



AGENDA

Community Services Committee Meeting Tuesday, 18 February 2025

Date Tuesday, 18 February 2025

Time Following the Infrastructure Committee

Location Council Chamber
District Council Building
King George Place
Timaru

File Reference 1740489

Timaru District Council

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Community Services Committee will be held in the Council Chamber, District Council Building, King George Place, Timaru, on Tuesday 18 February 2025, at the conclusion of the Infrastructure Committee meeting.

Community Services Committee Members

Clrs Stacey Scott (Chairperson), Stu Piddington (Deputy Chairperson), Gavin Oliver, Peter Burt, Allan Booth, Owen Jackson, Sally Parker, Michelle Pye, Scott Shannon and Mayor Nigel Bowen

Quorum – no less than 5 members

Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968

Committee members are reminded that if you have a pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda, then you must declare this interest and refrain from discussing or voting on this item, and are advised to withdraw from the meeting table.

Paul Cooper
Acting Group Manager Community Services

Order Of Business

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- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Public Forum**
- 3 Identification of Items of Urgent Business**
- 4 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature**
- 5 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**
- 6 Chairperson's Report**

7 Confirmation of Minutes

7.1 Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 19 November 2024

Author: Jessica Kavanaugh, Team Leader Governance

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 19 November 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson’s electronic signature be attached.

Attachments

- 1. Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 19 November 2024**



MINUTES

Community Services Committee Meeting Tuesday, 19 November 2024

Ref: 1740489

**Minutes of Timaru District Council
Community Services Committee Meeting
Held in the Council Chamber, District Council Building, King George Place, Timaru
on Tuesday, 19 November 2024 Following the Infrastructure Committee**

Present: Stacey Scott (Chairperson), Stu Piddington (Deputy Chairperson), Gavin Oliver, Peter Burt, Allan Booth, Owen Jackson, Sally Parker, Michelle Pye, Scott Shannon

In Attendance: Nigel Trainor (Chief Executive), Paul Cooper (Group Manager Environmental Services), Andrew Dixon (Group Manager Infrastructure), Nicole Timney (Group Manager Property), Beth Stewart (Group Manager Community Services), Andrea McAlister (Acting Group Manager People & Capability), Steph Forde (Corporate and Strategic Planner), Stephen Doran (Group Manager Corporate and Communications), Brendan Madley (Senior Policy Advisor), Stephen Compton (Minutes)

1 Apologies

Resolution 2024/43

Moved: Clr Stacey Scott

Seconded: Clr Peter Burt

That the apology of Mayor Nigel Bowen is received and accepted.

Carried

2 Public Forum

There were no public forum items.

3 Identification of Items of Urgent Business

No items of urgent business were received.

4 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature

There was one item noted of a Minor Nature registered by Clr Allan Booth regarding the Pump Shed at the Art Gallery, which was to be addressed under item 8.3

5 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

6 Chairperson's Report

The chair reported that since the last meeting she had had the following engagements:

- Community Drop in Session with Mayor Nigel and Clr Jackson
- Donations & Loans Subcommittee Meeting
- Building Inspections Tour/Visit with Paul Hansen
- Performing Arts Workshop
- Citizenship Ceremony
- EDANZ Conference
- Aoraki Secondary Schools Sports Awards
- Sister Cities Subcommittee Meetings (x2)
- TDHL AGM & Workshop
- Hearing D – Proposed District Plan – Commissioner
- Aorangi Stadium Project
- Downlands Water Supply Committee Meeting

The Chairperson noted their report as emailed and acknowledged Paul Hanson and his team for their assistance, and also Craig from Stonewood Homes and Zac from Palmer Homes for their time and welcome.

Resolution 2024/44

Moved: Clr Stacey Scott

Seconded: Clr Peter Burt

That the Community Services Committee receives and accepts the Chairpersons Report.

Carried

7 Confirmation of Minutes

7.1 Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 8 October 2024

Resolution 2024/45

Moved: Clr Scott Shannon

Seconded: Clr Michelle Pye

That the Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 8 October 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

Carried

8 Reports

8.1 Actions Register Update

- 1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Community Services Committee with an update on the status of the action requests raised by councillors at previous Community Services Committee meetings.

