then next Otago Climate Change Risk Assessment. 7. Infrastructure design and renewal work. ✓ 8. Involve, and collaborate with local communities: a. Create stakeholder action groups (as appropriate – also see section 6.3). 	 Key partners Local communities ORC Other infrastructure providers Mana whenua Central Government

^j 'Adaptive pathways' is a process recommended by <u>MfE</u>. It identifies pathways forward despite uncertainty, while remaining responsive to change should this be needed (adaptive).

6.5 INFRASTRUCTURE

As noted in section 6.4, our communities will increasingly rely on infrastructure which is resilient to the impacts of climate change. This includes Council-owned assets (Three Waters, transport, public amenities), and those owned by other providers. The actions listed below aim to incorporate existing knowledge into future infrastructure planning, improve knowledge where necessary, and use relevant information to inform long-term community plans.^k

Goal 1: Identify, understand, and reduce risk to Three Waters infrastructure (see also section 6.4).
--

Priority	Actions	Key partners
	 Infrastructure Strategy to identify work required to future proof critical Three Waters infrastructure, with a focus on assets with a high vulnerability. 	
Llink	 Consider up to date climate change information, when planning future Three Waters projects. 	Central Government
High	 Identify areas where the risk from storm water overflow is high (capacity, vulnerable assets). 	 Local communities
	 Include risk to, and from, Three Waters infrastructure in community engagement/stakeholder action group programs. 	

Goal 2: Build a resilient transport network for the future.

Priority	Actions	Key partners
High	 Infrastructure Strategy to: Apply the most up to date knowledge to planned transport projects. Identify and prioritise options to adapt the transport network to improve resilience, focusing on existing areas of extreme risk. 	 Waka Kotahi Otago Regional Council Neighbouring territorial
	2. Work with other transport providers in the southern South Island to provide resilient transport infrastructure.	authorities
	 Include transport network adaptation as a key part of community engagement/ stakeholder action group programs (section 6.3). 	 Local communities

Goal 3: Reduce climate change risks to other infrastructure (energy, tele-communications)

Priority	Actions	Key partners
Medium	 Incorporate information about risks to other infrastructure (where known) into the review of key documents. Work with Emergency Management Otago (EMO) and infrastructure providers to improve understanding of risk to all lifelines, at the local community level. Include risks associated with failure of other critical infrastructure, as part of community engagement/ stakeholder action group programs. 	 EMO Otago Lifelines Group (infrastructure providers)

^k Council's Infrastructure Strategy will consider 'trigger points', where the level of service provided by a critical piece of infrastructure will be significantly impacted (e.g., a certain amount of sea level rise, or a certain frequency of flood inundation). The strategy will also consider the lead-in timeframe for critical decisions, and link with the Long Term Plan to ensure appropriate community and stakeholder consultation is undertaken.

7.0 HOW WILL WE MEASURE THE SUCCESS OF THIS STRATEGY?

This Climate Change Strategy applies to all Clutha District Council activities and operations, with climate change to be considered at all levels of decision-making. Internal promotion of the strategy will be undertaken to ensure consideration of climate change is embedded throughout all Council business and day-to-day activities.

The action plans included in this strategy generally include short to medium term actions (1-10 years). We will monitor progress against these and celebrate our steps in the right direction as we move towards our targets. Additional, longer-term actions will be included in subsequent reviews of this strategy.

The Council's Regulatory and Policy Committee will receive annual updates on progress towards the targets set out in this strategy. A report on the climate change project will also be included in the annual report at the end of each financial year.

7.1 STRATEGY REVIEW

Due to its broad nature, and its relevance across all of Council's operations and activities, this strategy will be reviewed every three years (or earlier if required). Knowledge of natural hazards, and climate change impacts is increasing rapidly, and this means that key information and actions in the strategy will need to be regularly reviewed. Future reviews will involve key local stakeholders in the process and also consider their policies and objectives.

Council will also periodically review the risks associated with climate change ^[6] as new information becomes available. This will ensure that our planning responses can be effective and adapt as the context changes. All reviews will be in line with current Central Government legislation and policy.

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APPENDICES

A1.0 APPENDIX 1: PREVIOUS COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

A1.1 OUR PLACE CATLINS COMMUNITY PLAN

A consultation program to inform the *Our Place Catlins Community Plan* was held in early 2019. Climate change was one of the focus areas for discussion – with a key question being:

"How can we start planning and preparing response options so that our communities, and the services and infrastructure which support them can remain resilient into the future?"

