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LTP Submission

Sun 12/05/2024 8:38 PM

To:LTP Consultation <ltip@timdc.govt.nz>

The LtP some of my thoughts and concerns.

So, there are loads of concerned residents, many don't want to raise their concerns themselves because they know they will get angry, but the commonality is that they are already living on a tight budget and any further rate rise will tip them into poverty. And Frankly it doesn't seem like many of you are actually listening anyway. The Showgrounds development has been the coffin to the main street and the debt burden of a new theatre (at this time) will be its tombstone. Discretionary spending is at an all-time low anyone with their finger on the pulse on this town knows it.

If you spend money we don't have based on lending figures that don't apply you're asking for a vote of no confidence and public outcry.

Land Management, parks and reserves and by extension the rest of our district.

No consideration to our soils. Soil management needs to be considered as much as our districts water. Compacted soil structure created by poor farming (conventional) creates a zone at risk of flooding. You may have all learnt of the Water Cycle at school however can I draw your attention of what we have now, a half water cycle, a tendency to remove trees and to damage or give little consideration to the soil structure, it is this that which holds water when it rains, ideally capturing it and restricting flash flood events. There are international examples where altered farming practices as "Regenerative" have resulted in previous flood prone areas including entire towns have had their flood risks reversed because the land has been restored to its best function and fertility. Current practices are what places us at high risk of regional flooding. Groups like Qurom Sense can provide solutions on each local consideration, there are farmers affiliated with this new organisation all over NZ. I've been in touch with farms locally that work with the land as best as possible. It is a process that is renowned for sequestering Carbon also. We need to all be encouraged to do better, make better decisions. Have better discussions and it is these land users that are doing the actual work that should be consulted locally. Taking of their land through a SNA isn't going to promote better outcomes, it's going to make you the TDC an enemy of the land owner.

Once water is in our rivers there are ways to keep it there and move out to the coast faster and not cause flood bank erosion. If you would care to know I can show you what helps in this regard. There are practices in Europe that manipulate water flow with rock placement etc worth investigating. With some consultation I think it is worth looking at this also as a possible remedy for our lagoon.

Round-up kills the soil biology.

TDC has failed to answer a question raised at a rate payers consideration with the mayor as to why it allows it's contractors to still use Round-up and other Glyphosate active products on public grounds? It is a known carcinogen placing our pets and people at risk of exposure. I place you on notice to acknowledge the risks, ban the product and to seek alternatives.

Fleet use of fuel

I can also show you how to gain improved fuel economy and therefore lower emissions by 80%. If this interests you please reply and I can provide information.

To the prosperity of our district and to the making of good decisions through open discussion.

Kind Regards

Aaron More

Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



We are writing to you as a group with a significant stake in the outcome of the current deliberations on the future of the stadium complex who do not feel recognized as "stakeholders" in the process.

Aorangi Stadium includes a gymnasium with a wide range of equipment for weight training and other exercises typically used for "fitness circuit" classes. This area can accommodate up to 50 people in a single class.

Whilst many of the services provided by this facility are now catered for by the C Bay complex near Caroline Bay, Aorangi Stadium remains the preferred venue for Timaru senior citizens formal exercise classes. Around 7 one hour classes are run during the Monday to Friday working week throughout the year. These classes are attended by Timaru seniors equating to in excess of 200 "man hours" per week making this group of individuals collectively a principal user of this facility during the working week throughout the entire year.

Most of us pay \$5.50 per 1hour session for these classes. Some individuals are funded to attend by 3rd parties.

Why don't we use C Bay?

C Bay does not have the space to accommodate a group of our size.

Seniors generally prefer to exercise in a non-competitive environment catering to their diverse needs dictated by the typical issues experienced by our cohort. (A cohort which is predicted to continue growing as a proportion of the Timaru population)

During weekdays Aorangi is easily accessed by foot, bicycle and car by the majority of users.

A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

You are currently deliberating over the option of building a new facility at Aorangi or upgrading the current facility. We acknowledge that either way we will lose the use of Aorangi Stadium for a period of time. Obviously our preference would be for a solution that minimizes disruption to our use of the gym.

We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

Agnes Goddard



The Harcourts GERALDINE FESTIVAL

Submission to the Timaru District Council Long Term Plan 2024

The Harcourts Geraldine Festival (GFEST) (formerly the Geraldine Arts & Plants Festival) is a not-for-profit multi-day event that showcases Geraldine and the wider Timaru District, attracting around 18,000 participants for market stall days, art and photography exhibitions, open gardens, food, live performances of music and theatre and much more.

The festival is Geraldine's largest annual event and one of a small suite of events that has a district-wide impact. Under the management of Geraldine.nz the event is growing and continuing to develop and diversify.

Key stats for the 2023 event:

- In 2023 the market stall section of the event grew by 17% with an additional 54 stalls over 2 days.
- The art exhibition attracted more than 500 people resulting in sales of 43% of the art on display over the 3 days.
- A record 19 gardens were opened over the weekend with more than 1000 people visiting.
- More than 300 people visited the Photography Exhibition
- 48% of festival attendees were from the wider Canterbury (excluding Timaru District) area, 9% from Otago, 7% from the rest of the South Island
- 96% of attendees would recommend the district and the event to their friends and family.
- The average day visit spend was \$163 per person.
- More than 33% of attendees were staying in the area for 1-3 nights and were spending an average of \$72 pp on accommodation.

While GFEST has a solid operating model and successful track record, it is a free-to-enter event and relies heavily on funding support from the Timaru District Council.

Traditionally, applications for funding support were made to the TDC community Events Fund and in more recent times to the Major Events Fund administered by Venture Timaru.

This Long-Term Plan consultation has highlighted the challenges facing the Council and Community in balancing spending with service provision.

The festival committee acknowledges that there is a need for prudent budgeting during the coming period. However, the community must be still able to come together to enjoy events, especially those to which they can contribute and participate, and we must continue to attract visitors to the district to attract their vital spending contribution.

To that end, the Harcourts Geraldine Festival committee requests that the council:

1. Continue to provide funding for events via the Community Events Fund and the Major Events Fund (as administered by Venture Timaru) to ensure that events across the district can continue and develop over the next 10 years.

2. Recognise the importance of events to the whole of the district.

The aims/objectives of the Harcourts Geraldine Festival align with key community well-being & economic development outcomes of the Timaru District Council and therefore have an important role to play in supporting the delivery of the district's Long-Term Plan (LTP) while giving energy and life to the district.

Please read on for further information about the Harcourt Geraldine Festival.

Aims/Objectives:

The aims/objectives of the Harcourts Geraldine Festival are to:

- Celebrate the special key features of arts, crafts, flora, and fauna of the Geraldine area and wider Timaru District
- Provide a valuable platform to generate domestic tourism (inter & intra-regional) for Geraldine and the wider Timaru District, resulting in increased local economic activity.
- Showcase all that Geraldine, and the Timaru District, have to offer as a vibrant, interesting place to visit, and seek collaboration with district-wide partners to leverage benefits and profile enhancement for the increased exposure of our region.
- Continue to grow social cohesion, community spirit, and pride, and develop a stronger identity and sense of place, as well as community involvement and the spirit of working together.

Background:

This 3-day festival was created by the Geraldine Promotions Association, now Geraldine.nz, back in 1988 to promote Geraldine and celebrate the two things for which Geraldine was best known – art and plants.

In the early 2000s, the **Geraldine Arts and Plants Festival** committee formed an incorporated society and operated as a stand-alone event. In 2019 the event underwent a name change to the **Geraldine Festival** to better reflect the diversification of the event over time.

Geraldine.nz was approached in late 2020 by the festival committee to take over management of the event to ensure its ongoing viability and this formally took place in early 2021.

Since then, the event has gone from strength to strength, attracting major sponsorship with Harcourts Blackham and Co. and celebrating the 25th year of sponsorship of the Alpine Energy Art Exhibition. The festival committee is proud to have developed such a strong partnership with both organisations to create mutually beneficial outcomes.

Event Catchment Area:

The festival catchment area spans the wider Canterbury region – North Canterbury, Christchurch, Ashburton, Timaru, rural mid and South Canterbury, Waitaki, McKenzie, and beyond i.e., Oamaru, Dunedin. There is also great local support as Geraldine residents use the day to shop, meet friends, and enjoy the food and entertainment.

Spend data from Venture Timaru indicates that 75% of tourism spend in the Timaru region comes from around Canterbury (2021/22 Info) which means that our 'Canterbury Cousins' are the main audience for the Harcourts Geraldine Festival.

Visitors to Geraldine tend to be in the 50+ age bracket, but families are also a key market for the festival.

Key Partners:

The Harcourts Geraldine Festival is delighted to be partnering with **Harcourts Blackham & Co.** as the naming sponsor for the event and to continue the long-held association with **Alpine Energy** as a sponsor of the Art and Photography Exhibition, celebrating its 25th year as a sponsor of the art event in 2022.

These connections have provided the festival with much-needed financial support while several key local groups have supplied a labour force that runs on event days.

There are three key community group relationships, **Geraldine Lions**, **Geraldine Land Search and Rescue**, and **Geraldine Lionesses**, which play a large part in the event operation and a range of other groups, such as **Geraldine St Johns** and **Geraldine Volunteer Fire Brigade**, who play a smaller but still vital role.

The organisers look forward to growing more local community connections and involvements as the festival develops.

The event could not take place without the social license granted by the Geraldine community over many years and the Geraldine business community participates in several ways – through sponsorship, taking part in window displays, or having stalls at the market days.

The Timaru District Council and Venture Timaru have been strong supporters and provided funding, roading traffic management, and much more.

Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



We are writing to you as a group with a significant stake in the outcome of the current deliberations on the future of the stadium complex who do not feel recognized as "stakeholders" in the process.

Aorangi Stadium includes a gymnasium with a wide range of equipment for weight training and other exercises typically used for "fitness circuit" classes. This area can accommodate up to 50 people in a single class.

Whilst many of the services provided by this facility are now catered for by the C Bay complex near Caroline Bay, Aorangi Stadium remains the preferred venue for Timaru senior citizens formal exercise classes. Around 7 one hour classes are run during the Monday to Friday working week throughout the year. These classes are attended by Timaru seniors equating to in excess of 200 "man hours" per week making this group of individuals collectively a principal user of this facility during the working week throughout the entire year.

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During weekdays Aorangi is easily accessed by foot, bicycle and car by the majority of users.

A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

You are currently deliberating over the option of building a new facility at Aorangi or upgrading the current facility. We acknowledge that either way we will lose the use of Aorangi Stadium for a period of time. Obviously our preference would be for a solution that minimizes disruption to our use of the gym.

We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

NAME

Alison van Valkengoed

ADDRESS



PHONE



EMAIL



SIGNATURE



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Allan Robert



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Amyl Doran





Submission on the Timaru District Council Draft Fees and Charges 2024/25

10 May 2024

Tēnā koutou

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Council's Draft Fees and Charges Schedule for 2024/25. We are submitting specifically on alcohol licensing fees.

We would like the opportunity to speak (virtually) to our submission.

If you have any questions on the comments we have included in our submission, please contact:

Andrew Galloway
Executive Director
Alcohol Healthwatch

M: [REDACTED]

E: [REDACTED]

About Alcohol Healthwatch

Alcohol Healthwatch is an independent national charity working to reduce alcohol-related harm and inequities. We are contracted by Health New Zealand–Te Whatu Ora to provide a range of regional and national health promotion services. These include: providing evidence-based information and advice on policy and planning matters; coordinating networks and projects to address alcohol-related harms, such as alcohol-related injury and fetal alcohol spectrum disorder; and coordinating or otherwise supporting community action projects.

Specific Comments

1. Alcohol Healthwatch supports Timaru District Council's review of Fees and Charges proposed for 2024/25, however we note that alcohol licensing fees will remain at the 2023/24 level.
2. We support a full cost recovery approach for alcohol licensing, as while full cost recovery was envisaged by the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, the fees set under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013 have not kept pace with the costs incurred by Council. This inevitably means that without setting realistic fees the Council (and ratepayers) would be subsidising the costs associated with alcohol licensing.

3. We note that while fees are set by set by regulation, the Council has the ability to make a bylaw under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fee-setting Bylaws) Order 2013 and alter these nationally-fixed amounts and set fees that reflect the Council's actual costs as a licensing authority, and in respect of its inspection and enforcement functions.
4. We support a comprehensive review of all the costs incurred with licensing, not just those listed in the Fees and Charges Schedule, which includes costs associated with administration, monitoring and enforcement to ensure that these are met by the sector.
5. Revising fees in a timely manner would we believe meet the policy objectives of the licensing fees regime, namely:
 - (a) To recover the total reasonable costs incurred by the Council in administering the alcohol licensing system
 - (b) To ensure that those who create the greatest need for regulatory effort bear the commensurate costs
 - (c) To allow local circumstances to be reflected in the fees paid by operators and income received by the Council
 - (d) To minimise alcohol-related harm, to the extent that this can be achieved through a cost recovery regime.

Additional comments

6. The alcohol licensing regime and fee-setting is part of a package of measures which, when used comprehensively, can create safer environments and significantly minimise rates of hazardous drinking and subsequently alcohol-related harm. This includes the recently-reviewed joint Local Alcohol Policy and the Liquor Ban in Public Places section of the Consolidated Bylaw and similar policies.
7. We further note that under the section 404 of the 2012 Act, the Ministry of Justice is required to undertake a five-year review of alcohol licensing fees and of cost recovery by councils. However, this review is overdue, and we would encourage the Council to advocate to Central Government for a timely review of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013.
8. In a similar vein, we note that remuneration of District Licensing Committee members is also generally determined by the Ministry of Justice under the Cabinet Fees Framework (CO(22)2). We understand that the current fee for members is set at \$51 per hour or \$78 per hour for the DLC chairperson. We consider that these rates should be reviewed to ensure that a greater pool of applicants may be attracted to undertake this work if remunerated adequately.

Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



We are writing to you as a group with a significant stake in the outcome of the current deliberations on the future of the stadium complex who do not feel recognized as "stakeholders" in the process.

Aorangi Stadium includes a gymnasium with a wide range of equipment for weight training and other exercises typically used for "fitness circuit" classes. This area can accommodate up to 50 people in a single class.

Whilst many of the services provided by this facility are now catered for by the C Bay complex near Caroline Bay, Aorangi Stadium remains the preferred venue for Timaru senior citizens formal exercise classes. Around 7 one hour classes are run during the Monday to Friday working week throughout the year. These classes are attended by Timaru seniors equating to in excess of 200 "man hours" per week making this group of individuals collectively a principal user of this facility during the working week throughout the entire year.

Most of us pay \$5.50 per 1hour session for these classes. Some individuals are funded to attend by 3rd parties.

Why don't we use C Bay?

C Bay does not have the space to accommodate a group of our size.

Seniors generally prefer to exercise in a non-competitive environment catering to their diverse needs dictated by the typical issues experienced by our cohort. (A cohort which is predicted to continue growing as a proportion of the Timaru population)

During weekdays Aorangi is easily accessed by foot, bicycle and car by the majority of users.

A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

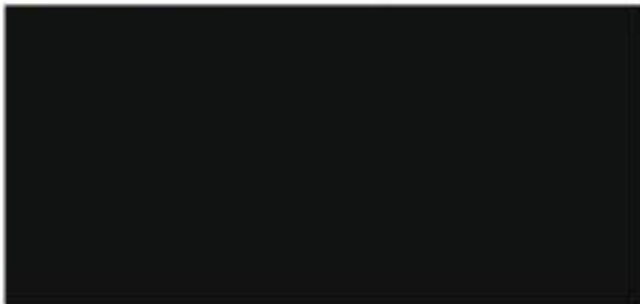
You are currently deliberating over the option of building a new facility at Aorangi or upgrading the current facility. We acknowledge that either way we will lose the use of Aorangi Stadium for a period of time. Obviously our preference would be for a solution that minimizes disruption to our use of the gym.

We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

ANGELA MARIE McILKATH



Submission to the Timaru District Council Long Term Plan **Request for funding for a feasibility study for covering the Geraldine Swimming Pool**

Requested by:
Geraldine Pool Committee
Anna Hargreaves

The Geraldine Pool Committee would like to submit a request to fund a feasibility study examining how a covered pool could create an exercise and wellbeing complex for our community that can be all year round

We are aware of the existing value the current pool provides as an open-air space and summer attraction. As a committee we see the benefit of having it covered to allow a higher usage throughout the year to increase the health and wellbeing of our community.

The enclosed design could maintain elements of an open-air feel; sliding doors to allow inside and outside flow, a potential retractable roof design. An extension could include an outdoor water play area that could include splash pad, water jets, and overhead sprinklers.

With having a covered pool a health and wellbeing area could be created including a sauna and spa which would benefit the community especially the ageing population and meet the needs for rehabilitation after operations or injuries.