The Chair welcomed Beth Stewart (Group Manager Community Services (BS)) to the meeting, and it was noted that there was only one item on the List which is the ongoing paused item in regards to the Collections review Process which has no ETA, and can be removed until the review is completed and the bring it back or it can stay

Resolution 2024/46

Moved: Clr Stacey Scott

Seconded: Clr Michelle Pye

That the Community Services Committee receives and notes the updates to the Actions Register.

Carried

8.2 Community Services Group Update Report

- 1 To provide the Community Services Committee with a regular, high-level update on the functions of the units within the Community Service Group, including key updates, challenges and opportunities, initiatives, projects, and the impact of changes in service delivery as it pertains to the community.

The Chair welcomed Group Manager Community Services to speak to the report, who noted the change in layout, but noted key highlights:

- Planned works at CBay for the transition to Sodium Bisulphate from CO2 is a decent sized piece of work will save money and support climate change objectives
- There was really positive feedback from Heritage NZ with regards to the Seismic work undertaken at Aigantighe Art Gallery – it will be used as a flagship/case study by Heritage NZ, and she acknowledged wider the team on that piece of work.
- Also noted a significant piece of work by the team around Asset management plans for risk mitigation and to confirm that facilities are fit for purpose and serve community needs, and for ongoing mapping of investments on capital facilities.

Discussion included noting the passion and enthusiasm of the library team, and expression of thanks for their work, positive noting of the use of an asset management system and discussion of the various systems used in other areas.

There was further discussion regarding Pleasant Point Swimming Pool and the cost per swim and about how the aquatics team was trying to work with the community board to increase usage of the pool.

It was noted that there will be a feasibility study undertaken at the end of the season to provide the data required to make any decisions about the future of the district pools.

There was discussion over whether the Café at CBay was running at a loss and what could be done to bring it into a profitable state. It was noted that it wasn't making a profit but was seen by users as a valuable service. There was some concerns raised about figures without basis being discussed at the meeting and that care should be taken not to generate a 'soundbite', and that there was need to understand the usage particularly by the elderly. A request for a full profit and loss to be completed for the next CS Committee meeting was made.

Clr Oliver Informed the Council that the Aigantighe Art Gallery Grant of \$18K was used on the first sculpture by Trevor Askin in the Geraldine Sculpture Trail

It was asked if other pools are making the change to Sodium Bisulphate (or have already), with it being noted that that will form part of the feasibility study

Resolution 2024/47

Moved: Clr Gavin Oliver

Seconded: Clr Scott Shannon

That the Community Services Standing Committee receives and notes the Community Services Update Report.

Carried

8.3 Aigantighe House Gallery Seismic Upgrade October 2024

- 1 To update the Community Services Standing Committee on the progress of the Aigantighe Heritage House Gallery Seismic Strengthening and Refurbishment Project.

The Property Projects Manager took the report as read and invited questions.

There was further discussion around the installation of the air condition. It was noted that it's at final design stage, and there will be a three week closure in April 2025 to deliver this. It was noted that there are no indications of it going out of budget.

There was discussion of the lift being external or internal. It was confirmed it was internal enabled by a design change.

A query was made around a water leak and who was paying for the repairs. Confirmed the installation company covering the costs of repairs, and that the damage was initially thought to be cosmetic, but water had got between the Gib and plaster, and into the floorboards so all being redone.

Discussion was had over the pump shed, and it was noted that it was being being used for signage, and that they had been tasked with looking at options and a report would be presented later.

There was a query around the \$37,000 spend in October. The claim was higher for that month, but the QS valuation came in smaller and was accepted. The intention was the final invoice would be received this month, and once that is processed, and full report will be presented with variations noted.

Resolution 2024/48

1. That the Community Services Standing Committee receives and notes the Progress Report for the Aigantighe Heritage House Gallery Seismic Strengthening and Refurbishment Project.

Moved: Clr Stacey Scott

Seconded: Clr Sally Parker

Carried

8.4 Donations and Loans Subcommittee - Recommendations for Funding

- 1 To present recommendations from the Donations and Loans Subcommittee Meeting held on 15 October 2024, for the Community Services Committee to consider for approval.