The feedback included the following:

- More than 80% of respondents thought that Council and communities in The Catlins should plan ahead for the effects of climate change.
- The marine and coastal environment was considered particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts. This includes wildlife, coastal roads, and locations such as Catlins Lake, Pounawea, Newhaven, Surat Bay, and Kaka Point.
- Other vulnerable items identified were water infrastructure and low-lying areas.
- Key areas where there should be a focus on managing climate change impacts included coastal erosion, roads, and avoiding development on low-lying/sandy coastal areas.
- A small number of respondents felt that managing the effects of climate change is not necessary.

"Beach front areas are particularly vulnerable, in danger of storm surges, rising sea level and the effects of nearby earthquakes on the sea. I think that many cribs ... should not have been allowed to have been built so close to the sea and at sea level."

- Catlins resident

A1.2 2021/31 LONG TERM PLAN

Some feedback received through 2021/31 Long Term Plan consultation process related to climate change (as part of the revised Living and Working in Clutha Strategy). Of the feedback received (Table A1.1), most was supportive of Central Government, Council, or the wider community actively planning for the impacts of climate change.

 Table A1.1
 Climate change feedback received through the 2021/31 Long Term Plan consultation

We need to be more proactive with tackling climate change and environmental issues.

Let the Government lead the climate change as they have access to more money and resources and then every council is not reinventing the wheel.

Cows, concrete, fossil fuels need to be reduced, or replaced. Many options available e.g., hydrogen.

Demands of climate change means more spending in the short term to meet obligations.

Climate change - lots of small seaside towns.

The public health outcomes of climate change are well documented in the legislative reforms for Land and Water. While this is a regional council responsibility, we note that Council has considered the effects of climate change and has taken this into consideration, for example with infrastructure renewals, which will ensure positive wellbeing outcomes for the district's population.

Support a Plan for climate change

Climate Centred: Clutha District is resilient to the impacts of climate change. Any activities or developments in the region must actively mitigate their contribution to climate change. People understand the threat and urgency of climate change and are supported in climate change practices.

The Long-Term Plan should include measures to avoid or reduce climate change impacts on historic heritage wherever possible.

A2.0 APPENDIX 2: TRANSITION TO LIVING IN A DISRUPTED CLIMATE

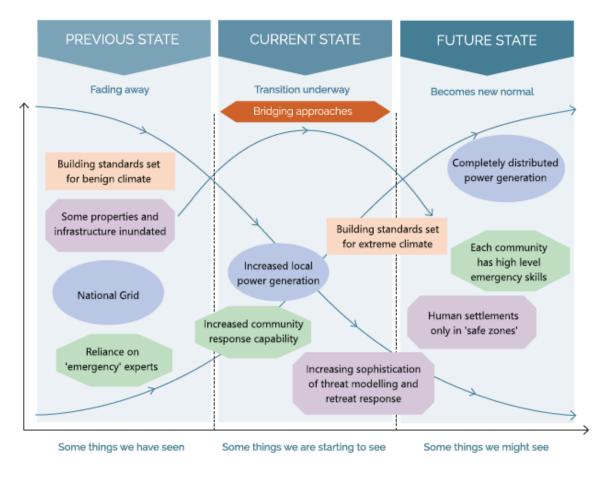


Figure A2-1 Transition to living in a disrupted climate^[14]

Clutha District Council

Item for DECISION

Report	Our Place Taieri Mouth consultation material
Meeting Date	25 January 2024
Item Number	6
Prepared By	Michael Goldsmith – GHC Consulting
File Reference	881697

REPORT SUMMARY

This report asks Council to approve the Our Place Taieri Mouth consultation material for public release.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That Council receives the 'Our Place Taieri Mouth consultation material' report.
- 2. That Council approves the release of the Our Place Taieri Mouth consultation material, or as amended, for consultation.
- **3.** That Council delegates Chief Executive's edits for corrections and updates to the Our Place Taieri Mouth consultation material if required.

REPORT

1 Background

A Consultation & Engagement Plan for Our Place Taieri Mouth was approved by Council on 7 December 2023. One of the key elements of this plan is to develop and distribute a consultation document which will be used to prompt ideas, conversations and feedback. Staff have now developed the document and feedback form, and these have been informed by meetings with elected members, staff, the Taieri Mouth Amenities Society and a site visit. This item seeks approval of the release of the *Our Place Taieri Mouth* documents for public consultation.