The pool's site lies within a larger Recreation Reserve parcel 3447283 which offers expansion opportunities for the pool and associated activities. Development costs, usage projections and community impact for will serve as a roadmap, and the most optimal path to creating a covered pool complex.

A feasibility study will be an important part of the wider funding and redevelopment project landscape of Geraldine eg: cycling, sculpture trail, domain work, possible playground rework.

Supporting reasons to cover the Geraldine pool:

Creating a Hub for our community through Exercise & Wellbeing with an all ages facility that is currently lacking in Geraldine. The Geraldine area's average age of over 50,

Year round benefits to our community and the wider community would benefit from having the Geraldine pool covered.

Swim Club and Learn to Swim having a greater impact for their program via a complex that can be utilised all year round.

Well-being and mental health benefits for the community through exercise.

Adding value to a Council asset one of a kind exercise spaces in Geraldine

Reduced Carbon Footprint and Cost to the community of current travel to Timaru for usage of a covered pool.

Relevant points extracted from the Geraldine Strategic Framework:

Developing the pool meets all of the Key Objectives and Priority Outcomes

- Key Objective 1.** Ensure that local events and businesses are sustainable and well supported
- Key Objective 2.** Retain, maintain and enhance local infrastructure, facilities and amenities
- Key Objective 3.** Retain or improve connection with the wider District
- Key Objective 4.** Protect the pleasant residential character and rural landscapes
- Key Objective 5.** Create a resilient safe and secure community (rural and urban)
- Key Objective 6.** Maintain and grow community participation and connection for all ages/generations
- Key Objective 7.** Promote local history and identity
- Key Objective 8.** Protect the rural and small-town economy and ensure sustainability

Developing the pool meets the Year 1-3 Priority initiatives specifically:

- 1.1
- 1.2.
- 2.2
- 2.3
- 6.1
- 7.1

Values:

Creativity and Opportunity

We are optimistic about our abilities to thrive together and see possibility in challenges as well as in opportunities. Creativity means being alive with innovative energies, while also taking the time to experience the richness of what already exists and building from that.

Sustainability and Wellbeing

Wellbeing and sustainability are about mutual benefits, evolution and sustenance over time. Our focus is on building resilience, recovering effectively, overcoming challenges and adapting in ways that heal, regenerate and sustain both people and place.

Relevant points extracted from the Geraldine Combines Geraldine Combined Sports Group Sport and Recreation Needs Assessment and Development Strategy

There is clear support and preference in National and Regional Sport, Local Government, and Ministry of Education planning and policy documents for the development of shared multi-use facilities that meet identified gaps and address particular needs. There is also support for community-school partnerships in provision of facilities and fields.

6.1 Priority Needs:

There is continued clear community support and expressed priority need for:

1. A multi-purpose, multi-use social 'Hub' facility that caters for a range of sport and community uses, located at the Geraldine Domain

Many stakeholders expressed how price sensitive their memberships or users are, and many highlighted that contrary to perceptions there is a lower socio economic segment of the resident population in Geraldine that is struggling. There will also be an increasing portion of the population on fixed incomes with the increase in the 65+ age group.

To conclude

A feasibility study will help us understand the cost of covering a pool and would be the next step for this project to be planned.

As a committee we are open-minded to the findings and recommendations from the feasibility study for the future of the pool for the Geraldine Community.

Cost of the feasibility quote:

The Geraldine Community Pool Needs and Feasibility Assessment Proposal is \$29,600

Submitted by *Active Recreation and Sport Facilities Consultant group*:

our contact **Brendon Rope**

Funds discussed at the Geraldine Community Board Meeting

Wednesday, 8 November 2023

Minutes extracted below:

11.1 Geraldine Swimming Pool

The Community Board discussed the request from the Geraldine Swimming Pool group. There is discussion to support this feasibility study through the discretionary fund as long as the Timaru District Council covers the remainder.

Resolution 2023/181

Moved: Rosemary Woods Seconded: Janene Adams

The Geraldine Community Board supports the Chair requesting that the Council consider \$10,000 from the Discretionary Fund to be used to support the feasibility study with the requirement that Timaru District Council cover the balance.

If the funds are granted, the committee will ask the Geraldine District Projects Trust to support the pool project by holding (and disbursing on invoicing) the funds and covering future funding applications to other organisations.

We appreciate your time in considering funding for the Feasibility Study for the Geraldine Pool.

Thank you
Anna Hargreaves
Geraldine Pool Committee

Geraldine Community Pool Needs and Feasibility Assessment

PROPOSAL

Prepared for

Geraldine Community Pool Working Group



15 November 2023

Geraldine Community Pool Needs and Feasibility Assessment Proposal

Prepared For: Geraldine Community Pool Working Group

GLG contact for this proposal:

NAME OF CONTACT:


 Brendon Rope

Geraldine Community Pool Working Group contact
for this proposal:

NAME OF CONTACT:

 Anna Hargreaves

Date of proposal 15 November 2023

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We subscribe to the principle that facility planning starts with the capital project costs but is only feasible if the operational model can sustain the renewals programme costs for the life of the facility.

1 Background

The Geraldine Community Pool Working Group, in partnership with Timaru District Council want to investigate the upgrade of the current seasonal Geraldine community pool into an indoor/all-year round pool to support the current and future needs of the local community.

Project understanding

We understand the purpose of the Needs and Feasibility Assessment Report is to determine if an indoor/all-year round pool facility would support the aquatic needs of Geraldine and wider area. Key requirements of the report will be a community need assessment, consideration of options (design, construction, governance and management etc.), and determine what would be viable in terms of project funding and ongoing financial sustainability. The stakeholders are seeking a thorough evidence-based report to inform their decision making that analyses available data and research literature and investigates user and stakeholder views.

Project Team

The proposed Project Team assembled for this project is capable and of the appropriate scale for the project of this nature. We are experienced and knowledgeable experts in recreation, sport and facilities planning, design, management, capital funding grants, and operations and have been brought together to ensure the Needs and Feasibility Assessment is thorough and provides clear guidance for decisions to be made.

The Project Team in brief:

Brendon Rope

Project Lead / Report Author

Recent relevant project examples:

- National indoor facilities strategy, Sport New Zealand (current)
- Katikati Pool Roof Installation Project Management - Western Bay of Plenty District Council (2023)
- Carterton indoor pool reroof business case, Carterton Swim Club (2022)
- Carterton indoor pool reroof project funding guidance (current)
- Pahiatua indoor pool business case – Tararua District Council (2022)

Specific experience relevant for this project:

- Trustee, Taradale Community Pool Trust (inaugural Chair)
- Director, Dolphin Academy Swim School

David Allan

Contributing subject matter expert

Recent relevant project examples:

- National aquatic facilities strategy, Sport New Zealand (current)
- Carterton indoor pool reroof feasibility study, Carterton Swim Club (2021)
- Papamoa Aquatics Hub PPP Assessment (2020)

Richard Hutchinson

Contributing subject matter expert

Recent relevant project examples:

- National indoor facilities strategy, Sport New Zealand (current)
- Rotorua aquatic, indoor court and sports field needs assessment (2022)
- Papamoa Aquatics Hub PPP Assessment (2020)
- Waikato Aquatic Facility Strategy (2018)

2 Proposed Solution

Our approach summarised here to provide a context of how we will undertake the project.

2.1 Needs assessment

To determine the extent of the need for indoor/all-year round pool facility the Project Team will undertake research to provide a context for the engagement. This will consider the guidance from the National Indoor Facilities Strategy 2023 and any regional planning that has been undertaken. Stakeholder consultation will then test assumptions drawn from the research and provide a localised perspective of the user base demand, facility design features and requirements.

Research

The Project Team will complete a desktop analysis of all relevant documentation that the stakeholders have on hand and a wider cast over relevant information sources including, but not limited to, regional and national sports code facility strategies and plans, research data of the local population demographics, and trends for possible additional users.

Engagement:

When undertaking a needs assessment, it is critical that the ideas, thoughts and concerns from involved organisations and facility users are well captured by providing different channels for them to share their knowledge and views.

Stakeholder engagement will capture the following groups:

- Stakeholders – representation from the local community user groups, Sport Canterbury and Timaru District Council.
- Wider Stakeholders – the Project Team will discuss and agree to the wider stakeholder list prior to commencing any engagement with this group. It is anticipated to include representative voices for competitive, non-competitive, and passive recreational sport, leisure, physical activity groups/organisations. Schools and other local institutions will also be considered.

Stakeholders and wider Stakeholders will be interviewed where possible. There will be one on one opportunities with the key personnel (these will be a mixture of face to face, video conference and phone, pending the circumstances). For those we are unable to meet with we can use online survey tools to gather wider input.

2.2 Feasibility assessment

Options Review

The Options Review will consider and assess options for the building design and configuration. This will include confirming the major requirements for building design from the needs assessment work. Any gaps will be identified and raised with the Steering Group.

Sustainability Modelling

The ability of the building to be operated sustainably will be considered and the options modelled (see assumptions and exclusions). The model will consider initial years from opening to settling into an expected normal level of activity. It will include the operational costs, fixed and variable, and capital renewals based on the cost estimate from concept designs.

As part of business modelling the Project Team will consider:

- Management model – direct management or alternate (e.g. contract), for all or some services, e.g. learn to swim.
- Pricing for key services – understand acceptable parameters for core and specific services

- Consider principal costs of staffing (if proposed), energy, insurance, and cleaning and how these can be optimised
- Treatment of long-term maintenance and depreciation
- Consider all key revenue options and consider how grants and corporate sponsorship will be managed

Ownership, Governance and Management

The feasibility of a sports facility is highly influenced by the structural model employed (i.e. ownership, governance and management). Options will be considered, and recommendations made taking into account the stakeholder inputs to operational success, organisational capacity, capital contributions, the ongoing investment profile, and ownership stakes.

Complete the report

All the collated information and inputs will be documented in a structured report that will serve multiple audiences. These include the basketball community, primary stakeholders and prospective funding agencies.

The Proposed Project Fee includes one client review round additional costs will be incurred if more than one review is required.



3 Assumptions and Exclusions:

From what we understand of the project there are a number of assumptions we have made and some resulting exclusions.

Steering Group:

It is assumed:

- that a Steering Group made up of the Geraldine Community Pool Working Group, Sport Canterbury, and Timaru District Council will provide oversight of the project.
- there will be at least one meeting with the full project team and the Steering Group. This has been priced to be online. Additional disbursements will incur if face to face meetings are required, for example a presentation of the final report.
Note: using online video meetings will not incur additional disbursements.
- the stakeholders will agree to the Project Team receiving and analysing their detailed annual accounts.

Work completed to date:

It is assumed:

- there is already some level of suitable documentation related to the pool performance and district planning that the Project Team will have access to.

Guiding budget for the facility:

It is assumed:

- the Steering Group do not have a guiding capital budget.

Wider stakeholder engagement:

It is assumed:

- the Steering Group will provide a list of possible users of the proposed facility for this assessment and there may be others the Steering Group can offer and that the Project Team suggest.
- there will be up to five face to face stakeholder meetings. Additional costs will incur if further face to face meetings are required.
- that public engagement is not required, and this Needs and Feasibility Assessment is focused on stakeholder, wider stakeholder, and does not include public consultation.

4 Commitment and Ability to Deliver

It is understood that the project funding is in the process of being secured and it is anticipated that the project will begin late Summer/early Autumn 2023. The Project Team is committed to complete this project, in the timeframes yet to be confirmed, and ensure a high-quality report is completed within reasonable timeframes.

5 Timeframes

Our understanding is that funding is being sought to complete the Needs and Feasibility Assessment. The project team believes the project could be completed over a period of 8-12 weeks from engagement date, pending timely inputs from stakeholders.

6 Proposed Project Fee

Activity	\$ (excl. GST)
Project Initiation	\$750
Needs Assessment Research	\$4,650
Engagement	\$7,800
Options assessment	\$3,900
Operational modelling and sustainability	\$2,350
Governance and management model	\$1,950
Report completion	\$5,200
	\$26,600
Disbursements	\$ (excl. GST)
Travel & Accommodation	\$3,000
Disbursement inclusive fee	\$29,600

Should additional services be required of the Project Team they will be charged at \$195 per hour excluding GST.

The proposed fees are valid for 90 days from the date of the proposal.

7 Project team

Brendon Rope, Active Recreation and Sport Facilities Consultant



[Linkedin PROFILE](#)

KEY QUALIFICATIONS & TRAINING

- ARPro 2022
- Bachelor of Leisure Studies, Waikato University
- Diploma in Applied Sports Studies, Auckland Institute of Technology
- Nat Cert in Occupational Health & Safety (Workplace) Level 3
- Nat Cert in Adult Education, Levels 4 & 5
- NZ Cert in Engineering, Auckland Institute of Technology

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Member, Recreation Aotearoa
- Co-Chair, Recreation Aotearoa Midlands Branch
- Joint owner, Dolphin Academy Ltd, aquatic facility management company

SPECIALIST AREAS

- Strategic and operational management advisory
- Quality management: policy, procedure and systems development
- Feasibility studies
- Community engagement
- Facility and asset management plans
- Funding planning and applications
- Change management
- Communication

With over 25 years' sport and recreation industry experience, across a range of roles and organisations (including regional and national sports organisational management, and sports facilities management), Brendon is an astute management consultant providing advice to sport, recreation and leisure related organisations.

Commencing in the sector with Sport Taranaki, Brendon has worked for regional and national sports organisations throughout the North Island. He has facility management expertise developed through his roles at Pettigrew.Green Arena, Hawke's Bay Institute of Sport & Health, and the Green Family Taradale Pool.

More recently Brendon developed his consultancy capabilities. Combining these with his depth of experience and knowledge in sport and recreation facilities, he will deliver community outcomes sustainably and efficiently for the right result.

RECENT PROJECT ENGAGEMENT

- National indoor facilities and aquatics facilities strategies, Sport New Zealand (current)
- Otaraua Park Multi-purpose circuit feasibility study – Kapiti Coast District Council (2023)
- Katikati Pool Roof Installation Project Management - Western Bay of Plenty District Council (2023)
- Carterton indoor pool business case – Carterton Swim Club (2022)
- Pahiatua indoor pool business case – Tararua District Council (2021)
- Indoor sports facility proposal review – Hamilton City Council (2021)
- Blake Park multi-club options and feasibility report – Tauranga City Council (2020-21)
- Dog pound feasibility study - Waikato District Council (2020 – 21)
- Community facilities strategic framework and six sub-plans – Manawatu District Council (2019-20)
- Maraekakaho Hall feasibility study – Maraekakaho Church Hall Trust (2019-2020)
- Turangitukua sports facility feasibility study – Taupo District Council (2019)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2019-July 2022** Senior Consultant, Xyst Ltd
- 2018-2019** Operations & Commercial Manager, Hawke's Bay Institute of Sport and Health
- 2013-2018** Training Delivery Manager, Talent Leader, Training Manager, IMPAC Health and Safety Solutions
- 2009-2013** Chief Executive Officer, Pettigrew.Green Arena
- 2006-2009** Regional Manager, Eastern Netball Region inc
- 1997-2007**
 - Training Consultant/Director, Smartz
 - Client Liaison, Skills Active ITO
 - HR & Training Development Manager, YMCA Auckland
 - Residential Manager, Manukau Institute of Technology
 - Provincial & KiwiTouch Development Manager, Touch NZ
 - Sport Development Manager, Sport Taranaki

PUBLISHED WORKS

School Pools Saved - Australasian Parks and Leisure. B. Rope. (2021)

David Allan, Sport and Recreation Consultant



[Linkedin PROFILE](#)

KEY QUALIFICATIONS & TRAINING

- ARPro 2021
- Diploma in Parks & Recreation Management, Lincoln 1981-83

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Member, Recreation Aotearoa

SPECIALIST AREAS

- Network plans
- Feasibility studies
- Analysis and interpretation of demographic trends
- Supply and occupancy/use analysis
- Demand analysis
- Gap analysis and needs assessment
- Functional specification to meet assessed needs
- Option development and analysis
- Assessment of priorities
- Site analysis & master planning

A Director of Global Leisure Group, David has significant depth of understanding of planning for aquatic facilities developed over the past 25 years as a consultant planner. He is highly skilled and experienced in producing provision strategies and plans at the national, regional and local levels.

David has experience in the development of guidance documents having been a key author of the Sport NZ Community Sport and Recreation Facility Development Guide (2016) and a support author for the Sport NZ Hub Guide (2020).

David has exceptional knowledge of facility trends and provision across New Zealand having completed over 220 planning assignments in 16 out of 17 RST regions and well over half of the TAs in New Zealand plus Sport NZ and its predecessors. His strengths are in trend analysis, supply assessment, demand and needs assessment, policy development and analysis for strategic and network plans as well as feasibility studies.