The Community Funding Advisor spoke to the report,

Discussion was had over the definition of substantial. It was noted that this was anything over \$10,000, which was put into a different pool.

There was a request for more detail about why or why not applications had been recommended to be put into the report. The Group Manager Community Services noted that , a robust matrix will be put in place. Further noted that when reports are brought forward in a public setting like this, it could be done, but the delegated authority is the Donations and Loans Subcommittee, and any discussions would need to be publicly excluded.

It was noted that there were privacy issues in place and that funding may have been received by groups from elsewhere.

Resolution 2024/49

Moved: Clr Stacey Scott

Seconded: Clr Gavin Oliver

That the Community Services Committee approves or declines some or all of the recommendations from the Donations and Loans Subcommittee, citing the reasons for the changes; with altered, reduced or no donations paid.

#	Application	Description	Amount Requested	Recommendation
General Donations – Community Services				
1	CCS Disability Action South Canterbury	Continuation of Support Services	\$2,500.00	Decline
2	SC Free Kindergarten Association	Oral History Project	\$1,687.54	Decline
3	Volunteering Mid & South Canterbury	Rent costs	\$4,986.00	Approve \$2,500.00
4	Brain Injury (Otago) Incorporated	Community Services for Timaru	\$2,500.00	Approve \$1,250.00

5	St John	Community Health Shuttle	\$10,000.00	Approve \$5,000.00
6	Connections Community Trust	Parenting Education	\$10,000.00	Approve \$4,000.00
	Community Services Subtotal		\$31,673.54	\$12,750.00
General Donations – Events				
7	South Canterbury RSA	Annual Dawn & Civic Services	\$4,613.96	Approve \$4,500.00
8	The Geraldine District & Promotions	Geraldine Christmas Parade	\$2,000.00	Approve \$2,000.00
9	Pleasant Point Christmas Procession Committee	Pleasant Point Christmas Procession	\$1,000.00	Approve \$1,000.00
10	Timaru Christmas Parade Trust	Timaru Christmas Parade	\$7,500.00	Approve \$6,000.00
11	Pleasant Point Gymkhana	Annual community Fair	\$2,000.00	Approve \$2,000.00
12	Release the Music Charitable Trust	Release the Music 24	\$3,800.00	Decline
13	Presbyterian Support	Christmas at the Bay	\$11,723.62	Approve \$5,000.00
14	Street Food @ Woodbury	Street Food at Woodbury	\$1,500.00	Approve \$1,000.00
15	Temuka Promotions Association	Temuka Christmas Parade	\$2,000.00	Approve \$2,000.00
16	Te Aitarakihi	Re Opening Event	\$17,643.00	Decline
	Events Subtotal		\$53,780.58	\$23,500.00
General Donations – Rural Community Halls				
17	Te Awa Hall Incorporated	Recladding of existing roof	\$7,000.00	Approve \$5,000.00
	Rural Community Halls Subtotal		\$7,000.00	\$5,000.00
Heritage/Historic				
18	Geraldine Historic Society	Insurance	\$8,000.00	Approve \$8,000.00
	Heritage/Historic Subtotal		\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
Substantial Donations				

19	NZ Raptor Trust	Captive Breeding Project	\$10,000.00	Approve \$2,000.00 From General Fund*
20	Temuka & Geraldine A&P Association	Upgrades to the Winchester Showgrounds Presidents room	\$14,641.35	Approve \$2,000.00 From General Fund*
21	Geraldine High School	Multisport Turf	\$20,000.00	Decline
22	Te Aitarakihi	Weather Cover & Path Levelling	\$30,000.00	Approve \$5,000.00 From General Fund*
Substantial Subtotal			\$74,641.35	\$9,000.00*
Total requested			\$175,095.47	
Total recommended for approval			\$58,250.00 (*from General Donations)	

Carried

8.5 Community Funding Policy - consultation feedback, deliberations, and adoption

- 1 The purpose of this report is to present Council with the written submissions received during the Community Funding Policy targeted consultation and associated officer commenting, facilitate deliberations on the content of the final policy (including any changes from the draft policy where deemed appropriate), and adopt a final version of the policy.