As outlined in the Consultation & Engagement Plan, the consultation document aims to help facilitate discussion and feedback about the Taieri Mouth area. The information gained from community consultation will help inform the final *Our Place Taieri Mouth* Community Plan.

The documents will be delivered to those in the Taieri Mouth/Taieri Beach area in late January/early February. It will be available at Council offices and various locations throughout the district. Information will also be circulated through newspaper and community newsletter advertising, and via the February edition of Council News to make it available to residents throughout the Clutha District.

The Our Place project team includes the Chief Executive, Mayor, Bruce Ward councillors, policy team staff (Natasha Munro), communications staff (Di Byers/Beki), and others as required.

2 Strategic Goals and Outcomes

This project has direct strategic links and is working towards the implementation of the following:

- The Living and Working in Clutha Strategy, particularly the following priority areas:
 - More quality housing
 - o Improving our community's health, safety & well-being
- Council's Strategic Direction for Housing in the Clutha District

3 Consultation

The attached consultation material is just one of the proposed methods that aim to generate discussion and feedback. Feedback will in turn be collated to help inform elected members ahead of making decisions about priority projects to be included in the final Our Place Community Plan. This work is timed to inform the long term planning process in particular Council decisions in May 2024.

4 Policy Considerations

Consultation for this project and for this document has been prepared in accordance with Council's *Policy on Significance and Engagement*.

5 Legal Considerations

This document is not subject to the same statutory requirements of a Long-Term Plan consultation document, required by the Local Government Act 2002. Council does need to be satisfied it is in keeping with the principles of the Local Government Act 2002 and the related Significance and Engagement Policy.

6 Financial Impact

Financial impact of the Our Place Taieri Mouth consultation material includes preparation, printing and distribution of the document, which is contained within existing budgets for this project.

7 References – Tabled/Agenda Attachments

Attachment A: Our Place Taieri Mouth Consultation Document Attachment B: Our Place Taieri Mouth Feedback Form

68 Attachment A Agenda Item 6

We're backing Our Place Taieri Mouth How about you?

- 2 Message from the Mayor
- 3 Opportunities for development
- 4 Community facilities
- 5 Landscape and environment
- 6 Taieri River access
- 7 Walking and cycling
- 8 Consultation events

Clutha District Council www.cluthadc.govt.nz



We're all backing

Our Place Taieri Mouth



Councillor Bruce Vollweiler

Councillor Gaynor Finch



Councillor Dean McCrostie



Councillor Alison Ludemann



Councillor Wayne Felts





Councillor Brent Mackie



Councillor Bruce Graham



Councillor Michele Kennedy

Deputy Mayor Ken Payne

Councillor Kevin Barron





Councillor Simon McAtamney



Councillor Jock Martin



Councillor John Herbert

"We've set a direction to promote living and working in the Clutha District. But what does that actually mean for Taieri Mouth?"



They centre on what can be done to improve community facilities, to make it easier for people to live and work here.

talk about.

We want to work with leaders in Taieri Mouth to help make things happen. To get this underway, we will hold several consultation events in Taieri Mouth in early 2024.

We have some ideas and want to ask:

- What do you think of them?
- Which ones are priorities?
- What other ideas should be considered?

The Our Place community plan will identify key projects which Council and the community can progress, in order to make Taieri Mouth a more attractive place to live and work.

document about?

This document focuses on some key themes which could be included in the Our Place Taieri Mouth Community Plan.

Message from the Mayor Bryan Cadogan

If you care about our community and want to help shape a brighter future for generations to come, then please get involved in this consultation process.

Have you ever thought 'there's a better way to do this' or 'wow, we do that well, I'd hate to see it disappear'? If so, then now is the time to have your say.

Like many of you, I have aspirations of how our district's towns can look, both now and into the future, so I can't stress enough the importance of what we're trying to achieve here.

Council is conscious of the cost to ratepayers, but also aware of the cost of doing nothing.

It's time we all talked about our vision and priorities for our community, listened to others and believed that, collectively, we can make a difference.

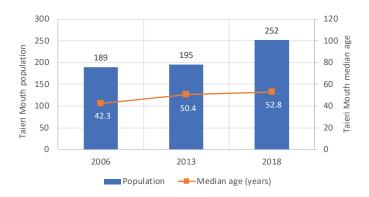
I look forward to hearing from you.