David draws on 40 years' experience in the sport and recreation sector. He was an early graduate of the pioneering Diploma in Parks and Recreation Management from Lincoln University. David's career path reflects the major developments in the sector; he had a succession of key roles with organisations such as the Hillary Commission, the Minister of Recreation and Sport, the Health Sponsorship Council, and Sport Tasman (founding CE).

RECENT PROJECT ENGAGEMENT

- National indoor facilities and aquatics facilities strategies, Sport New Zealand (current)
- Tararua Play, Active Recreation and Sport Strategy, Tararua DC
- Molyneux Park Needs Assessment and Master Plan, Central Otago DC
- Darfield Indoor Court Needs Assessment and Site Analysis, Selwyn DC
- Gisborne Tairāwhiti Hubs Masterplan

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2000-Present** Director, GLG Ltd
- 1996-1999** Consultant Planner, Strategic Leisure Limited
- 1991-1995** Chief Executive Officer, Sport Tasman
- 1989-1990** Private Secretary, Minister for Recreation and Sport

CONFERENCE PAPERS, ARTICLES AND PRESENTATIONS

- *Hubs Guide and Key Lessons Masterclass* – Recreation Aotearoa Parks & Facilities Conference Hamilton, 2019
- *Hubs – Why all the hubbub?* New Zealand Recreation Association Green Pavlova (Parks) National Seminar, Nelson, 2012
- *Facilities Planning Value Chain*. Presenter and panel member at New Zealand Recreation Association Thinking Recreation (Planning & Policy) National Seminar, Queenstown, 2012.
- *Needs Analysis* – Tools, Method and Insights YMCA National Conference, Auckland 2011
- *Regional Facilities Planning and Funding Forum*. New Zealand Recreation Association Thinking Recreation (Planning & Policy) National Seminar, Nelson, 2011.
- *Nelson- Tasman Partnership* – Regional Facilities Plan and Funding Forum. New Zealand Recreation Association (NZRA) National Conference, Queenstown, 2004.
- *Feasibility Studies – Fulsome or Fraught – What do you need to know?* New Zealand Recreation Association (NZRA) National Conference, Wellington, 2000.

Richard Hutchinson, Sport and Recreation Consultant



[Linkedin PROFILE](#)

KEY QUALIFICATIONS & TRAINING

- MSc Recreation Management 1997
- Certificate of Recreation Management (ILAM UK) 1999

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Member, Recreation Aotearoa

SPECIALIST AREAS

- Strategic and operational management advisory
- Quality management: policy, procedure and systems development
- Feasibility studies
- Community engagement
- Facility and asset management plans
- Funding planning and applications
- Change management

A Director of Global Leisure Group, Richard has significant depth of understanding of facility planning for both aquatic and indoor court facilities developed over the past 25 years as a consultant planner. He is highly skilled and experienced in producing provision strategies at the national, regional and local levels.

Richard leads GLGs strategic alignment with ActiveXchange and has undertaken multiple Facility Planning projects as well as developing a pilot SportsEye project for Hockey NZ. Richard has worked with ActiveXchange on a number of areas of project development and was instrumental in guiding the development of the ActiveXchange Community Analysis Tool initially trialed in a strategic Sports Fields assessment project for Tauranga and Western Bay of Plenty. Aquatic and Indoor Court projects undertaken using the facility Planning Tool include: Selwyn District Aquatics Strategy, demand assessment and site selection for North Western Auckland Aquatics Facility; demand assessment and market analysis input to the Flat Bush Aquatics Centre plus a number of site specific Facility Planning Models

Richard has exceptional knowledge of facility trends and changing demographic across New Zealand. Richard has recently been central to the Taranaki Different & Better project and has a detailed knowledge and understanding of the changing sport and recreational trends and the challenges that traditional facilities and sporting organisations have when facing and reacting to them.

Richard draws on 30 years' experience in the sport and recreation sector. He graduated from Loughborough University in the UK with a Masters of Sport and Recreation. Richard's career path has included roles within Local Councils (in UK and NZ), Regional Sports Trust and 18 years in sport and recreation consultancy.

RECENT PROJECT ENGAGEMENT

- National indoor facilities and aquatics facilities strategies, Sport New Zealand (current)
- Supply and Demand Assessment for Indoor Courts, Aquatic and Sports Fields, Rotorua Lakes Council
- Molyneux Park Needs Assessment and Master Plan, Central Otago DC
- Darfield Indoor Court Needs Assessment and Site Analysis, Selwyn DC
- Te Puāwaitanga Needs Assessment - Far North DC

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2015-Present	Director, GLG Ltd
2013-Present	Director, Active Insight Ltd
2007-2014	Senior Consultant, Visitor Solutions
2006-2007	Acting Chief Executive Officer, Sport North Harbour
2005-2006	Team Leader Recreation and Events, Auckland City Council
1999-2005	Senior Consultant, PMP

8 References

We can provide references of endorsement for projects of this nature and will do on request.

9 Testimonials

Carterton Indoor Pool Business Case, July-September 2022:

The Carterton Indoor Pool is a much loved community asset that has seen better days. The structure is at the end of its build life and requires immediate replacement. Rather than let the indoor pool close, the Carterton Swimming Club established an Indoor Pool Working Group to do the mahi required to replace the indoor pool building and install a modern HVAC system. Like many volunteer organisations across the country, our Working Group consisted of volunteers who while hugely motivated, did not always have the collective skills required to progress the project.

The Carterton Indoor Pool Working Group were lucky enough to obtain funding to complete a business case for the pool upgrade. Brendon Rope from smartz had previously reached out to us to offer his time free of charge, to tell us about his experiences and role in upgrading the Taradale Community Pool. The Working Group were so impressed by Brendon's expertise and personal commitment to community pools across the country that smartz were awarded the contract to complete the business case for the Carterton Indoor Pool.

Brendon visited our pool and met with us as often as we requested. We were thoroughly impressed with the business case that Brendon produced. It was highly detailed and provided all the information we needed to complete our due diligence process. Brendon knew more about what the business case needed to include than we did and was very generous with his time explaining various aspects to us. This included providing contact details for industry specialists and presenting pool facility development options to guide our decision-making, all of which was hugely helpful.

I thoroughly recommend Brendon as a highly experienced, super friendly, and extremely professional Sport and Recreation Consultant. Brendon breathed new life into our project and really helped us get back on track. I hope we get the opportunity to work with him again in the future. – Toni Kennerley, Carterton Indoor Pool Working Group.

Hamilton Pools

Hamilton City Council have engaged Brendon Rope for his services across three projects to date. Brendon is quick to respond and work his other commitments to deliver against the scope. He is communicative and pragmatic. His hands on industry experience is evident in the recommendations he makes which really brings his reports to life and easy to implement. He provides firm guidance on the required action plan at a level which will make impactful change. I highly recommend Brendon to anyone that is considering his services. – Liz Cann, Aquatics Director.



The sport of Tennis (and Tennis South Canterbury) as it weaves into the Play, Active Recreation, and Sport strategy within the Timaru District. Long Term Plan Submission 2024

Tennis South Canterbury Incorporated is a non-profit regional sporting organisation that fosters and promotes the game of tennis in the South Canterbury region. TSC's purpose is to enable and promote quality tennis experiences at every level. There are 5 clubs affiliated to Tennis South Canterbury. Our headquarters is the Trust Aoraki Tennis Centre, 27 Benvenue Ave, Timaru - a magnificent venue with magical views from the Pavilion over Caroline Bay. There are 14 outdoor Synpave courts all of which are floodlit.

The Association is a financially sustainable sport with a magnificent facility at Benvenue Ave which has been acknowledged by Tennis NZ (TNZ) to be at a standard suitable to host national/international leading players. The Association is in talks with Tennis NZ regarding bringing a World Tennis Tour to Timaru which would involve leading players' participation – Ranking levels Davis Cup and Billie Jean Cup (World tennis teams events) players. We would anticipate the majority of Kiwis playing on the professional circuit would play and up and-coming juniors. Depending on timing estimate approx. 25 Kiwi players across Men and Women with approx. 60-75 internationals inclusive of a qualifying. draw. This tournament would run for 7 days.

These discussions and the fact that after more than 100 years the legal framework for sports clubs in New Zealand is changing will see closer links occurring between TSC and TNZ. Two new laws have set fresh expectations and additional administration on how a sport needs to operate from the grassroots through to national bodies (The Incorporated Societies Act and Integrity Sport and Recreation Bill). All sports organizations that are incorporated societies, must comply with new legislation, meaning a large re-registration process for the tennis community. TNZ sees the requirements to comply with the new laws as a great opportunity to continue the modernisation of the sport which at the same time will see TSC moving forward having a strong direct report/link to the national body. A positive action.

It is acknowledged that there are some difficult decisions to be made about the upcoming long-term plan for the district, which is geographically diverse and where each community enjoys a distinct identity and unique needs.

Regardless of differences, there is a common need for the infrastructure and services provided by the council. While there is much more the council offers to the community, its commitment first and foremost must be to the effective delivery of these.

In the LTP consultation documents, the Council has laid out the challenges it faces and the current options available to meet those needs.



It is the view of Tennis South Canterbury that, for each of the four big issues, the council's preferred option presented is the best approach to meeting community needs over the next 10 years and Tennis South Canterbury supports all the preferred options.

It makes sense to lift the debt cap by a moderate amount and to couple this with an increase in service charges and rate rises to finance the capital works required to replace key infrastructure and underpin the resilience of these provisions into the future.

While cost/price increases are not a concept that anyone enjoys, it is needed, and it is acknowledged that there are limited avenues open to the council to generate the funds required to meet the identified needs.

Concerning the topic of balancing the '*things you use with the things you enjoy*' (Big Issue 3), it is the view of Tennis South Canterbury that the council has the balance about right at an 80/20 split. The challenge will be in deploying the 20% (approx. \$131m) to the best effect so that the community feels there is still some 'icing on the cake'.

The next few years will be a time of considerable constraint for the district; however, people still need to experience enjoyment to be able to sustain themselves through the more difficult aspects of a tough financial period. Resilience will be critical.

Additionally, the district still needs to be able to attract businesses and workers to the area by continuing to offer outstanding lifestyle opportunities.

Timaru District Council has a commitment to supporting the wants and needs of engagement in Play, Active Recreation, and Sport, for the people of the district. Connected to this is the responsibility to provide a range of spaces and places for this engagement to occur.

Tennis South Canterbury, and some board and club members, were among those involved in the development of the draft Play, Active Recreation, and Sport strategy. (ref: **Timaru District Council Play, Active Recreation, and Sport Strategy DRAFT** 11th April 2024) for the district which is out for review now. (an excellent process that involved input from many clubs, associations, and organisations). The following in italics is an excerpt from that draft.

Participation in physical activity and play helps contribute to an individual's physical, spiritual, emotional, and psychological well-being. This is aligned with the Council's focus on the 'Four Wellbeings'.

Local Government Purpose A recent change to the Local Government Act 2002 has re-established the focus on the four wellbeings. Section 10 states: The purpose of local government is— (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and (b) to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.¹

The use of the four wellbeings acknowledges Councils' broader role in looking after our communities, than simply providing core services. Council has identified five community well-being outcomes that



promote the economic, environmental, cultural, and social well-being of the community. The community wellbeing outcomes include Connected Citizens (social & cultural wellbeing), Enhanced Lifestyle (social & cultural wellbeing), Sustainable Environment (environmental & cultural wellbeing), Diverse Economy (economic wellbeing), and Resilient Infrastructure (economic, social, and environmental wellbeing).²

With funds tighter than ever, the neighbourhoods and communities of the district must prioritise and communicate with the council to enable innovative, informed decision-making, maximising the benefits to all.

Tennis South Canterbury therefore urges the council to:

- Ensure that the sport of tennis through its Association (Tennis South Canterbury) and affiliated clubs is recognised for the role the sport plays in assisting to build strong, connected, welcoming, and supportive communities.
- Acknowledges its importance and contributions to the district and provides support as much as it is able. This could include but is not limited to providing for holding the current TSC land rental for the term of the lease so that the association can minimise any increases passed onto users and considering insurance of fixed assets on leased council property being something the TDC could help with or broker alongside their own fixed asset base.
- Recognises the modern facility with supportive infrastructure which sits on council-owned land and has future multi-use capabilities ie hosting local/regional/national tournaments, hosting small conferences/seminars etc contributing to economic return and showcasing the region.
- Support and adopt the PARS strategy for the betterment of Play, Active Recreation, and Sport in the Timaru District.

Let's explore the advantages of continuing to work together:

Why Tennis as a sport should be woven into the Timaru District Council Well-being pillars and PARS strategy?

Tennis holds significance for both individuals and communities as it helps:

- Build strong, connected, welcoming, and supportive communities.

Let's explore further:

1. Physical Benefits:

- Tennis is an excellent exercise that promotes physical health. It enhances strength, agility, coordination, and reflexes.
- Regular play helps improve cardiovascular health by requiring physical exertion.
- It aids in weight loss by burning calories and fat.
- Tennis also contributes to better balance, posture, and flexibility.
- Joint health and muscle tone benefit from the sport.



- Hand-eye coordination, quick thinking, and fine motor skills are honed through tennis.
- Strategic thinking is encouraged as players plan their moves and anticipate their opponent's actions.
- Developed tennis skills are portable and enhance technical ability in other recreational activities.

2. **Mental Benefits:**

- Tennis is not just physical; it's a mental game too.
- Players must think quickly, strategize, and stay focused.
- Cognitive function improves, concentration increases and problem-solving skills develop.
- It serves as a stress reliever and fosters a sense of community.

3. **Social Benefits:**

- Tennis builds relationships and encourages healthy competition.
- It creates a sense of community and provides an outlet for stress relief.
- Communication and social skills are developed on the court.
- Tennis is suitable for all ages and skill levels, making it accessible to everyone.

4. **Community Impact:**

- Tennis brings people together, fostering a sense of belonging and pride in the community.
- It's a non-impact sport that can be played for a lifetime, regardless of age or strength.
- Communities worldwide embrace tennis as a social and active pursuit.

In summary, tennis offers physical fitness, mental stimulation, and a sense of community, making it an important sport for individuals and communities alike.



Timaru District Council Long Term Plan

Submission from Spokes Canterbury

Reference: <https://www.timaru.govt.nz/ltp>

Tēnā koutou katoa

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Timaru District Council Long Term Plan.

Introduction

Spokes Canterbury (<http://www.spokes.org.nz/>) is a local Canterbury cycling advocacy group with approximately 1,200 followers. Spokes is affiliated with the national Cycling Action Network (CAN – <https://can.org.nz/>). Spokes is dedicated to including cycling as an everyday form of transport in the greater Christchurch and Canterbury areas. Spokes has a long history of advocacy in this space including writing submissions, presenting to councils, and working collaboratively with others in the active transport space. We focus on the need for safe cycling for those aged 8 to 80. Spokes also supports all forms of active transport, public transport, and has an interest in environmental matters.

Timaru District Council Long Term Plan

Transport

Spokes Canterbury **supports capital and operational spending on walking and cycling infrastructure**. More investment is needed to encourage mode shift and ensure the safety of cyclists and pedestrians of all ages and abilities.

- Investment in cycle infrastructure requires little maintenance and has numerous health and environmental benefits.
- Increasing use of active transport and public transport reduces congestion and wear on our roads.

Residents living in Timaru need a range of transport choices that support active and public transport, including walking, cycling, scooting, and buses. 13% of New Zealand adults do not drive for various reasons, and need alternatives that will allow them to be independent and remain connected with their community. Many places in Aotearoa have low cycling numbers but it is clear that if safe infrastructure is provided, people will cycle. Build it and they will come.

Timaru does not have a lot of cycling infrastructure apart from painted lines on various roads. This is reflected in the number and diversity of cyclists you see making ordinary journeys. The children biking to school are as likely to use the footpath as the road as there is no separation. The majority of cyclists are male, an indication that the level of safety is not yet there. Key intersections have no cycling lanes or stop boxes to allow hook turns. A lot more is possible.

Recreational cycling has some more options. There are biking trails to Pleasant Point and a variety of shared walking and cycling tracks such as the Centennial Park and Saltwater Creek Tracks. While the tracks are well used by cyclists, they are mostly gravel and can be narrow

and tricky to navigate in places. There is a need for better signage and an indication if the tracks are suitable for those who are younger, less confident or able, or using a larger mobility device, trike or cargo bike.