The report was presented by the Group Manager Community Services, Senior Policy Advisor and the Legal Services manager. It was noted that most submitters agreed with the proposed changes and that any disagreements could be managed with minor adjustments, it was also noted that there was clear advice from officers about precluding loans from this policy.

Concern was raised over the removal of loans from the community and it was queried as to the number of loans issued. The advice given was not to do loans unless doing it properly, which is expensive, the transaction cost is \$5K per loan and this is not retrieved. The recommendation was that it was separated with its own robust policy. There had only been 1 loan made in the past 10 years.

It was noted only 3 councils issued loans of this type, and 2 provided funding through a CCO vehicle.

There was further discussion over why the council wouldn't fund for public liability insurance, and that some flexibility should be introduced to ensure that Council is being an enabler of events.

The chair accepted a delegation to work on this issue.

There was further discussion over traffic management and the use of Smarty Grants in as user friendly a way as possibly to make it as straightforward as possible to make an application.

Resolution 2024/50

Moved: Clr Michelle Pye

Seconded: Clr Stu Piddington

That the Community Services Committee:

- 1 Receives and notes all written submissions received during the “Community Funding Policy” targeted consultation; and
- 2 Deliberated on the submissions received and officer commenting; and
- 3 Adopts the Community Funding Policy; and
- 4 Delegates Authority to the Officers to produce associated materials and processes to facilitate the implementation of the “Community Funding Policy”; and
- 5 Amends the name of the “Donations and Loans Subcommittee” to the “Community Funding Subcommittee”, and
- 6 Revokes the “Donations and Loans Policy” and the “Youth Initiatives Policy”; and
- 7 Instructs officers to develop a policy plus mechanism for loans to come in front of Council; and;
- 8 Delegates to Chair, Community Services Standing Committee to approve minor amendments to policy reflecting discussion.

Carried

9 Consideration of Urgent Business Items

No items of urgent business were received.

10 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters

Matter of minor nature raised were considered at item 8.3

11 Public Forum Items Requiring Consideration

There were no public forum items requiring consideration.

The Meeting closed at 12.40pm.

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Chairperson

8 Reports

8.1 Actions Register Update

Author: Jessica Kavanaugh, Team Leader Governance

Authoriser: Stephen Doran, Group Manager Corporate and Communications

Recommendation

That the Community Services Committee receives and notes the updates to the Actions Register.

Purpose of Report

- 1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Community Services Committee with an update on the status of the action requests raised by Councillors at previous Committee meetings.

Assessment of Significance

- 2 This matter is assessed to be of low significance under the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy as there is no impact on the service provision, no decision to transfer ownership or control of a strategic asset to or from Council, and no deviation from the Long Term Plan.

Discussion

- 3 The actions register is a record of actions requested by Councillors. It includes a status and comments section to update the Community Services Committee on the progress of each item.
- 4 There is currently one item on the actions register and is marked as ongoing.

Attachments

1. **Community Services Committee Actions Required** [↓](#) 

Information Requested from Councillors (Community Services Committee)

Key ■ = Completed, for removal ■ = 60+ Days ■ = 90+ Days ■ = Removed

Information Requested	Policy update for the assessment of bequests for collections at the Aigantighe Art Gallery		
Date Raised:	30 July 2024	Status:	Ongoing
Issue Owner	Group Manager Community Services	Completed Date:	
<p>Background: Clrs requested an update on the process for managing bequests at the Art Gallery. Clrs enquired as to how bequeathed artworks are assessed, what criteria is used to accept and decline works, the process for sale of works and if there is a policy governing this process. Clrs requested a policy review.</p> <p>Update as at 25 September 2024: An update report was provided to Cllrs on 27 August 2024 which detailed the process for managing bequests, accession and deaccession of art works at the Aigantighe Art Gallery. The report noted that the Policy was under review. As per Cllr instruction, the review process will also be expanded to incorporate the South Canterbury Museum. High level costings and spatial requirements for additional storage will be scoped as part of this review.</p> <p>On 5 October 2024 the CM Community Services advised Cllrs that Museum’s Aotearoa is conducting a review of its Code of Ethics – this is the national best practice by which the Art Gallery and Museum are guided. GMCS advised that the policy review process be paused to ensure full alignment with the Code and other public galleries and museums. This agreed to via email and accepted. A policy review will be conducted and reviewed concurrently with the MA review and Cllrs updated when this is completed.</p> <p>Update: 30 January 2025 The Museum’s Aotearoa (MA) updated their website on 11 Dec 2024 and indicated their subcommittee intends to present a new Code of Ethics (CoE) and structure to MA’s members for ratification at the 2025 AGM. The AGM date is yet to be released, but the 2024 AGM was held in June, so we can assume it will be mid-year 2025. Following the new CoE and structure being published, we can look to conduct a review of our internal policy after June 2025, to ensure we are aligned and with a view to complete our internal review in the second half of 2025. We can provide more detailed timelines of the internal review when we have set dates for the AGM and CoE being published.</p>			