Let's talk Opportunities for development

WHY IS THIS BEING CONSIDERED?

The number of people living in Taieri Mouth including Taieri Beach has steadily increased in recent years, with 252 permanent residents at the time of the 2018 census. The median age of Taieri Mouth residents was 52.8 years in 2018, significantly older than that of the Clutha District (42.6 years) and New Zealand as a whole (37.4 years).



Given recent growth and the demographic make-up of the community, there are some key questions we'd like to ask about the type of development that should be supported in Taieri Mouth.

KEY CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

The *Our Place* process is an opportunity to identify some clear aspirations about how Taieri Mouth should look, both now and into the future. What are the key elements of this community that should be protected, and what changes should we look to make?

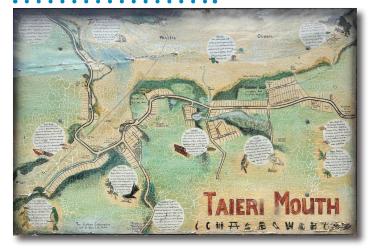
Given the ageing population, should there be a proactive approach towards attracting more young people to move to Taieri Mouth? If so, what is the best way to do that? For example, developing more child and youth-friendly spaces and activities (see 'Community Facilities'), or an affordable home and land package for young families. Other things to consider:

- Should additional growth be encouraged?
- If so, then:
 - Where should new development take place?
 - Are there limits on new buildings that should be imposed (e.g., height, density)?
- Is there a need for additional commercial development?
- What should Council's role be in facilitating additional development?

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK...

"We're open to your ideas and suggestions for Taieri Mouth. We need your feedback to help develop a great community plan, and make the best decisions on your behalf..."

Gaynor Finch, Bruce Ward Councillor





What do you love about the community facilities we currently have? What would you change if you could?

Now's your opportunity to help shape the future of our most important facilities.

The *Our Place* process is an important opportunity to revitalise our communities. A great place to start is by thinking about the halls, reserves and other facilities which have served our community for generations.

What can be done to improve these facilities? How can we get the most out of them, so that they continue to benefit the community for years to come?

Some items for discussion are listed below. We would like to know what you think, and what your priorities are. We'd also like to know what other ideas you have.

LEITCH MEMORIAL HALL

This hall plays an important role within the Taieri Mouth community, and it is used regularly for meetings and other important community events. We'd like to know your thoughts about the importance of this hall, and what could be done to improve it.

- Is the hall being maintained to a reasonable standard?
- · What improvements could be undertaken?
- Is there a better way to provide an attractive and well-used community facility in Taieri Mouth?

PARKS AND RESERVES

Taieri Mouth is fortunate to have some large reserves, including Livingstonia and Knarston parks. These reserves are a focal point for the community, and they provide important amenities such as playgrounds, public toilets, recreation/greenspace areas, and the Taieri Mouth Campground.

Council is keen to prioritise development and investment into well-used reserves, to help create vibrant destination parks throughout the district. Some suggestions for Taieri Mouth's reserves are listed below. We'd like to know what you think of them, to help decide which ones are priorities. We'd also like to know what other ideas you have for these important public spaces.

- Improved tables or seating areas e.g., sheltered spaces for picnics and BBQ's.
- Improved maintenance of reserve areas.
- Enhancing the natural value of reserves, including plantings or removal of pest species.
- Improved signage and information.

What work could be undertaken to improve usability and accessibility at these parks? What do you like about similar reserves in other towns that could work in Taieri Mouth?

Council also intends to review the Reserve Management Plan (RMP) for all reserves in Taieri Mouth. The updated RMP will set out a framework for determining which activities are permitted, what could be developed in the future, as well as any issues or barriers. Your suggestions will also help with the RMP review process.

ADDITIONAL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Are there additional recreational facilities that would help to make Taieri Mouth a more desirable place to live, work and play? Options might include an environmental-themed playground which references the coast or the estuary, or other youth-friendly spaces and activities.

Should this type of development be a priority and where could it be located? How could Council help the community to make this happen?

Landscape and environment

The natural environment is one of the key factors that make Taieri Mouth an attractive place to live and visit. Activities that aim to protect and enhance the environment are expected to form an important part of the *Our Place Taieri Mouth Community Plan*.

Taieri Mouth has all the classic elements of a typical New Zealand beachside community – a river, white sandy beaches, its own island, and plenty of native bush, all set against the vast Pacific Ocean.