Most people can enjoy cycling, and will do so if they feel it is safe for their whanau and themselves. Using an E-bike increases the range of people who can participate and the range of journeys that are practical, particularly in hilly Timaru. Lower speeds, separated infrastructure, and safer crossings of major roads and intersections encourage the “interested by concerned” cyclists who are often women, children, and the over 65s on e-bikes (the fastest growing cycling category in NZ) to take more trips by bike. Accessible cycling infrastructure should be designed to work for a wide range of uses including cargo bikes or trailers carrying children, trikes, and mobility scooters.

It is difficult to find good cycling opportunities in Timaru and the wider district. They are poorly advertised and signposted. A cycling map would be very helpful and encourage more use. The website cycling links have not been updated since July 2021. It is easy to get lost and even local cyclists are unaware of what is available. In Timaru the volume, size and speed of traffic has also increased to the point where cyclists feel increasingly unsafe cycling unprotected on the road.

Spokes supports developing cycle trails to connect various towns in Timaru District and continuing to put additional recreation cycling opportunities in place.

Spokes supports the renewal of footpaths and suggests this would be a good opportunity to provide some separated or shared cycling paths at the same time. Please consider putting in some temporary cycleways similar to the Park Terrace cycleway in Christchurch or the new cycleways in Wellington as a good way to gauge demand, with a particular focus on schools and major destinations. Smoother road surfacing makes it physically easier to cycle, particularly for children and the less physically able. Provide safe, secure cycle parking (e.g. hoops as they fit most bikes) at key destinations, and cycle-friendly maps and directional signs.

Spokes requests the Council ensure any new or upgraded parks or sports and recreation facilities include adequate bicycle parking (ideally a Locky Dock)

Spokes' top priority is to increase safe cycling around schools and popular destinations to allow children to get safely and independently to school and to encourage the greatest range of people of all abilities to cycle.

Speed

New Zealand and international research show that **reducing speeds is the single most effective, and often cheapest, way to reduce death and serious injuries on our roads.**

Spokes Canterbury supports **slow speeds, particularly around schools and in neighbourhoods**, which can encourage more active travel choices as cyclists and pedestrians feel safer.

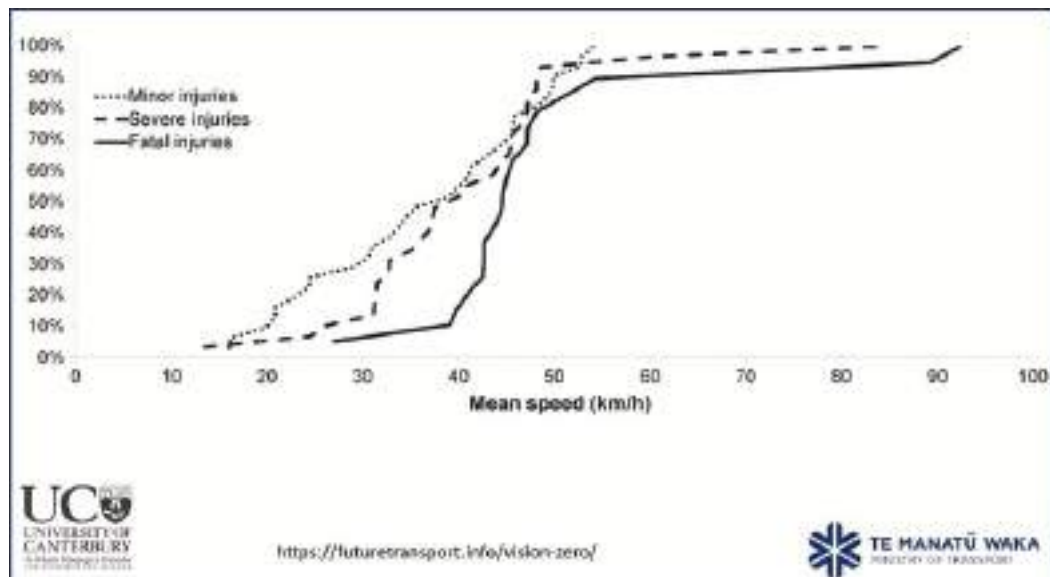
- The research is clear that speed is a factor in death and serious injury crashes and the risk is significantly reduced by lowering speeds in neighbourhood streets. There is now growing evidence in Aotearoa, confirming international research, that reducing speeds has a significant impact on reducing deaths and serious injuries. (See fig 1)

- There is a significant difference between being hit by a vehicle in a 50 km/h zone to a 30 km/h zone (see fig 2)
- Reducing speeds on rural road also makes a significant difference (see fig 1), including variable speeds at intersections.

Fig 1. Glen Koorey, 2023 Australasian Road Safety Conference, Cairns



Fig 2 Deaths and Serious Injuries at various speeds



Prof. Simon Kingham presentation, Sept 2022

Timaru has a number of intersections of 80 km/h or above that would benefit from variable speeds, noting that this can reduce deaths and serious injuries by 51%. The Council could discuss this with NZTA | Waka Kotahi based on the needs of the community and DSI statistics.

Debt Cap and Transport

Spokes supports Option 3 Higher Debt Cap or Option 2 with full investment in cycling and walking.

Invest full amount (\$1m p.a.) in developing cycleways to help

1. **promote active transport and carbon emission reduction targets for district**
2. Reduce investment to \$500k p.a. to keep cycleways in development but at a slower pace than planned
3. Remove cycleways investment to follow lead of central government

Spokes would actually like to see a higher investment than \$1M a year in cycling in the district. The current pace is too slow to encourage significant mode shift.

If Waka Kotahi does not provide co-funding, Timaru DC should consider going ahead with at least some of the service improvements, given there is good local support.

Public Transport

Timaru should consider extending the MyWay service to the outskirts of Timaru and have a Bike and Ride facility that interconnects with MyWay at key destinations. Bike parking can be the hooped variety or Locky Dock for e-bikes. The MyWay vehicles should carry bike racks or tow a trailer fitted out for carrying bikes. Consider extending MyWay to cover Temuka, Pleasant Point and Geraldine.

Good public transport services, including MyWay, should use electric vehicles to reduce congestion and emissions.

Climate Change

Spokes would like to see an increased focus and expenditure spent on climate action.

Spokes Canterbury supports the Council focusing infrastructure investment on active and public transport modes such as cycling and walking using separated or shared paths; reduced speed; and public transport as part of your climate actions.

Transport makes up 17.5% of New Zealand's gross emissions. The health effects and costs of fossil fuel vehicles should also be taken into account when prioritising funding. It is not a coincidence that New Zealand has the highest car ownership and one of the highest asthma rates in the world. A recent study in Neurology has linked PM2.5 particulates from diesel exhausts and other traffic-related air pollutants to Alzheimer's disease. Anything we can do to reduce single occupancy motor vehicle use and motor vehicle use for shorter journeys reduces the long-term costs to all New Zealanders. Timaru has the potential to increase cycling trips with the right infrastructure.

Spokes also supports the Council efforts on climate adaptation, water reforms and protecting land and ocean biodiversity.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the plan.

Spokes would be happy to clarify any issues raised above.

Spokes Canterbury
12/5/24



Submission to the Long Term Plan (for 2024 onwards)

The Timaru District Council should help local residents to purchase the building presently owned by the Anglican Church Property Board that is used by the Geraldine Academy of Performance and Arts. It should move from church into community ownership and charity status, in preference to a commercial or residential use.

The Academy provides a community space which is unrivaled in its flexibility to offer affordable facilities for performance and activities. It has provided a cultural focus for Geraldine over more than a decade.

Background.

The Geraldine Academy of Performance and Arts (reg. charity) was established in 2012 by a small local group of local artists and performers. The building was once a church hall of the St. Mary's Anglican Church and is situated across their car park, opposite the Geraldine Cinema. The building is in reasonable condition (inspected in 2023 for the TDC) although heating in winter is problematic as it is poorly insulated.

Regular users include the Geraldine Community Choir, Fiery Peak Morris Dancers, Finding our Voices (Acting and music activity for people with learning disabilities), monthly Friday night blackboard concerts, Bridge classes, and occasional private parties. It is also used for Farmers' Market committee meetings. The most recent booking enquiry is for a new mens' support group. During the past year a successful Folk Festival weekend and a South Island musicians' gathering have been held, as well as a number of public evening concerts with travelling performers, who have occasionally run participatory workshops as well. It has hosted a children's choir, break-dance practices, artist workshops, one-on-one music lessons, and preparatory workshops for events such as the Winter Lights Festival. In October 2023 it was in use for a full week as an early voting station and in 2022 hosted a social worker for therapeutic work with children, African drumming and calligraphy classes. This has proved a versatile venue.



Celebration of the Academy's 10th anniversary.



Performers at one of the monthly Blackboard Concerts

The Academy's facilities

The Academy has a large hall suitable for dancing (including a mirrored wall), larger group meeting and concerts. It also has a small foyer space suitable for smaller group events. The various storage rooms mean that users can store equipment on the premises. They also store larger items that have been used in community events, such as lanterns from the Winter Lights Festival, there is an excellent piano, plus music stands, microphones and amplification equipment as well as a collection of costumes and craft materials. The kitchen allows groups to cater for their events. In many ways it functions as a community centre.

Benefits of the Academy building, compared to others

The Academy's main hall has good acoustics, so it is a good venue for both musical performances. The roof is sufficiently high and a wooden floor make dancing possible. It is centrally located in Talbot Street, meaning it is easily accessible by all. (and literally – it has ramped exterior access and disabled accessible toilet). It is a different venue in character from the Lodge Theatre, which is better suited to stage performances and theatre, with raked seating.

Two other venues with halls are available for hire, in town. However, because they belong to other groups, a church and the RSA, this means that hosts would have booking priority over the activities that are presently held at the Academy, if they sought to relocate. There are also two small room venues in the Library and the Community Resource Centre, both too small for gatherings of over 16. Storage of equipment would also not be possible at any of these. One community venue which used to host public concerts, the Town and Country Club, has closed since the Academy started and was demolished to make way for a medical centre. They donated some furniture to us.

The hall built at the Primary School is large, probably too large, but not as easily accessible nor is it available during the day-time. Storage there would not be possible either.



"Finding our Voices" weekly meeting



All dressed up for the Winter Lights Parade



Barn Dance advertising image



Workshop in basket making – a great venue for crafts.

Strategic Framework support

In Key Objective 7 of the *Geraldine Strategy* for 2023 – 2033 the Academy was highlighted by the Community Board as something significant, worth sustaining. Retaining access to this building will be essential to sustaining the range of activities that presently happen in The Academy and to future developments that meet ‘community education’ needs. We understand that many people, from a wide age range, expressed support for the Academy when this strategy document was being prepared.

Financial Fairness, social equity.

Up to \$350,000 will be required to purchase the Academy freehold from the Church in 2025. This works out at less than \$120 per inhabitant of Geraldine. In comparison the cost of renovating and extending the Theatre Royal is about \$2,000 per inhabitant of Timaru Town. Presently, the proposals for capital projects to be funded in the Long Term Plan are all Timaru based. The Academy provides a venue for entertainment and community development locally, without a need to drive into Timaru.

The contribution to local artistic life is recognised by Geraldine Community Arts Council – see their letter, annexed.

Recommendations

Ways that the District Council and Community Board could help in 2024-25:

- 1) Recognise the Academy’s contribution as a unique provider of facilities for participation by older residents, for children, for the disabled and for future community education which is accessible to all incomes and levels of mobility. Support the findings of the Geraldine Strategic Framework in this regard.
 - 2) Invite and accept an application for community capital grant if/when a public appeal is launched in Geraldine to make a community purchase from the present church owners, understanding that the Anglican church is interested in making a sale to the community and needs to raise capital for its own building renovation. We are not proposing that the TDC itself become the owner or manager, although some had suggested this previously.
 - 3) Endorse the fundraising effort, in writing, to other sources of charitable funding.
-

APPENDIX.

We invited comments from **Geraldine Community Arts Council**, whose Secretary offered these written views in 2021-22:

“Your letter on the future of the Geraldine Academy of Performance and Arts was tabled at the October meeting of the Geraldine Community Arts Council and discussed at length.

I have been requested by the members to summarise that discussion in our response to your note, which follows:

1. *The Geraldine Community Arts Council are saddened that your landlord has felt unable to reinvest any of your rental payments into the upkeep of this iconic building at the heart of the Geraldine Township.*
2. *The Geraldine Community Arts Council would look to support the Academy pursuing either of the two options outlined*, as a reflection of the esteem in which the original concept of the Academy is held and the obvious value to the people accessing the Arts through it and the Community in general.*
3. *It would seem unlikely that the Academy Board would be able to incorporate the maintenance of the Hall within their business plan. Consequently, there was a general feeling expressed that, in light of the replacement Geraldine Community Memorial Hall becoming totally subsumed by the Primary School, a third option should be to approach the Timaru District Council to take ownership of the hall, refurbish it and reopen it as the true Geraldine Community Memorial Hall (2022). The honours boards should be recovered from what is now the Primary School Hall and replaced at this refurbished venue adjacent to the War Memorial, within a few metres of where they were originally hung.*
4. *Whichever option is chosen it was felt that the Diocese Property Trust should pass ownership of the Hall for a nominal sum only. It is quite likely that the land on which the church and hall are built would have been donated by the Community in the first place and it would be morally bereft to seek any greater payment.*

We also invited comments from some of the Academy founders:

Fiona Mckenzie:

“...Having the venue meant we could fill the time and spaces; we could host our own events, we had the security and community space that was truly OURS.

Scrabbling around and booking other spaces makes us just itinerant teachers, who realistically wouldn't have been inspired to take the classes we did, had we not had the venue.

(now) Here in Christchurch I constantly wish I had an “Academy” building from which to extend what I'm doing here. It's so central to the possibilities of growth and potential.

“Having the Geraldine Academy incorporated and a registered charity makes it super-useful as an umbrella support... that status we worked hard to get - gives the Academy as a body, huge ability to support projects by making funding applications.

I'm unsure of the extent of the decline of the building but it does seem like such a waste of something to let it slip away.... have been remembering the quality of the chattels (mirrors, curtains, desk, furniture etc) and those happy heady days acquiring all that stuff.

It would be a shame to dissolve it all and redistribute to other arts groups, if it was possible to still BE that arts group!

But having the clubhouse, the venue, the space secured is critical, in my mind.”

Lorina Harding:

“Fiona has eloquently expressed what is in my mind and heart. I will just add my own gratitude to all who felt the Academy worthy of saving throughout the years and who devoted much time and energy towards keeping the ship afloat. To our current stewards, we are grateful that you stepped up when we were unable...”

Keith Tyler-Smith:

“...the Academy is a unique and valuable asset to the Geraldine community and surrounding district. As such, I would suggest that the Geraldine.nz organisation should get involved to try and come to some arrangement with the Vestry and if need be with the Diocese to enable the Academy to continue to function. This may mean funding the cost of maintaining the building or even going so far as to buy the building. It may be possible to get the support of the Timaru District Council to do so, especially as the Academy's role in catering to youth, its contribution to the cultural life of the community and its service in providing high quality inclusive activities.

This may mean putting together a compelling case that describes the cultural and community benefit the Academy has historically and currently provides as a performance venue, a teaching space as well as an essential locus for a multi-faceted opportunity for safe and creative activities for young people of all stripes. I think if the plight that the Academy currently finds itself in is more widely discussed and its value to the community at large is articulated well enough, then maybe things can be put right...”

Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



We are writing to you as a group with a significant stake in the outcome of the current deliberations on the future of the stadium complex who do not feel recognized as "stakeholders" in the process.

Aorangi Stadium includes a gymnasium with a wide range of equipment for weight training and other exercises typically used for "fitness circuit" classes. This area can accommodate up to 50 people in a single class.

Whilst many of the services provided by this facility are now catered for by the C Bay complex near Caroline Bay, Aorangi Stadium remains the preferred venue for Timaru senior citizens formal exercise classes. Around 7 one hour classes are run during the Monday to Friday working week throughout the year. These classes are attended by Timaru seniors equating to in excess of 200 "man hours" per week making this group of individuals collectively a principal user of this facility during the working week throughout the entire year.

Most of us pay \$5.50 per 1 hour session for these classes. Some individuals are funded to attend by 3rd parties.

Why don't we use C Bay?

C Bay does not have the space to accommodate a group of our size.

Seniors generally prefer to exercise in a non-competitive environment catering to their diverse needs dictated by the typical issues experienced by our cohort. (A cohort which is predicted to continue growing as a proportion of the Timaru population)

During weekdays Aorangi is easily accessed by foot, bicycle and car by the majority of users.

A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

You are currently deliberating over the option of building a new facility at Aorangi or upgrading the current facility. We acknowledge that either way we will lose the use of Aorangi Stadium for a period of time. Obviously our preference would be for a solution that minimizes disruption to our use of the gym.