8.2 Community Services Update Report

Author: Paul Cooper, Group Manager Environmental Services

Authoriser: Nigel Trainor, Chief Executive

Recommendation

That the Community Services Standing Committee receives and notes the Community Services Update Report.

Purpose of Report

- 1 To provide the Community Services Committee with a regular, high-level update on the activities of the units within the Community Service Group, including key updates, challenges and opportunities, initiatives, projects, and the impact of changes in service delivery as it pertains to the community.

Assessment of Significance

- 2 This report is assessed as being of low significance under Council's Significance and Engagement Policy as it is reporting on community activities and present any decision for consideration to the Standing Committee.

Discussion

Community Development

- 3 **Safer Communities:** In November, the Community Development team facilitated two community events. The first was the inaugural Whakanuia Awards, organized with the support of Parent-to-Parent South Canterbury, to celebrate the achievements of young people with disabilities, neurodivergence, and other health impairments. Twenty-one young people received recognition and a certificate from the Mayor, fostering a sense of pride and unity in the community. The awards aimed to raise awareness about the capabilities and contributions of those with disabilities and health impairments, promoting inclusivity and understanding within the Timaru District.
- 4 **Let's Connect Geraldine:** On 18 November 2024, a speed-networking event was held in Geraldine. The event was attended by community groups, Community Board members, agencies, organizations, and the MP for Waitaki, Miles Anderson. This gathering provided an excellent opportunity for attendees to network and gain insights into the services available in Geraldine.
- 5 **Employment Support Fair:** The Community Development Advisor (CDA) collaborated with Te Aitaraikihi, the Ministry of Social Development, and Connected to organize a 'mini jobs fair' on 28 January 2025, aimed at supporting Alliance employees affected by the recent closure.
- 6 **Welcoming Communities:** The Community Development Agency (CDA) has been collaborating closely with Refugee Settlement Services to effectively utilize the Meaningful Refugee Participation Fund, which is external funding received from the Ministry of Business,

Innovation, and Employment (MBIE). A youth survey was distributed to former refugee youth, receiving 17 responses, to identify the challenges they face as newcomers to the community, understand what would make them feel more welcome and supported, and determine the leadership skills they are interested in developing. A youth program has been designed and will be implemented by the National Refugee Youth Council, with details currently being finalized. This program aims to provide youth with leadership and skill development opportunities.

- 7 Similarly, a program for adult former refugees will be conducted, consisting of 12 workshops starting at the beginning of April, following Ramadan. These workshops will cover topics such as culturally inclusive leadership, leadership development pathways, and building confidence and self-leadership. Additionally, participants will be supported in applying these newly acquired skills to plan a cultural event for the community.
- 8 The Newcomers Survey has been distributed within the community, and we are receiving positive feedback on our efforts to welcome newcomers and suggestions for improvement. The Aoraki Settling-In Collective working group will serve as the Welcoming Communities Advisory Group this year, meeting monthly to address the eight elements of the Welcoming Communities Standard and develop the Welcoming Plan. The first meeting is scheduled for 17 February 2025.
- 9 **Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs:** The Mayor's Taskforce For Jobs (MTFJ) Coordinator has been actively building relationships within the community, engaging with schools, agencies, organizations, employers, and young people.
- 10 In November, the MTFJ Coordinator and CDA attended the Jobs Fair for Alliance employees who had been made redundant. The event saw over 400 attendees and was a great success, with many individuals signing up for support from the MTFJ programme.
- 11 As of this report, 12 young people have secured full-time employment through the MTFJ programme, with an additional 54 participants enrolled.
- 12 A notable highlight of this reporting period was the IMPAC forklift training course. Held in the Council Chambers, eight young people completed the training, earning a qualification and seven NCEA credits.
- 13 Due to the programme's success, Timaru District Council has been invited to apply to join the permanent MTFJ Community Employment Programme.