However, the natural environment has been significantly modified over time – due to the impacts of farming, residential development and other human activities. The impacts of climate change will also have implications for this community in coming decades.

We all have roles to play to ensure that the recreational, cultural, landscape and ecological values of Taieri Mouth are maintained for future generations, and some excellent work is being undertaken locally to restore environmental values. The work being undertaken on Moturata (Taieri Island) by DOC and Moturata Taiari Whānau is just one example of this.

Updating the Reserve Management Plan for Taieri Mouth is another activity that Council will be leading, to help safeguard environmental values.

Potential environmental projects which have previously been identified by the community include:

- Restoration of wetlands, dunes and waterways.
- Investigating a 'Dark Skies Taieri Mouth' initiative.

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- Community events to maintain walking trails and remove rubbish from roadside areas.
- Addressing erosion issues in Knarston Park and along Riverside Road.

Which of these do you think should be a priority? What other suggestions do you have to protect and enhance landscape and environment values?

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK...

"We want to know if these ideas could work and how we might work with the community to achieve what is best for this area."

Dean McCrostie, Bruce Ward Councillor





5

Let's talk Taieri River access

With a strong heritage as a fishing village, Taieri Mouth has always had a close connection with the ocean, as well as the Taieri River. The ability to make better use of the river could help make Taieri Mouth a more attractive place to live, work and visit. Two possible options are listed below. We would like to know what you think, and what your priorities are. We'd also like to know what other ideas you have.

OPTION 1: A RIVER-BASED COMMUNITY FACILITY

A concept raised through previous community consultation is to increase the appeal of the boat harbour area. Such a project could aim to provide a river-based facility which really puts Taieri Mouth 'on the map' as a place to live and to visit.

It might provide for commercial activities, such as a café, fish market, or kayak hire. It could incorporate existing infrastructure (ramps, wharves etc), or involve a new development. A facility that provides easy access for boat trips and excursions up the river has also been suggested.

This work could be staged over several years and may require a significant investment. Important considerations are parking and space for boats to load, launch, and refuel. Any development would also need to consider the natural environment and the characteristics of the Taieri River.

OPTION 2: IMPROVED SAFETY

Improving safety for people who cross the Taieri Mouth bar is an important concern - there have been numerous rescue call-outs and not everyone is aware of the dangers of crossing the river mouth and bar to the ocean.

A more comprehensive safety program, focusing on education and risk reduction could be identified as a priority in the *Our Place Taieri Mouth Community Plan*. Developing and implementing this program would involve a range of stakeholders, such as Police, Coastguard, and the Harbour Master.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK...

Would a riverside development help attract people to live, work or visit Taieri Mouth?

Should we include an initiative to improve water safety in this area?

What other options do you think should be considered?



Let's Talk Walking and cycling

We've heard from other communities that improved opportunities for walking and cycling are important for them. Should walking and cycle trail improvements also be considered as a priority project for Taieri Mouth? If so, where should these be located and what type of trail should be developed? Perhaps it is improved footpaths, or a longer trail linking to other communities? We're keen to hear from you on this topic and understand what you see as a priority.

Let's Talk What else should be considered?

How can Council best work with the community to

help make things happen? Some other topics that have been put forward include:

RIVERSIDE ROAD PARKING

Parking can be at a premium along Riverside Road due to visitors wanting to access the river, and the popularity of the Taieri River track from Taieri Mouth to Henley Ferry.

What could be done to ensure this scenic area is accessible for visitors, and that residents can retain access to their property?

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Council has an important role to play in managing and minimising solid waste within the Clutha District.

We currently provide a recycling drop off at Taieri Mouth. We also provide waste information and education services, including at Taieri Mouth School which is part of the Enviroschools programme.

What improvements could Council make to ensure that solid waste is well managed, and that recycling continues to be encouraged?

KEY CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

- Are there footpath extensions or improvements which should be prioritised? For example, a footpath or trail from one end of the village to the other.
- Are there walking or cycling links to other areas which could be developed?
- Are there other road safety improvements that could be made?

WILDLIFE PROTECTION

Council created a bylaw in 2022 to better manage vehicles on beaches in the Clutha District, and Otago Regional Council provided a grant to establish a predator trap library in 2023.

What else can be done to protect native birds and other wildlife in the Taieri Mouth area?