We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

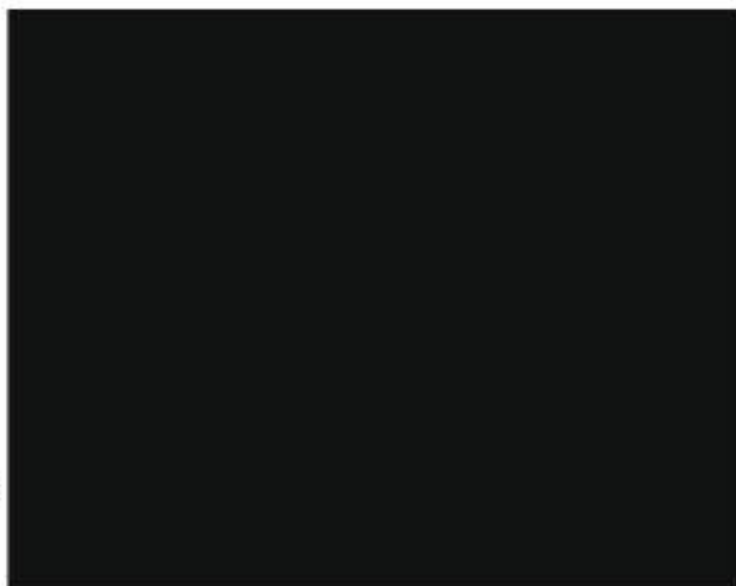
NAME Anne-Marie Ford

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE



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Anthony Elworthy



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Barbara Gilchrist



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A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

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We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

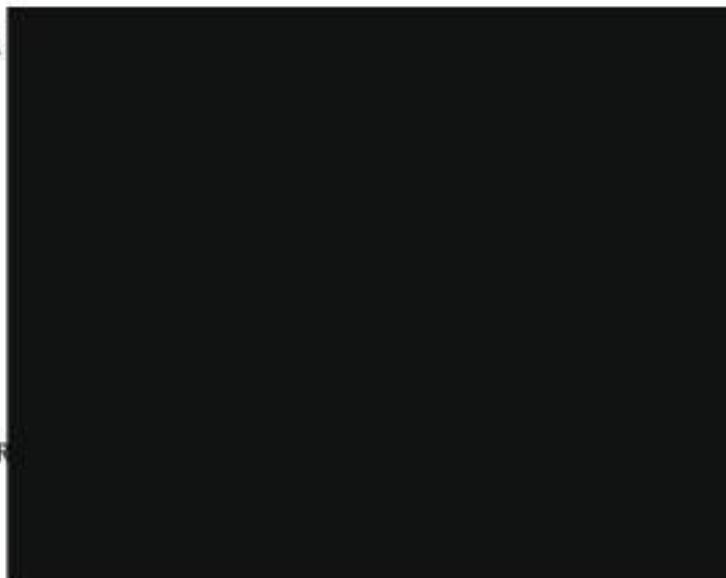
NAME *Bernadette Wooding*

ADDRESS

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EMAIL

SIGNATURE



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Bernie Young



South Canterbury Equestrian Advocacy Group (SCEAG)

Timaru District Council Long Term Plan 2024 - submission

The South Canterbury Equestrian Advocacy Group (SCEAG) was formed in 2021 to advocate for horse riders across South Canterbury with representation in the Mackenzie, Timaru and Waimate Districts to support local recreational riders in their communities to protect, maintain and develop recreational horse-riding access and be included in consultations and planning.

SCEAG has now grown its membership and sits under the umbrella of the New Zealand Equestrian Advocacy Network (NZEAN) a national organisation, Incorporated Society and Charity with a shared vision that horse riding on public land in New Zealand is preserved for future generations, and that we retain, regain, and improve equestrian access nationwide.

SCEAG requests to be a stakeholder in the 2024 LTP and any other relevant council policy reviews. We will serve as a point of contact for councils and decision makers to support and provide guidance on horse riding on public land.

SCEAG asks for equal consideration and funding for horse riding with respect to infrastructure planning, design, and construction. We would like to see inclusive shared multiuse trails (existing and future) that provide safe spaces and places for people to participate in and enjoy their chosen recreational activity safely.

SCEAG asks that the Timaru District Council develop a Walking, Cycling and Riding Strategy that is supported by an advocacy group made up of key community and advocacy representatives in horse riding, walking, and cycling. A good example of this in working is the Hurunui District Council's *Hurunui Trails Trust*.

SCEAG asks that the Timaru District Council's Road Safety Committee include road safety messaging to educate the public and keep horses and their riders safe. This should be included in the Regional Transport Plan. A campaign to educate motorists in the importance of passing horses and riders slowly (20km) and giving a safe distance (2m) would prevent accidents causing horses riders and motorists' harm.

SCEAG asks that the Timaru District Council take a proactive role in ensuring unformed legal road access is retained and to work with the equestrian community on any identified areas of improved public access.

Did you know?

Horses are classified by NZTA as a Light Vehicle. This is a historical and outdated classification that does not match with reality given horse and rider are vulnerable road users.

This misleading and inaccurate definition means there is no co-funding arrangement that exists between NZTA and Councils to provide for horse riders, as there is for cycling and walking projects and programmes. Sadly, this has led to many councils Walking and Cycling Strategies not including bridleways or providing for recreational horse riders.

Bridleway is a physically separated off road path for horse riders for which motor vehicles do not have access. Cyclist and pedestrians may have shared access. This term is internationally recognised.

Ultimately the New Zealand horse riding community relies on the goodwill of regional and local councils to fund bridleways or give permission for shared multiuse. SCEAG wishes to acknowledge the vision and planning that has gone into spaces and places in other Council areas of the Country like North Canterbury, Waimakariri, Auckland, Horowhenua, Wellington, Hawke's Bay and Otago where spaces are either specifically created for, or inclusively welcome horse riders.

Horse riding promotes health and wellbeing. It is an active, healthy, and social recreational pursuit chosen by many in South Canterbury. In addition, it allows people of all ages and abilities to explore and enjoy the great outdoors. We have been pleased to submit to, and participate in, many plans, consultations and workshops along with other stakeholders with the Council teams over the years.

There is the opportunity for Council to explore the economic development of equestrian tourism within the Tourism Strategy. We know there is an untapped and unique tourism opportunity for the South Canterbury region. It could be as easy as creating a place for travelling horse riders to stay, ride and explore. Otago benefits from the Otago Rail Trail which can be enjoyed over several days by walkers, cyclist, and horse riders.

The horse-riding community already bring much needed revenue to farmers, feed merchants, saddlery outfitters and outlets, vets, trailer/float/truck companies, farriers, haulage companies, fuel stations, car dealerships, construction companies for barns and stables and more building and strengthening local economies. We have the added benefit of the Phar Lap and Orari Racecourses, South Canterbury Hunts and many equestrian clubs and groups.

We also need to consider and value the historical significance of the horse to our existence.

Horses have been working in partnership with us for 5,000 years, an ally in both war and peace.

We all have a bond and commitment to horses in connection with our wars, farming, transport, land clearing, hunting, mail, mining and the development of our roads and infrastructure.

Before the increased pace of mechanism in the 1930s we were indebted to horses, before cars the only way to travel on land faster than human pace was by horse. Since travel is a defining feature of human development so the history of the horse is the history of our civilization.

How quickly we have forgotten this ecological, eco-friendly, sustainable and zero carbon friend, and the respect and debt we owe them for this long and successful alliance. Is that really progression?

Conclusion

It is important to the equestrian community in South Canterbury that our district commits to creating a place where we can engage in the recreational pursuit of horse riding. To be able to do this we need to be considered in all planning of parks, open spaces and any connections between our individual communities, and coastline.

Thank you for the opportunity to introduce our group to you and to share our areas of focus and passion.

We sincerely hope our effort to engage with the Timaru District Council's elected members and staff will be the start of a positive and proactive relationship and that we will all see the benefits of the recreational horse-riding community taking an active role in decision making.

Thank you and

Kind Regards,

SCEAG Representatives – Betty-Ann Smart and Andrew Barron.

South Canterbury Equestrian Advocacy Group (SCEAG)

North Canterbury Equestrian Advocacy Group (NCEAG)

Timaru District Council

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SCEAG asks that the Timaru District Council's Road Safety Committee include road safety messaging to educate the public and keep horses and their riders safe. This should be included in the Regional Transport Plan. A campaign to educate motorists in the importance of passing horses and riders slowly (20km) and giving a safe distance (2m) would prevent accidents causing horses riders and motorists' harm.

SCEAG asks that the Timaru District Council take a proactive role in ensuring unformed legal road access is retained and to work with the equestrian community on any identified areas of improved public access.

Did you know?

There is no definition in the New Zealand Transport Agency literature to define Vulnerable Road User.

"According to the World Health Organization, a "vulnerable road user" (VRU) is any "non-motorist" road user in the role of a pedestrian, a highway worker, a person riding an animal, a stranded motorist, a skateboarder, roller skater, a scooter, or a cyclist, to name a few (Ameratunga, Hajar et al. 2006)."

We ask that Timaru District Council seek clarity on behalf of the equestrian community on 'vulnerable road user' status.

As it stands, the New Zealand Transport Authority labels horses as 'other road user' and consequently horses are not listed as a user group of shared pathways.

Pedestrians and cyclists are treated as vulnerable road users. Alternative shared pathways are provided for by the NZ Transport Authority.

The horse community therefore relies on the goodwill of regional and local councils to fund bridleways or give permission for pathways to be shared use. There is no co-funding arrangement that exists between Waka Kotahi and councils to provide safe alternative pathways for horse riders as there is for cycling and walking projects and

programmes. Sadly, this has led to many councils Walking and Cycling Strategies not including bridleways or providing for horse riders in their communities.

Bridleway is a physically separated off road path for horse riders for which motor vehicles do not have access. Cyclist and pedestrians may have shared access.

It is here SCEAG and NCEAG wish to acknowledge the vision and planning that has gone into spaces and places like Baynons Brake Horse Park, Cust Domain, Hanmer Springs Heritage Forest, Hororata Domain, Pegasus Bay Coastal Reserve & Waikuku Beach, Rangiora Show grounds, Sefton Domain, Eyreton Domain, Silverstream Reserve, St James Conservation Park, and West Melton Forest Horse Park. These spaces are either specifically created for, or welcome horse riders.

Horse riding promotes health and wellbeing. It is an active, healthy, inclusive and a social recreational pursuit chosen by many in both North and South Canterbury. In addition, it allows people of all ages and abilities to explore and enjoy our great outdoors.

There is the opportunity for councils to explore the economic development of equestrian tourism within the Tourism Strategy. We know there is an untapped and unique tourism opportunity for the Canterbury region. It could be as easy as creating a place for travelling horse riders to stay, ride and explore.

The horse-riding community brings much needed revenue to farmers, feed merchants, saddlery outfitters and outlets, vets, trailer/float/truck companies, farriers, haulage companies, fuel stations, car dealerships, construction companies for barns and stables - strengthening local economies.

Conclusion

It is important to the equestrian community that South Canterbury remains a place where we can continue to value and engage in the recreational pursuit of horse riding. To be able to continue this we need to be **included** in all planning of parks, open spaces and any connections between our individual communities and coastline.

Thank you for the opportunity to introduce our group to you and to share our areas of focus, and passion.

We sincerely hope you will welcome this opportunity and our efforts to engage with Timaru District Council elected members and staff. We trust this will be the start of a positive and proactive relationship and that we will all see the benefits of the recreational horse-riding community being included and taking an active role in decision making.

Kind Regards,

SCEAG Representatives – Betty-Ann Smart, Andrew Barron and Maree Hardy

NCEAG Chair Julia McLean

Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



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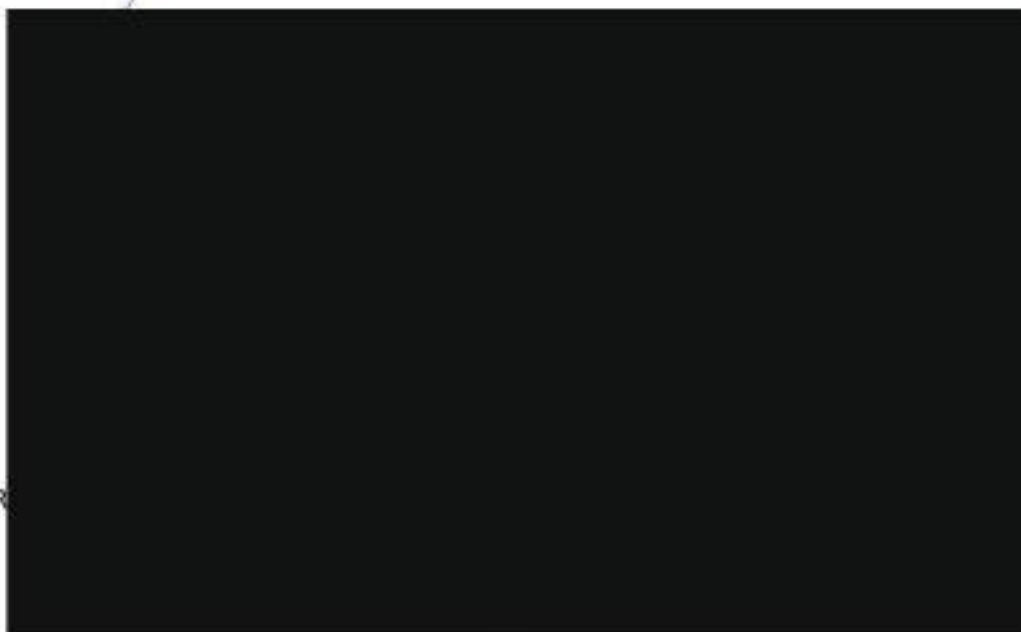
BILIANA COULING

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE



emailed

Hi.

I haven't been inside the Theatre Royal so maybe that's the reason it's closed while the frontage seems fine. I noticed the team who revamped the Timaru Hospital recently made a really good job of it during the process and it's like new since.

On the subject of Patiti Point erosion, I wonder if material from dredges could be transferred to the depleted Beach areas. A soil profile of any kind couldn't stop inland erosion. Only a sand beach can do so or a sea barrier of some kind such as large boulders or tetrapods. Perhaps both as an interim measure until stones can be unloaded in to the Waitaki River sea outlet or somewhere closer. I presume they become sand due to wave action eventually. As only Alaska and New Zealand have alluvial rivers, the sand on other world beaches must come from various rock sources such as coral reefs and cliffs etc.

The Hydro system is a marvel although there needs to be an alternative to the occasional flooding mechanism which once activated the stone and bolder conveyor to the sea so as the beaches are replenished and maintained with sand via the northward long Beach drift of the east coast sea current.

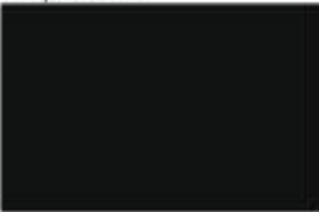
The bolder conveyor is the main noise you can hear when an alluvial river is in high flood.

Please don't spend a cent on the pc climate change delusion as outlined in the nonsense on the papers front page. There isn't even one suggestion as there aren't any. The world has been warming gradually since the great flood and there's no way to alter it. Why would you even want to when there isn't a problem.

There will always be a winter and summer. The Patiti erosion does need attended. Email suits me best for communicating as I then have time to think it over.

Thanks for your time.

Boyd Cassie



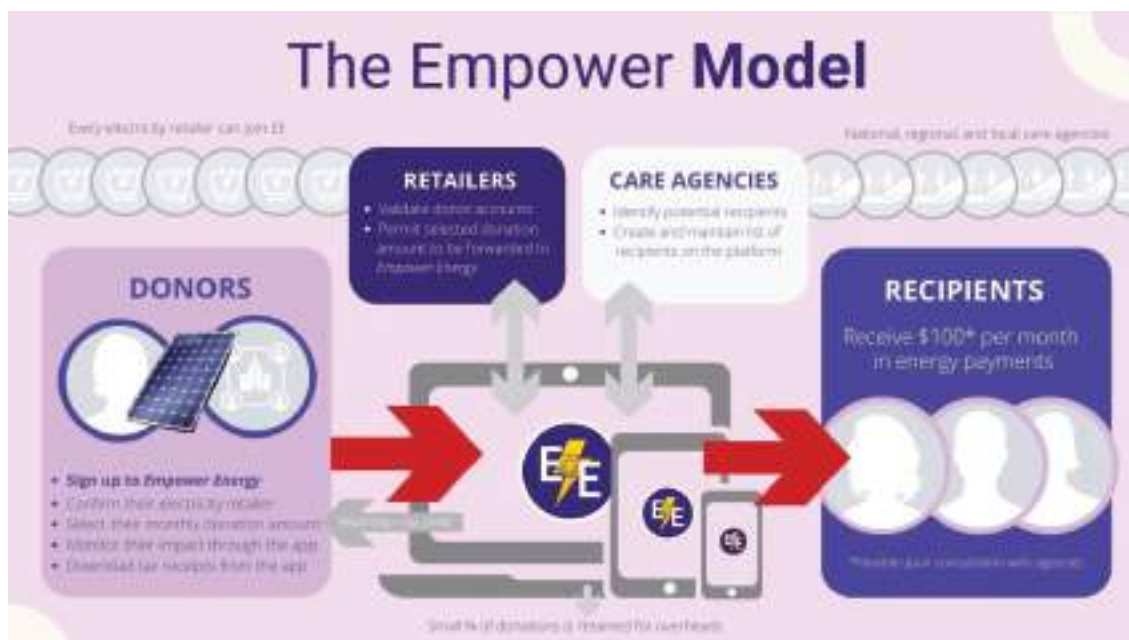
Empower Energy Charitable Trust

A pragmatic platform for sharing surplus solar energy credits to the community.