Community Funding

- 14 On 5 December 2024 the Local Arts Subcommittee meeting was held for the Creative Communities Scheme:

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Description	Applications Received	Funds Requested	Applications Granted	Funds Granted
Available funds as at 05.12.24				\$42,023.02
Applications	9	\$39,352.14	9	\$20,649.95
Balance available for next round in 2025				\$21,373.07

- 16 On 19 November 2024, the Community Funding Policy was presented to the Community Services Committee for consultation. As part of the resolution, the Chairperson was delegated the authority to approve minor amendments. Following this approval, the policy was adopted on 20 January 2025.

Recreational Facilities

- 17 **CBay** - The facility welcomed 57,000 visitors in December and January, reflecting a 15% increase compared to the previous year. During this period, we successfully sold 3,500 Chillax passes and 7,000 Hydro Slide passes.
- 18 **CBay Fitness** - Despite the historical trend of reduced activity during the summer months, our membership remains steady at 1,450 members. Additionally, 92 children are currently enrolled in our school holiday swim program. The gym's membership continues to demonstrate robust growth
- 19 **Aorangi Stadium** - Due to high demand for bookings in the upcoming year, we have reached our capacity and are regrettably have had to decline some booking requests. The Aorangi Stadium project is programmed to start on site in August 2025, however this will be in preparation for the new stadium build. Bookings for the current stadium won't be affected until 2026 and we will look to notify the public in the coming months of these activities and how this will affect users.
- 20 **District Pools** - The meteorological conditions this summer have not met the usual standards, resulting in decreased patronage at the district pools during December and January. Specifically, the pools in Geraldine, Temuka, and Pleasant Point have experienced a reduction in attendance by 20-25%. Despite a moderate increase in admission prices, these pools have not generated as much income as they did during the same period last summer.
- 21 Below are the comparative revenue and admissions figures for the three pools:

Geraldine

	Admissions	Till Revenue
December 2023/ January 2024	7256	\$26,731.94
December 2024/ January 2025	5600	\$24,910.99

Pleasant Point

	Admissions	Till Revenue
December 2023/ January 2024	2835	\$9,945.08
December 2024/ January 2025	2224	\$9,873.40

Temuka

	Admissions	Till Revenue
December 2023/ January 2024	4993	\$20,646.74
December 2024/ January 2025	3703	\$18,070.74

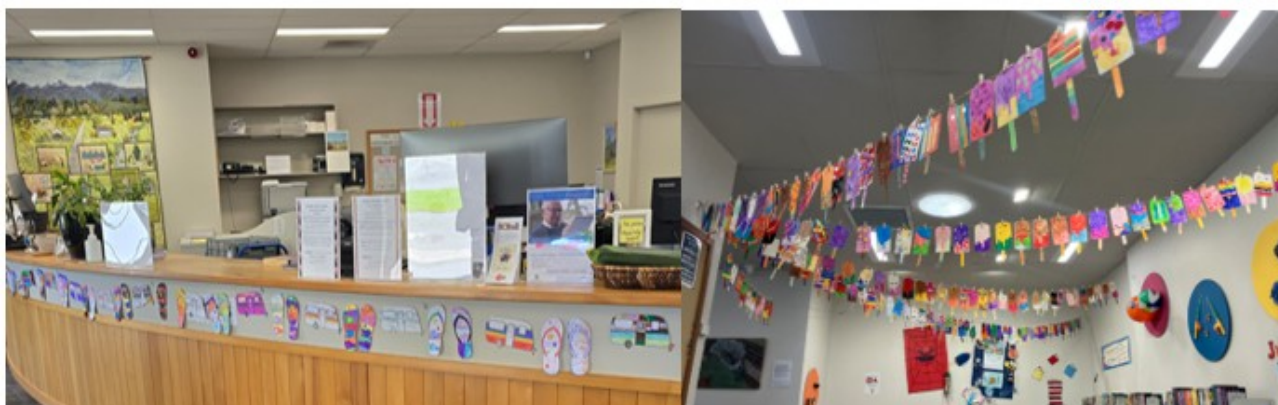
District-wide Libraries

- 22 January 2025 - Statistics:

Q2 Statistical Snapshot				
	Q2 2025	Q2 2024	Q2 2023	Q2 2022
Visitors	64,509 *	75,810	66,234	66,415
Issues and renewals	136,819	132,361	123,778	130,969
No. of programmes	429	412	437	420
Programme attendance	4,732	3,506	3,177	3,826

* The libraries changed to a more accurate door counter system on 1 July 2024.

- 23 The launch of the new district-wide library website is progressing well. Library staff have successfully completed their assigned tasks and are now awaiting the final design adjustments before moving to the next phase of implementation.
- 24 The Sunsational Challenge was highly successful, engaging library officers throughout January as children and families enthusiastically participated in various activities. Below are some photos showcasing events at Temuka Library and Geraldine Library, including decorating popsicles, caravans, and jandals. Additionally, participants enjoyed a book hunt at the Timaru Children's Library.



- 25 In December, the Youth Services team convened to select themes and initiate planning for the 2025 school holiday programs.

Timaru Library

- 26 In December, the Outreach Librarian at Timaru Library had an exceptionally busy month leading up to the festive season. The librarian conducted numerous visits to early childhood centres, care homes, and partnering organizations, significantly enhancing community engagement.

Key activities included:

- **20 visits to early childhood centres** for Christmas Storytimes, bringing festive cheer to young children.
- **3 visits to rest homes** for Christmas stories, songs, and craft activities, providing entertainment and joy to the elderly residents.
- The **Tuesday Group** concluded the year with a Christmas celebration, fostering a sense of community and festivity.
- The **Aoraki Heritage Research sessions**, in collaboration with the SC Genealogists group, resumed for the year and continue to be highly popular among participants.

- 27 These efforts reflect the library's commitment to community outreach and engagement, making a positive impact on various age groups and fostering a sense of togetherness during the holiday season.

Geraldine Library & Service Centre

- 28 In December, the officers at Geraldine Library & Service Centre actively participated in community engagement activities. They attended the TDC facilitated 'Let's Connect Geraldine - Networking Event' at the RSA Hall, where they made several new connections, fostering relationships within the community.
- 29 Additionally, the officers hosted a successful all-day Christmas Makerspace for school-aged children on Thursday, 19 December. This event provided a creative and festive environment for the children, allowing them to engage in various Christmas-themed activities.
- 30 These initiatives highlight the library's dedication to community involvement and its efforts to provide enriching experiences for different age groups during the holiday season.

Temuka Library, Service & Information Centre

- 31 In December, the officers at Temuka Library, Service & Information Centre actively sought out more outreach opportunities within the community. They focused on visiting early childhood centres and partnering organizations, enhancing their community presence. Additionally, the library hosted several school class visits towards the end of the school year, providing educational and engaging experiences for the students.
- 32 On Thursday, 19 December, the staff successfully hosted an all-day Christmas Makerspace for school-aged children in collaboration with Boost Temuka. This event offered a creative and festive environment for the children, allowing them to participate in various Christmas-themed activities.
- 33 Furthermore, the library proudly placed third in the town window display competition with its "Home Alone Christmas" theme, showcasing their creativity and festive spirit.
- 34 These initiatives demonstrate the library's commitment to community engagement and its efforts to provide enriching experiences for different age groups during the holiday season.

Continuous Improvement

- 35 **Assura 2.0 Upgrade:** Assura Health, Safety & Wellbeing 2.0 project has been finalised and a close out report was submitted in the last Audit and Risk Committee.
- 36 **CBay Software Upgrade:** The implementation of 'Active Carrot' has significantly enhanced the efficiency of online bookings and enrolments. This upgrade has notably reduced the administrative workload for the Learn to Swim team and other departments within CBay. The project is now live, and customers are actively using the online portal.
- 37 **Smarty Grants:** The Smarty Grants platform will facilitate online applications for all TDC community funding grants. It offers users an intuitive interface to efficiently apply for, track, and manage their grant requests. Currently, the platform is under development. Once completed, there will be a transition period during which support, and communication will be provided to all past and potential applicants.