Let's Tak We're keen to hear from you Consultation events

Come along and have a chat with Mayor Bryan Cadogan, local councillors, and Council staff at one of the following events:

- Our Place Taieri Mouth drop-in sessions at Leitch Memorial Hall on Thursday 8th February:
 - 4pm 5pm and
 - 6pm 7:30pm.
- Taieri Mouth Family Fun Day at Livingstonia Park, Saturday 10th February, starting at 1pm.

We will also be attending the Taieri Mouth Amenities Society AGM on 29th January, starting at 7:30pm.



Scan below to visit the online survey form.

SCAN ME

WAYS TO FIND OUT MORE

ON PAPER

Each page in this document has information that explains more about the ideas, issues and options. Use the form in the middle of this document to provide feedback.

ONLINE

You can find information online at

www.cluthadc.govt.nz. You can also provide feedback via our website using the the online survey.

ON FACEBOOK

Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/Clutha-District-Council.

ON THE PHONE

Contact us on 0800 801 350 and talk to a member of our staff.

CONTACT YOUR ELECTED MEMBER

Get in touch with your local Councillors or Mayor Bryan Cadogan:

bruce.vollweiler@cluthadc.govt.nz dean.mccrostie@cluthadc.govt.nz

gaynor.finch@cluthadc.govt.nz

bryan.cadogan@cluthadc.govt.nz

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE YOUR SAY...

The consultation period finishes on Friday 1 March 2024. Please return the feedback form, or complete the online survey before this date.

"We're ready to hear your views and suggestions. Now is the time to have your say..."

Bruce Vollweiler Bruce Ward Councillor 75

Attachment B to Agenda Item 6

Clutha District Council www.cluthadc.govt.nz

We want to hear from you



We'd love your feedback

Fill out the attached form, or visit our website www.cluthadc.govt.nz and submit your feedback online.

FreePost Authority Number 253534

Free 🕑

Clutha District Council P O Box 25 Balclutha 9240



LET'S TALK

OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Do you have any thoughts about where new development should take place in Taieri Mouth, or the type of development that should occur?

Should Council help enable additional development in Taieri Mouth?

 Residential
 Yes
 No

 Commercial
 Yes
 No

What role (if any) should Council play, to help facilitate additional development?

What are the key elements of this community that should be protected? Are there any changes we should consider making?

TAIERI RIVER ACCESS		
Would a river-based community facility help to attract people to live, work or visit Taieri Mouth?	Yes	No
Should we include an initiative to improve water safety in this area?	Yes	No
What other options do you think should be considered?		

LET'S TALK

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

How important are the following community facilities?	1	2	3	4	5
Leitch Memorial Hall					
Taieri Mouth Tennis Courts					
Knarston Park					
Taieri Mouth Campground					
Sawmill Park					
Livingstonia Park					
What improvements could be made to these facilities?					

Are there any additional community facilities or improvements you would like to see in Taieri Mouth?

LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT		portant	very important		
How important are the following environmental projects?	1	2	3	4	5
Restoration of wetlands, dunes and waterways					
Investigating a 'Dark Skies Taieri Mouth' initiative					
Community events to maintain walking trails or remove rubbish from roadside areas					
Addressing riverbank erosion issues					
Any other comments or suggestions?					

		not	not importan
ALKING AND CYCLING		1	1 2
general, how important is it to improve walking and cycling opportunities?			
w important is it that we continue to investigate:			
Footpath extensions or improvements			
A footpath or trail from one end of the village to the other			
Nalking or cycling links to other areas			
e there other road safety improvements that could be made? Any other comment	on	this to	this topic?
			·

Please tick the box that best reflects how important you think the idea is, where 1 is **not important at all**,

and 5 is very important.

LET'S TALK

WHAT ELSE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED?

Please add your comments on the following topics, or any other suggestions you would like to make.

- Potential improvements to the Riverside Road area
- Waste management and recycling
- Protection of native birds and other wildlife

Please return by Friday, 1 March 2024

Your ideas and suggestions will be collated with all the other feedback we receive and provided to elected members.

How to return this form via FreePost

Feedback



- 5 Seal tab with tape. **Do not use staples**.
- 6 Drop into your nearest NZ post box or any CDC office.

Your details

Name

Organisation

Phone

Postal address

Email address

Your contact details will be withheld to protect your privacy. I would like to be kept informed about this project in the future:

Yes No

Thank you!

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