Until now, there has been no practical way to share solar energy credits from solar generation to people in energy hardship, or the community in general due to the fragmented and competitive nature of electricity retailers (power companies).

Empower Energy Charitable Trust is an independent, 3rd party platform that facilitates the collection of surplus energy credits from any electricity retailer, pools the donations in the trust, and allocates access to the fund to approved community Care Agencies, who then have the ability through the web-application to direct funds directly to the power accounts of vulnerable families, or community organizations, regardless of their electricity retailer choice.

The Timaru District Council is in the ideal position to invest in renewable energy solutions on many council owned and operated buildings – lower the operating costs of those buildings by having lower electricity bills, and now has the ability to donate surplus generation credits to Empower Energy Charitable Trust (a registered charity), and directly benefit the community with then donations generated by the sunshine.



South Canterbury is going to benefit from the Empower Energy Charitable Trusts innovative new platform, one of the co-founders resides in Geraldine so will be launching distribution partnerships with local Care Agencies in 2024. Some significant donations from Timaru District Council assets would go a long way to giving the local Care Agencies a decent and sustainable fund to start helping their clients with high energy bills.

Ngā mihi nui,

Brian Stephens

Empower Energy Charitable Trust



Comments on the Timaru District Council Long Term Plan-11 May 2024

Introduction

The Sustainable South Canterbury Trust (SSCT) has been providing waste minimisation services to the Council and community since 2004. Through the collection and on-sale of recyclable and reusable items we now see over 33,000 customers through the Crow's Nest shop. The recent addition of the EcoCentre building in 2022 now provides a leading facility to engage and liaise with the community across a number of topics with a focus on sustainability and waste minimisation.

Timaru District Council 2024-2034 LTP Consultation Document

The primary focus of the 2024-2034 LTP consultation document is to ensure prudent financial management with regards to the services being provided taking into consideration infrastructure and recreation aspects.

What is missing from the plan is a high-level reporting dashboard for sustainable related matters and actions that the Council is undertaking. There are some details in the relevant sections of the consultation document however, to make this transparent these should be consolidated into one section. For our community we need to see what steps are being taken and progress being reported. This aspect is important for business in our district with global markets as it helps portray our District in a positive manner being important to help attract business and people. We understand that funding has been reduced for biodiversity and climate change.

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG's)

The United Nations Development Group was formed in 1997 and in 2018 was reorganized into the United Nations Sustainable Development Group in order to accelerate progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals as outlined in figure 1.

Figure 1 UNSDG's



While the UNSDG's have been adopted around the world, many organisations and businesses in New Zealand have also adopted the goals relevant to their business as a guideline to demonstrate good sustainable management and accountability, (McCains -appendix 1). These enable social as well as environmental aspects.

Recommendation:

- 1. That the Timaru District Council include in the Long-Term Plan a Sustainability Strategy incorporating reporting parameters under the relevant UNSDG's by 30 June 2025.**

Community Sustainability

SSCT has adopted the UNSDG's as a template guide to promote sustainable practices to the community as part of the SSCT Strategic plan for 2024-29. There are already a number of initiatives happening in our community that can be classified under various goals and the intention of SSCT is not to become directly involved, but to help facilitate the linking of the goals for community involvement:

- What is happening now?
- Can we do better?
- Share the stories and enable involvement.

Examples of activities already happening include:

- Goal 2 – Zero Hunger: Various Community foodbanks.
- Goals 9 -Industry Innovation & Infrastructure: Sustainable is Attainable by Venture Timaru.

As part of this process SSCT has identified that a digital platform will help with easier interaction and reporting with the community. People want to know what they can do and how they can help. Just as important is the sharing of success stories as a tool for involvement of others. The creation of a Dashboard for this can demonstrate not only to our community, but globally what a great place Timaru is. This can be an important marketing tool for attracting business, tourists and people to live in Timaru. The potential of such a platform is that aspects can be replicated for other locations, not just in New Zealand but globally as there are many generic messages common across the globe. There is significant scale to be achieved with avoidance of duplication and costs across other centres and Councils in New Zealand.

SSCT is proposing that a pilot project for Timaru be created. Preliminary discussions have already been held with a number of parties as this will involve input from Local, Regional and Central government along with a digital IT provider. SSCT would like the Council to be supportive in principle of the adoption of the UNSDG's as this project is still in the very preliminary phases.

Recommendation:

- 2. Timaru District Council supports in principle the Sustainable South Canterbury Trust in the promotion of and facilitation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as a guide for the community.**

Waste Management and Minimisation Plan

SSCT has been providing services to the Council for over 20 years now. SSCT recently submitted to the Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan. We trust that the Council continues to support waste minimisation activities provided by SSCT through the services contract with the Council and that Council utilises the waste levy funding to do this.

SSCT is committed to completing the development of the EcoCentre site that is leased to SSCT as shown in Appendix 2. As more people are using the Crow's Nest and EcoCentre along with the Raptor Experience, SSCT is asking Council to improve landscaping of the approaches from Redruth St.

- Planting of the section boundary currently used as a landscaping dump site at the end of Redruth St to screen the operations from view as you drive into the site entrance

- Removal of trees and creation of a wetland area adjacent to the access road. (Excavated clay to be used for the landfill civil works),
- Allocation of a further 1.0ha to 1.5ha for potential future native nursery area for schools programme and carparking for events.

Figure 2. Planting of landscaping site



Figure 3 Creation of wetland area



Figure 4 Native Nursery



With the 30% increase of items being dropped off at the Redruth Resource Park in the past 12 months the drop-off area needs reconfiguration to avoid congestion and customer agitation with congestion. This also provides one exit and improved visibility.

Figure 5 Redruth Drop-Off New Layout



Recommendations

3. That Council undertakes planting to screen the section at the end of Redruth St (figure 2) in 2025.
4. That Council investigates and develops a wetland area as shown in figure 3 during 2026.
5. That allowance for SSCT to use the area adjacent to the EcoCentre for a native nursery or such other activities in keeping with the EcoCentre be included in the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.
6. That the reconfiguration of the Redruth drop area be undertaken as soon as possible in the 2024/25 year to alleviate the congestion there.

Coastal Inundation

Recent protection works to the main trunk rail line will likely require further remedial maintenance work from ongoing sea inundation. The risk for Council is that if there is a major breach of this area the clay stopbanks that encompass the old Redruth landfill area filled from the 1970s up to the mid 1990's may be at risk.

To consider this future risk, Council should include in the Long-Term Plan funding to determine the extend of the risk and suitable mitigation measures that can be implemented over time in stages. With the Port of Timaru breakwater, shingle has accumulated on the South beach of the port area. It may be that the construction of some short rock groynes along the beach at Redruth will help alleviate future inundation.

Recommendation:

That Council includes funding in the Long-Term plan (2025-2026) to investigate coastal inundation and mitigation measures for the Redruth Landfill.

Figure 6 Redruth Coastal



Sustainability strategy

To find out about our approach to materiality, our stakeholder engagement process and our governance structures, please see our [2022 Sustainability Report](#).

Our Sustainability Pillars

Our Commitments



Our alignment to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals ("SDGs")



2023 sustainability highlights

See our Performance Tables for more detail on our commitments and our progress against them.

Smart & Sustainable Farming

- 28%** of our global acreage Engaged* and **57%** 'Onboarded' on our Regenerative Agriculture Framework
- Launched partnerships with innovative financial solutions to support regenerative agriculture delivered with Rabobank, Farm Credit Canada and NatWest
- \$1M** Future of Potatoes Farming Fund launched with McDonald's Canada
- First full year of Farm of the Future Africa completed
- Water-use efficiency improved by **9.4%** (in water-stressed regions)
- More than **21,900** hours of training delivered to growers
- Water-stress tolerant potato varieties increased to **21.9%** of total portfolio

Resource-Efficient Operations

- 21.2%** of total electrical energy consumption from renewable sources
- 9.8%** reduction of absolute CO₂ emissions (Scope 1 & 2)
- 16.3%** improvement in water-use efficiency in priority plants
- 98.5%** of paper packaging and **87.8%** of plastic packaging designed to be recyclable
- Reduced waste to landfill to **0.6%** of total waste
- 9.5%** reduction in food waste intensity in operations

Good Food

- New Global Clean Ingredient Policy and Global Nutrition Policy launched
- 100%** of McCain owned facilities and **95%** of Tier one ingredient supplier facilities (IFS) certified
- 6.6%** reduction in sodium (sales-weighted average) in our appetizer products
- Reduced the use of artificial ingredients in our core portfolio
- Strengthened internal structure and processes

Thriving Communities

- 17,384** hours of employee volunteering completed
- 11.9** million meals donated
- 2,716** new beneficiaries of development programs/ partnerships reached
- 3** new community projects launched to improve the lives of vulnerable farmers and families
- Received Second Harvest's Values Award for our work to tackle food insecurity

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Although there are other gymnasiums in Timaru, I am unaware of any that provide the type of programmes for over 50 years old members on five days a week basis in a non-competitive environment that exists at Aorangi Stadium.

Some gyms are gender specific whereas ours is gender neutral and encourages husbands and wives to enjoy being together in this fitness facility. As mentioned above, C Bay does have a programme, 'AgeFit', that currently operates on Tuesday's and Thursday's but would need significant restructuring and increased sessions if our gym was to close and add significant numbers to C Bay's existing membership.

Please seriously reconsider the proposal to do away with the gym. The Stadium and its surrounding park area caters for several sporting codes geared mainly to the younger population. It is a relatively small thing to provide for us, the active older population.


Brian (Mike) Whiting


10 April 2024

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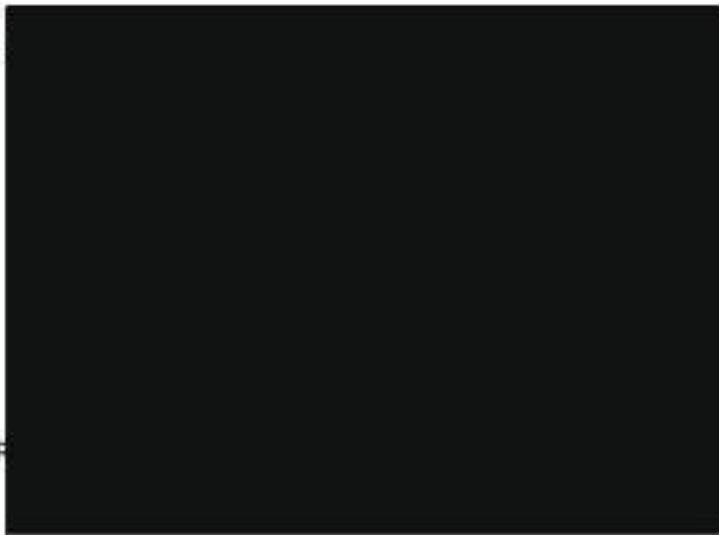
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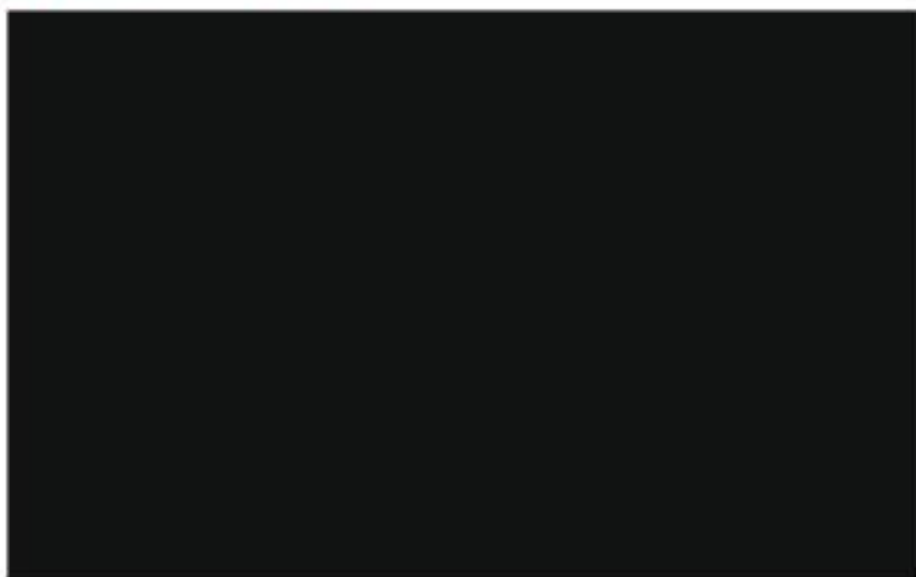
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Carol Brown



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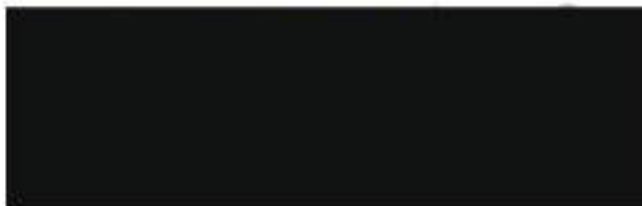
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Cathy Moffat



Temuka Community Board submission to the long-term plan.

The Temuka Community Board would like to submissions to the LTP and the below items.

Funding of Temuka Community Board for items identified through the Strategic Plan.

Background

In 2021-22, the Temuka Community Board were tasked with going out and engaging with the wider community to find out the ideas and opportunities that people want to see progress over the next few years. This was something that the whole community board and councillors were involved with, schools, age concern groups, community groups, key business leaders, doctors and service providers were met with and their ideas noted. Much of the consultation was done during a Covid restriction time so novel ways were needed to get the community feedback.

Isthmus Group were the independent consultant that was awarded the contract, with approximately 200k spent with them to guide the community board through the process provide necessary support material and put together the resulting draft and final working document.

Outcome to date

The current community board have been and are continuing to work on a variety of community lead initiatives that provide engagement of local groups these are listed below with costs associated to them, all projects are either finished or currently being worked on.

Project	Amount	Description
Plantings along King Street	10,000.00	Self-watering planter boxes
Community Garden	10,000.00	Connection of Water Supply
Wayfinding town to park area	10,000.00	Signs in Vine Street and Commerce Street Carpark
Gateway Theme	70,000.00	Logo Design, Theme, Entrance Signage, Banners
Vine Street	20,000.00	Planting and landscaping along Vine Street
Linkage Vine to King	30,000.00	Enhance walkway between Chemist and Gym - Legend
Developing Cycle Track Around Domain	50,000.00	Pool mural and sign, other signs, bike track developed
	200,000.00	

Community Board submission Proposal

The Temuka community Board would like to see \$100,000 allocated each year over the span of the LTP for spending on items identified through the strategy plan, these funds could be spent or rolled over for the next or subsequent years so that if the spend on the project was in excess of \$100,000 then budgeting allocation can be made with more assurance of funding.

The items that have been identified through the Strategic Planning process that will require funding additional funding-

1. Cycle ways/trails around Temuka and linking Temuka to surrounding urban areas, eg SH1 from Hopkinson Road to Opihi Bridge, circuit around McNair- Thompsom's Track and Grange Settlement loop.
2. The building of additional public toilets in Temuka CBD area
3. Enhancement of Town Square area
4. The new build or enhancement of existing building for a community facility for small community groups and/or display or use for community based activities.
5. Entrance signage for Temuka from South and North on SH1
6. Cleaning the Temuka Main Street tiles so that they are not a slip hazard when wet.

Items 1 & 5 in the above list are items of work that have already been discussed with previous community board and councillors but have not been actioned and appear to be off current proposed works.

The community board would like to see the funding of this done via Loans rather than a direct increase in rates, as the items identified fall into a long-term asset category.

Temuka Targeted rate

The Temuka community Board have recommended an increase in the Target Rate for Temuka, this is so that the community board can be more involved with helping various community groups in need of small levels of funding. The community board plan to advertise the fact this fund exists so that more groups can approach the board for some assistance. Any funding requests will be done by way of report back to community board of information related to funding by community group and brought to a meeting for approval.