South Canterbury Museum

- 38 The Museum concluded 2024 with a record-breaking total of 28,733 service users. This remarkable achievement was attained despite the reduction or curtailment of several regular programs due to staffing challenges.
- 39 **Overview:** The South Canterbury Museum has been actively engaging with schools, nature and historical sites, other local museums, and in-school programmes. Museum staff have delivered various programmes and talks at these locations. Additionally, researchers have been engaging with Museum staff for research assistance, with payments made for staff services.
- 40 Museum Data:

Museum service user categories	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Causal visitors	17,976	16,118	13,249	12,871	11,947
Research visitors	479	502	200	590	442
Organised groups & programmes	1,418	2,170	852	1,821	1,592
Onsite education users	2,620	2,737	2,195	2,542	1,693
Offsite education users	5,656	4,531	3,685	2,749	2,919
Offsite groups & programme users	125	258	223	578	967
Distance research users	429	418	458	443	414
Total	28,733	26,734	20,862	21,594	19,974

- 41 The Museum reopened on 4 January 2025 and has experienced a busy summer holiday season. It has seen a significant influx of holidaymakers, foreign tourists, and a smaller number of cruise ship passengers. Local visitor numbers were notably boosted by the annual Sensational Challenge, which ran until 23 January.

Current Museum workstreams January - June 2025

- Development and programming of the 2025 temporary exhibition plan (limited-time exhibitions).
- Documenting and imaging Museum mollusc and fossil collections.
- Finalising and running 2025 public programmes – kicks off with Retro Rock at the Museum on 15 February.
- Preparing and running comprehensive education programmes over Terms 1 and 2.
- Developing a Museum Collections overview and future development document.

Aigantighe Art Gallery

- 42 Between October and December 2024, the Aigantighe Art Gallery hosted four major exhibitions, showcasing a diverse range of artistic talent. Despite facing challenges related to delays and mechanical system integrations for the House Gallery reopening, our visitor engagement remained strong, culminating in a highly successful relaunch in December.
- 43 A significant milestone was the reopening of the House Gallery after nearly eight years of closure. The reopening of the historic Aigantighe House Gallery, a cherished cultural

cornerstone of South Canterbury, is the result of dedicated efforts in preservation, modernization, and community support. Special thanks to the diverse range of people involved, including local iwi Arowhenua Rūnanga, multiple Timaru District Council members and staff, tradespeople and contractors, the Friends of Aigantighe, local artists, and our generous donors for their unwavering commitment.

44 Exhibitions:

- **South Canterbury Art Society (SCAS) Exhibition -**
A showcase of local artists, celebrating the diverse and vibrant talent within the South Canterbury region.
- **In Splendour Moot' by Elfie Spiewack -**
A striking exhibition presenting Spiewack's unique artistic vision. This contemporary jewellery show, on until 9th February 2025, uses bone and classic low-value pieces to form Renaissance jewellery. Elfie Spiewack has superimposed physical jewellery pieces onto Renaissance, Baroque, and Victorian prints, inviting viewers to reconsider preconceived ideas around the value of jewellery and objects of adornment.
- **Confessions of ADHD' by Hayden Timmings -**
A thought-provoking exploration of ADHD through compelling visual narratives.
- **Domestic Revelries -**
On until 27 April 2025. Featuring works from renowned artist Jacqueline Fahey, alongside over 4% of the gallery's permanent collection. This exhibition taps into the narrative of domestic life entwined with art, using the intimate setting of the home to thread together the connection between the treasures of Aigantighe and the domestic space itself.

45 Key Highlights:

- **House Gallery Reopening:** The gallery successfully relaunched in December, attracting 600 visitors on the opening day.
- **Strong Visitor Engagement:** Over 1,000 visitors were recorded in both October and December, showcasing the community's enthusiasm for exhibitions and events.
- **Diverse Programming:** A well-balanced mix of contemporary, local, and established artists ensured wide-ranging audience appeal.





Attachments

Nil

9 Consideration of Urgent Business Items

10 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters

11 Public Forum Items Requiring Consideration