This type of funding is different from the funding request within this submission as, the target rate is not proposed for used on capital works.

The targeted rate fund continues to be managed successfully by the community board and has more recently provided financial support to the Temuka Vehicle Trust to support the purchase of their vehicle, the Temuka Museum, Temuka community garden, and Boost Temuka a new entity designed to promote Temuka.

The Temuka Community Board support this submission and respect the work that is currently beginning done around our communities, but believe we can take a more active roll in ensuring some of the items promised do get delivered.

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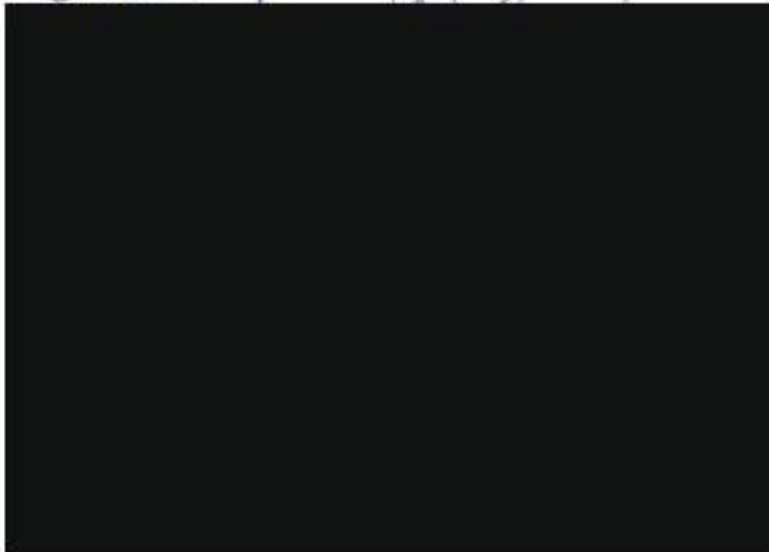
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NAME *Cheryl Burns*

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE



Cheryl Burns

Submission

Age Concern South Canterbury (He Manaakitanga Kaumātua South Canterbury) submits this response to the Timaru District Council's Long Term Plan consultation document "Finding the Balance".

These three points are covered in our submission:

- 1. Demographic Shift:** Age Concern South Canterbury stresses the significant demographic shift with an increasingly aging population in the Timaru District and our near neighbours Waimate and Mackenzie Districts. (see attached Statistics NZ Population Forecasts).
- 2. Resource Allocation:** More resources and funding to be allocated to community development and community support initiatives.
- 3. Age-Friendly Strategy:** The Age-Friendly Strategy 2022-2025 was adopted by Council in December 2023. Congratulations on this, but there is limited time to put anything in place before the end of the Age-Friendly Strategy 3-year term. It needs more resources, a genuine community accountability process and a timetable for review/renewal.

About Us: Age Concern South Canterbury (previously known as Timaru Senior Citizens) is a trusted charity committed to the support of older people, their friends and whānau. We are an independent society and a member of Age Concern New Zealand.

We have 180 members, service approximately 2,200 clients and operate with three part-time paid staff, the manager and a large team of volunteers.

Age Concern South Canterbury are committed to the well-being of older people and our goal is that every older person feels connected, has positive choices and can age well.

Like many other non-profit groups, we rely on the community to fund our services and programmes which include social connection, health promotion, elder abuse response, education and advocacy. Most of our services are provided free or at minimal cost.

The Baby Boomer Demographic Shift: Currently the 65+ age population of the Timaru District is about 11,400. This is about 24% of the total Timaru District population. In 1983 it was about 10% of the District Population and in 2003 about 17%. It is projected to continue to grow significantly, so that by 2048 about 30% of the population will be aged 65 and over.¹

The 80+ age population is projected to grow even more dramatically from the current level of about 3,000 and 6% of the total population of the District, to 6,000 and 12% by 2048.

The forecast is for a significant and sustained increase in the population in part because of the baby boomers (born 1946 – 1964), people are living longer and there is anecdotal evidence of a net migration of people aged 65+ into the Timaru District.

¹ Figures are from NZ Statistics population forecasts (2018 base).

Age Concern South Canterbury

These trends are similar in the Waimate District and Mackenzie District.

While other regions of NZ will also experience population growth and population ageing, the Timaru District and South Canterbury is forecast to be well ahead of NZ overall (e.g. NZ by 2048 – 65+ 23% and 80+ will be 8.7%)

This demographic shift and aging of the population presents challenges and opportunities the Council and community need to plan for such as transportation and mobility, healthcare, housing, employment, and social services.

Age Concern strongly advocates for the Council to adopt a much more proactive approach in swiftly addressing the evolving needs of our aging population.

Resource Allocation With a growing number of older residents, there is an increased demand for affordable, accessible housing options, including aged residential care facilities. Additionally, there is a need for improved access to healthcare services, transportation, and social support systems that meet the needs of older residents and their families.

By way of an example just consider the workforce (including volunteers) required to support the aging population. Within just 5 years we will need about a 15% increase in the number of people working and volunteering to support older people (whether they are living independently at home or in a residential care setting). There are already aged care worker shortages. So where are these extra workers going to come from and how will they be funded?

There is also a need to ensure particularly disadvantaged segments of the older population (for example Māori, Pasifika, those living with disabilities or those living in rural areas have equitable access to these facilities and services).

The biggest issue we come across in our work with older people in the community is loneliness and isolation with all sorts of causes and symptoms – health, mobility, death of a spouse or friends, isolation from children or other family living far away, poor quality housing and poverty among many others.

There is no simple response, but increasing social support and providing quality social connections can alleviate at least some of these issues. Just a small amount of social connection can make a dramatic difference in the lives of older people. And increased social connection can reduce the risks of dementia and other aging conditions.

Considering this, we strongly advocate for a substantial increase in resources and funding towards initiatives focused on community support and development especially those targeted at older people.

These initiatives are instrumental in creating inclusive and supportive environments for our elderly residents, fostering the vital social connections, and encouraging active aging.

Those community organisations and networks that support the needs of older people need additional support (many of them are non-profits, with a significant reliance on volunteers). These are prudent organisations – where even modest investments by the Council can yield significant impacts in the community.

And it turns out what is good for older people is also good for the whole community.

Age-Friendly Strategy: We want to highlight the Age-Friendly Strategy 2022-2025, a plan aimed at enhancing the liveability and accessibility of our community for people of all ages. Adopted by the Council in December 2023, this strategy is now entering its key implementation phase.

Age Concern South Canterbury

It's important to allocate sufficient resources and prioritise the implementation of the strategy and "make it happen." We don't want it to end up gathering dust on shelves or tucked away in cabinets. All Council programmes and plans should align with the goals and objectives outlined in the Strategy.

We encourage the Timaru District Council to promote its importance and allocate sufficient funding to ensure it will have an impact. This will also require strong partnerships and collaboration with community and non-profit groups.

In addition, there needs to be a transparent accountability process, with regular communication and reporting to the community. The Age-Friendly Strategy is due for review in the first year of the Long-Term Plan – this requires open evaluation and a willingness to adapt. Where will the Age-Friendly strategy be in ten years' time when the population has increased as forecast?

Again, we advocate for adequate resources and priority be given to the Age-Friendly Strategy implementation, accountability and review(s).

Other recommendations - we propose the council take action to put in place the following:

Partnerships: Collaborate with local organizations, government agencies, and community groups to maximise resources and expertise.

Community Engagement: Involve older residents in community planning and decision-making to ensure their needs and perspectives are considered. Please continue to support the many older people that prefer non-digital methods of engagement.

Please continue to adequately fund the Timaru District Libraries which are a vital source of social connection for many older people.

Infrastructure Improvements: Improve public spaces and buildings to make them more accessible and age-friendly, including adding amenities such as benches, handrails, and accessible pathways.

We have two specific requests:

- A. Improve the accessibility of council-owned facilities, especially the Soundshell and Caroline Bay Hall, to ensure they are inclusive and usable by all members of the community, including those with disabilities. This includes a commitment to upgrade the stage, backstage and performance areas of these buildings to meet comprehensive accessibility standards, including the installation of access ramps and accessible to better accommodate individuals with physical disabilities and many older adults. (Possibly this applies to other TDC venues or halls also).

By making these enhancements, you will create more inclusive spaces where **all** members of our community can actively participate as well as enjoy events and activities.

- B. Retain the gym at the Event Centre in Aorangi Park, Morgans Road, as it serves as a vital resource for the older population, offering affordability and accessibility. Unlike other gyms in Timaru, it provides specialized services like circuits tailored to the needs of this demographic. This facility plays a crucial role in promoting active aging and fostering community connections, serving as a safe and accessible space for physical activity. Its preservation guarantees ongoing access to essential resources for the well-being of older individuals, including its use for green prescriptions and minority group activities, such as weekly Muslim female-only classes.

Awareness and Education: The Timaru District Council can play a significant role in promoting a positive view of aging and the importance of aging support services. Here are some suggestions for the Timaru District Council to help reframe the perception of aging and aging support:

Age Concern South Canterbury

- a) **Promote Positive Aging:** Support the launch of campaigns that celebrate the wisdom, experience, and contributions of older adults. Highlight stories of active, engaged seniors who are making a difference in the community.
- b) **Educate the Public:** Support educational programs to dispel myths about ageing. Provide information on the aging process and the value of services and support for older adults – NB ageing is not an illness.
- c) **Encourage Intergenerational Interaction:** Foster opportunities for younger and older generations to interact and learn from each other. This could be through mentorship programs, shared recreational activities, or volunteering opportunities.
- d) **Highlight Successful Aging Support Programs:** Showcase successful local aging support initiatives. This can help the community understand the benefits and impact of these programs.
- e) **Support Aging Research:** Support research on aging and aging services support and sharing the research with the public to increase understanding and awareness.

Support Services: Broaden support services tailored to older individuals, including health and social services, transportation options, and recreational programs.

Social Housing: We acknowledge that the Council already provides social housing in various locations throughout the District. As highlighted by the demographic shift more housing will be required in the future including in rural areas.

We propose a working group is established to collaborate with other groups including Age Concern to explore setting up alternative living environments suitable for older people. Not just the standard one- or two-bedroom units which are good for some people, but we advocate for shared alternative housing such as a type of flatting for the older generation. Affordable, good quality “shared” housing in various locations including in or near the city centre for those with social and economic need.

The aim is to provide more than just the basic need of housing. We value healthy communities and social inclusion, where tenants can become empowered and gain the confidence to be as independent as possible and housing is available to all those who need it.

Business Engagement: Encourage businesses to adopt age-friendly practices, such as providing senior discounts, offering flexible work options for older employees, and ensuring accessibility in their establishments.

Regular Evaluation: Regularly assess the effectiveness of age-friendly initiatives and adjust as needed based on feedback from older residents and stakeholders.

By implementation of the Age-Friendly Strategy including these actions, the Timaru District can create an environment where older residents feel valued, respected, and supported, enabling them to age well with dignity.

Chris Thomas

Age Concern South Canterbury

Phone [REDACTED]

We would like to speak to our submission.

Attached is population statistics.

	NZ Total	NZ 65+	NZ 65+	NZ 80+	NZ 80+
2013	4,353,198	628,638	14.44%	155,949	3.58%
2018	4,900,600	734,900	15.00%	172,300	3.52%
2023	5,222,400	876,300	16.78%	209,100	4.00%
2028	5,460,500	1,036,300	18.98%	267,420	4.90%
2033	5,679,000	1,175,800	20.70%	333,180	5.87%
2038	5,876,400	1,302,000	22.16%	401,670	6.84%
2043	6,215,800	1,373,500	22.10%	479,910	7.72%
2048	6,215,800	1,439,400	23.16%	537,710	8.65%

*
 NZ 80+
 13.50%
 Dementia
 Prevalence
 401
 477
 574
 648
 745
 801

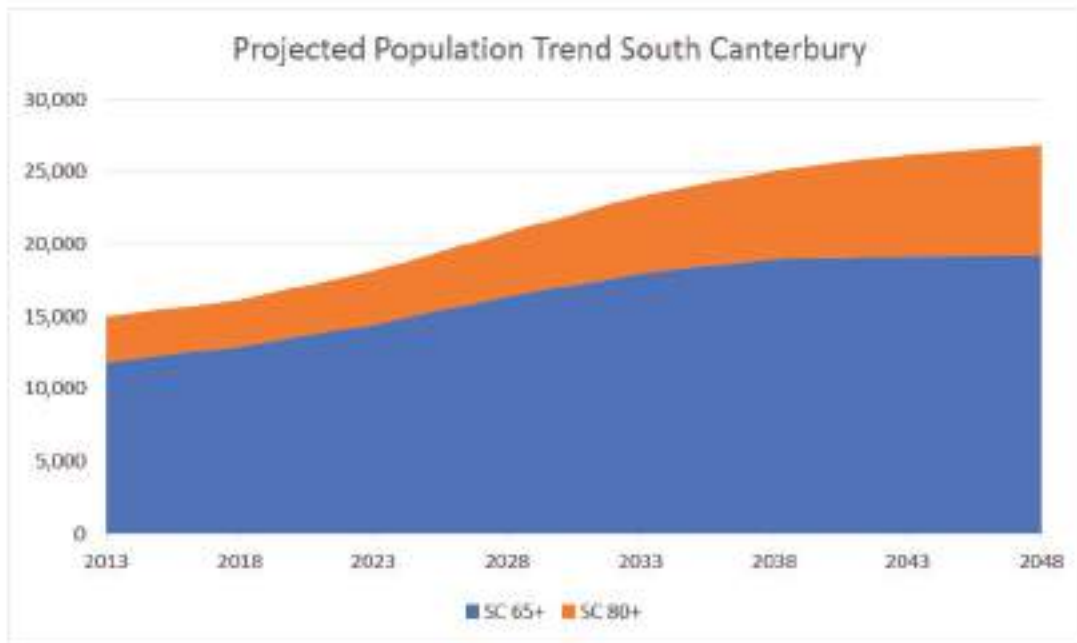
	TDC Total	TDC 65+	TDC 65+	TDC 80+	TDC 80+
2013	44,547	9,114	20.46%	2,562	5.75%
2018	47,600	10,300	21.64%	2,660	5.59%
2023	48,700	11,400	23.41%	2,970	6.10%
2028	49,400	12,900	26.11%	3,530	7.15%
2033	49,700	14,100	28.37%	4,250	8.55%
2038	49,800	14,900	29.92%	4,800	9.64%
2043	49,600	15,000	30.24%	5,520	11.13%
2048	49,300	15,000	30.43%	5,930	12.03%

	MDC Total	MDC 65+	MDC 65+	MDC 80+	MDC 80+
2013	6,006	1,029	17.13%	150	2.50%
2018	5,100	830	16.27%	150	2.94%
2023	5,620	1,050	18.68%	200	3.56%
2028	5,900	1,250	21.19%	280	4.75%
2033	6,140	1,430	23.29%	420	6.84%
2038	6,320	1,580	25.00%	520	8.23%
2043	6,460	1,640	25.39%	620	9.60%
2048	6,580	1,700	25.84%	690	10.49%

	WDC Total	WDC 65+	WDC 65+	WDC 80+	WDC 80+
2013	7,515	1,698	22.59%	423	5.63%
2018	8,120	1,820	22.41%	390	4.80%
2023	8,330	2,020	24.25%	490	5.88%
2028	8,400	2,260	26.90%	600	7.14%
2033	8,440	2,450	29.03%	680	8.06%
2038	8,450	2,540	30.06%	750	8.88%
2043	8,440	2,550	30.21%	880	10.43%
2048	8,410	2,550	30.32%	970	11.53%

Projected Population	SC Total	SC 65+	SC 65+	SC 80+	SC 80+
2013	58,068	11,841	20.39%	3,135	5.40%
2018	60,820	12,950	21.29%	3,200	5.26%
2023	62,650	14,470	23.10%	3,660	5.84%
2028	63,700	16,410	25.76%	4,410	6.92%
2033	64,280	17,980	27.97%	5,350	8.32%
2038	64,570	19,020	29.46%	6,070	9.40%
2043	64,500	19,190	29.75%	7,020	10.88%
2048	64,290	19,250	29.94%	7,590	11.81%

*Dementia prevalence trend based on Auckland University study
 (Extrapolating NZ European Prevalence NZ 13.50% to TDC 80+ Population)



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Submission to Long Term Plan. KF

The South Canterbury Drama League (SCDL) is a long-standing not-for-profit organisation based in Timaru and has a membership of about three hundred. For nearly a century, we have been deeply involved in amateur theatre in Timaru and the wider region, facilitating various performing arts activities such as productions, training, festivals, and education programs.

Historically, the SCDL regularly hired the Theatre Royal for junior and Broadway shows, among others. However, the sudden closure of the Theatre in 2019 due to safety issues, neglect, and under-resourcing has significantly impacted our operations and income streams.

While we understand the reasons behind the frequent delays to the Theatre Royal and Heritage Centre project, we emphasise the urgent need for this project to be completed within budget and timeline. This is essential considering that we don't have a civic theatre.

As a key stakeholder and major user of the Theatre Royal, we offered our expertise to the Council for consultation throughout the project. We remain willing to contribute to all project aspects including the scoping and planning of how Theatre operations.

We urge caution against any "value engineering" rationalisation that might compromise the Theatre Royal's integrity. Instead, rationalisation efforts should focus on other Council projects as every aspect of this project is crucial.

The SCDL firmly believes that arts in the broadest meaning of the term are integral to community life and deliver overwhelming social and economic benefits including through local and touring productions.

A vibrant Heritage Hub with the Theatre Royal at its centre would bring economic benefits. It would have the economic effect of a permanent small cruise ship but without the emissions.

Specifically, the Theatre Royal closure has had a major effect on SCDL resources and operations. In our view the Heritage Hub project must proceed.

In 2015 we upgraded our premises, The Playhouse, adding additional stage and back-of-house space and replacing our wardrobe/costume house. We

are grateful for the assistance received from the community and from the Timaru District Council.

Since then, we have had the disruption of the Covid Pandemic and the closure of the Theatre Royal. Both have meant significant changes in the way we operate The Playhouse.

There has been a surge in demand for theatre space at the Playhouse to stage productions, workshops, and events. This is both our own Drama League shows and plus outside hires. Responding to this has meant we now operate as full-time community theatre and there is year-round use of our complex.

To illustrate this shift in usage: prior to 2019, the League typically staged three or four shows each year at the Playhouse annually which resulted in approximately 150 days of usage for rehearsals and productions. In contrast, our current schedule, following the closure of the Theatre Royal, sees the Playhouse in use for 300+ days per year, often hosting multiple activities per day.

This has caused considerable obvious wear and tear on our facilities - and our volunteers.

With the closure of the Theatre Royal, we have been unable to host major productions which traditionally generate positive cashflows and profitability.

This has resulted in a reduction in overall audience attendance, partly because we do not have the seats to sell and partly because we cannot offer the big Theatre Royal experience popular with more casual theatre goers.

To put this into numbers. Our last major Broadway production at the Theatre Royal (*Beauty and the Beast*) offered 9,045 tickets over nine shows, while our most recent production at the Playhouse provided 1,188 seats across 12 nights. A lot of the show production costs remain the same (e.g. costume, cast costs etc).

Traditionally the profits from any block buster shows at the Theatre Royal like *Les Misérables* and *Mamma Mia* have been ploughed into upgrades to our facilities.

Our support for the Heritage Project is not solely generated by our own interests. We, our members and our patrons, know very well the benefits of arts to the community and theatre in particular. It is not just matter of dollars and cents as the arts including theatre, contribute to community cohesion which has obvious benefits in creating a healthy community and all that entails

In conclusion, we wholeheartedly support the Council's initiative to enhance and preserve this cultural heritage facility for the benefit of our community. As an active participant in the local arts scene, we recognize the value of a well-equipped and accessible venue for artistic expression and community engagement.

We request the opportunity to discuss these points further during the Public Hearing. Additionally, we acknowledge the significance of the Timaru Theatre Royal as a cultural taonga and support the Council's initiative to enhance and preserve it for the benefit of our community.

To Timaru District Council: Please consider my following submission on TDC's draft Long Term Plan.

I ask that Timaru District Council allocate a minimum of 3% of TDC's annual expenditure to building resilience to climate change and the anticipated Alpine Fault rupture along with its duty to protect and enhance South Canterbury's biodiversity for the benefit of helping our communities, farmers, businesses, organisations and individuals build a resilient future.

1. Timaru District Council's commitments to Biodiversity

As part of the Timaru District Council's obligations under the Resource Management act 1991, Section 31 and the Canterbury Land and Water strategy. The council has identified more than 730 Significant Natural Areas (SNA). This is a great achievement which does not appear to be supported by the draft District Plan. There does not appear to be funding for a Biodiversity Officer(s) to manage, monitor and enhance these SNAs nor a budget to adequately encourage, support, and maintain the areas this Council has been gifted by nature to care for.

Having a robust biodiversity encourages and builds resilience in the land which provides farmers and business with the ability to generate wealth. It provides protections people take for granted. For example, healthy riparian planting helps to prevent and mitigate flood damage and reduce sedimentation occurring. Biodiversity is integral in the cycle of life which provides us with life. We need to do all we can to enhance and preserve the biodiversity we have.

2. Timaru District Council's commitments on climate change (I would like to acknowledge the use of work by Dr Phill Driver in the preparation of parts of this submission.)

Councillors and our mayor have made numerous clear written commitments to support our District's businesses, farmers, communities, organisations and especially vulnerable individuals to address climate change threat. Hundreds of Timaru District ratepayers and citizens have already signalled their support for action on climate change. The Advisory Committee of the informed, distilled hundreds of citizens potential actions to 9 and formally requested that TDC provide support for these 9 specific actions.

TDC's councillors' and mayor's worthy documented commitments are long overdue for action. There is support for action.

3. Accelerating Climate Change:

As reported in numerous credible publications, climate change is accelerating alarmingly. Current and future generations want action on climate change as confirmed by a recent report in the prestigious journal Nature. which, through interviewing 130,000 people in 25 countries, found that almost 90% of people want governments to take more action on climate change and 69% were prepared to give up one percent of their income to fight climate change. Please remember that climate change effects often happen by way of catastrophic events, as witnessed in the last 12 months since you received the First Report on the Timaru District Climate Change Strategy and the UN COP28 conference 2023 acknowledged our dependence on fossil fuel being a major cause of the climate change and that the world needs to transition away from them.

4. Nature and magnitude of impacts in the Timaru District – urgent questions and actions

The hundreds of Timaru District ratepayers and citizens who took part in the 10 public climate change meetings and workshops together with the *Action on Climate Change* Advisory Group identified \$100s of millions of dollars of likely adverse impacts of climate change in the Timaru District. These major impacts were spelt out in table 2.1 in the First Report on the Timaru District

Climate Change strategy and have not been formally or publicly challenged. It is simply unacceptable that TDC has taken no credible action on these huge issues in the last 12 months and appears to have made no budget allocation for taking action at any time in the decade covered by the latest draft Long Term Plan. The fact that TDC can find *another* \$57 million to spend on a piece of European heritage but can find no money to support action on climate change is extremely disturbing.

All the above will be exacerbated by the rupture of the Alpine Fault which will cost \$100s of millions.

The old adage of “A stitch in time saves nine” springs to mind. Now is the time to spend on caring for our environment if we want to preserve the abundant life we experience now.

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I wish to speak to my submission at a council meeting.

Chris Konings

Biodiversity Facilitator



Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



We are writing to you as a group with a significant stake in the outcome of the current deliberations on the future of the stadium complex who do not feel recognized as "stakeholders" in the process.

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Whilst many of the services provided by this facility are now catered for by the C Bay complex near Caroline Bay, Aorangi Stadium remains the preferred venue for Timaru senior citizens formal exercise classes. Around 7 one hour classes are run during the Monday to Friday working week throughout the year. These classes are attended by Timaru seniors equating to in excess of 200 "man hours" per week making this group of individuals collectively a principal user of this facility during the working week throughout the entire year.

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Christine Kaye Derrett



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NAME *Christine Hallaway*

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

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NAME *Colleen McCrate*

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE





Customer Services
 P. 03 353 9007 or 0800 324 636
 200 Tuam Street
 PO Box 345
 Christchurch 8140
 E. ecinfo@ecan.govt.nz
 www.ecan.govt.nz

7 May 2024

Mayor Nigel Bowen
 Timaru District Council
 PO Box 522
Timaru 7940

Kia ora Nigel,

Canterbury Regional Council welcomes the opportunity to make a submission on your draft Long-Term Plan 2024-34.

As a regional council, ahead of developing our own long-term plan we refined the council's strategic direction. Our focus is on accelerating regeneration of the natural environment, enabling improved water and land use outcomes, and empowering communities to ensure they are resilient and prepared. Also important to us is championing safe, reliable, multi-modal transport choices, including a commitment to providing modern, affordable public transport services that gives our communities choice. We recognise that strong action is needed to address climate change for the benefit of current and future generations, and our Ngāi Tahu partnership is central to all of our work.

We are focusing on the areas we are responsible for: Environmental Regulation and Protection, Community Preparedness and Response to Hazards, and Public Transport, and we will provide comment on your long-term plan in that context.

While we focus on our core role, we recognise the importance of a collaborative, joined-up approach from the region's councils in a number of areas. We look forward to continuing to work together through established channels to advance shared aspirations for our communities.

Feedback on your Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Public transport

Environment Canterbury runs Timaru's public transport system, which includes the very successful MyWay on-demand service. The MyWay infrastructure, seats, shelters and bus priority measures provided and maintained by your Council are integral to the success of this service. We recommend that you include in your Long-Term Plan 2024-34 clear reference to, and budget for, supporting increased use and uptake of public transport through provision of targeted improvements in public transport infrastructure. We also ask that you work with our staff to identify ways to support MyWay and improvements in bus stop facilities at key locations around the city.

Community preparedness and response to hazards

We would like to acknowledge the good working relationship between our Councils' staff during the flood events of recent years. Environment Canterbury supports all initiatives that mean communities are more prepared, and resilience to future flood events is

increased, including infrastructure resilience and protection of lifeline infrastructure. We encourage you to ensure future development on floodplains is appropriate.

Environmental regulation and protection

We support Timaru District Council's continued investment in infrastructure for reticulated wastewater treatment and disposal systems and stormwater drainage systems across the district, and would urge you to continue to plan strategically for development. This will require investment in new infrastructure and the maintenance and upgrading of existing drinking water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure to ensure compliance with national standards and resource consents, reduce the environmental impacts and respond to the impacts of climate events.

In your Infrastructure Strategy, we are pleased to see the proposal to budget for Washdyke Wastewater and Stormwater works. This provides a further opportunity to align Timaru District Council's Stormwater Management Plan with the outcomes sought in the draft *Our Waitaraka* strategy, which your Council has been a key partner in developing. This has been a great example of working together with the community for environmental outcomes that benefit everyone.

Canterbury Regional Forums

We really appreciate your contribution and commitment to working alongside Mayoral Forum colleagues for the benefit of Canterbury and its communities. The Canterbury Mayoral Forum, and the regional forums and working groups that support it, provide valuable mechanisms for local government in Canterbury and are a key means of demonstrating a strong and unified voice on the priority issues for our region. The value of this strong and unified voice cannot be underestimated. We look forward to continuing to work with your Council as we implement the Canterbury Regional Forums' work programmes, particularly the *Mayoral Forum's Plan for Canterbury*, over the remainder of this local government term. In particular, we acknowledge your contribution as Chair of the Canterbury Mayoral Forum.

We would like to acknowledge the experience, expertise and time of your staff and elected members on the Canterbury Climate Change Working group and Councillor Reference Group under the Canterbury Mayoral Forum. Your Council's contribution in this area in the coming years will be important as implementation of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan begins. Together, Canterbury councils can increase our efficiency and effectiveness as we respond to climate change, and work together on best practice climate adaptation. We therefore support, in particular, the intent in your Infrastructure Strategy to routinely evaluate the vulnerability of Council infrastructure to climate change impacts and to plan accordingly.

Canterbury Regional Transport Committee

We thank you for your continued support and contribution to the work of the Canterbury Regional Transport Committee. This includes the Committee's recent focus on preparing the Canterbury Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) 2024-34. Investment is planned to almost double over the next decade in the region's land transport network. This highlights the significant investment that central and local government need to

make to create an innovative, resilient and low emission transport system that helps Canterbury thrive for generations.

Emergency management

As a regional council and the administrating authority for the Canterbury Civil Defence Emergency Management Group, we value strong coordination with city and district Councils. Environment Canterbury appreciates the collaborative approach by the region's Territorial Authorities in preparing for, and responding to, Canterbury's extremely active hazard scape.

We do wish to be heard in support of our submission. To arrange a time, or if you have any queries in relation to our submission, please contact Governance@ecan.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Craig Pauling', is positioned above the typed name.

Craig Pauling
Acting Chair

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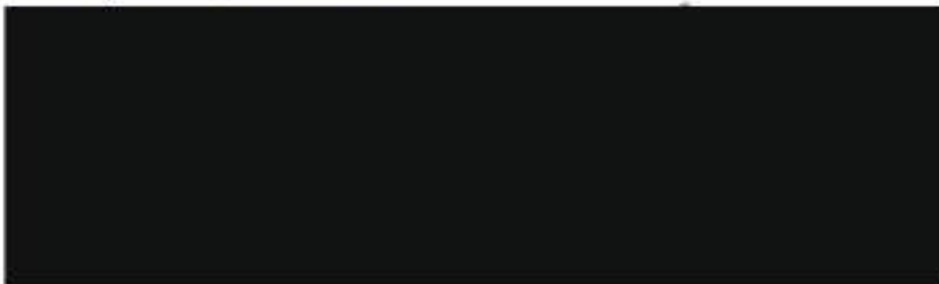
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Darryl Brown.



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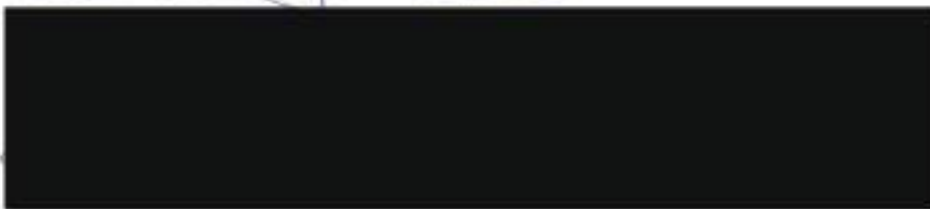
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Denise phiso



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Diane Conlan



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Diane P. Maloney

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Don Geddes



Timaru District Council 2024-2034 Long Term Plan Consultation Submission

Your Details:

Donald Binney

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Do you wish to speak about your submission at a council hearing?

Yes

It is 25 years since I had detailed knowledge of the internal works of the Timaru District Council so some of my comments may be out of date or already in hand.

Do you agree with our plan to set our debt cap at 2.5 over this 10-year plan?

2.5 Debt Cap

1.

I accept a 2.5 debt cap as adequate but believe the council should actively strive to keep this lower (say 2.3) so that unanticipated events can be financed quickly. A hypothetical example of such unanticipated event is if the Alpine fault were to rupture, which has been anticipated to occur within a few years (the term "few" being an unknown).

Another hypothetical example is if a Stafford Street property owner forms a limited liability company. If the tenant cannot afford rent to maintain/ earthquake strengthen buildings, the building will thus deteriorate and become a public hazard. With the building being the only asset of the limited liability company, the property owner will be bankrupt. Who pays to make the site safe? The Timaru District Council?

2.

I agree with the immediate cancellation of all non-essential capital work, including those under way, short of the point of no return e.g. The Heritage Centre.

Note: for works with a 100-year service life, the cost components could be redistributed? Breaking up components over say 100 years say.

Highly dependent on interest rates, tax etc. But the big risk is politicians sticking to the plan!

How fast should we reduce our deficit and start paying back debt more quickly?

Other

Need, want, would like...

Governments were established to provide the essential common goods which in fact are natural monopolies (licenses to print money). Local examples are sanitary sewers, drinking water, roads and bridges, storm drains, power reticulation. This is all completed on borrowed money, and all of these have finite lives.

Yes, the initial loans were paid off, but politicians were not prepared to save money in advance for the replacement cost (i.e. Passed the buck to future generations- the generations of today). An example of this is the Timaru sewerage reticulation. This was established by a Parliamentary act (Timaru Borough Drainage, Sewerage, and Loans Act 1905), covering 20% of the current area of the Timaru District. I cannot see an operational budget keeping up with system failures.

Do we need a district wide appraisal of all these systems, then a long-term recapitalisation plan? I.e. A 30 year (at least) indicative recapitalisation program. Not a 9-year job which does not truly address the work required long term. This of course means a detailed appraisal of the condition of the key infrastructure to enable the most cost effective renewal.

Have we got this balance of spending right over our 10-year plan?

No, it should be more in favour of infrastructure and spend less on community facilities.

The natural monopolies (sewers, storm drains, roads, water mains- even electricity distribution etc.) are licenses to print money and must not be privatised. Many are near to the end of their service life (20% of Timaru's sewers are over 100 years old and a large quantity of water mains are lead jointed, cast iron and in the 100-year group also).

It is appropriate to put money aside in anticipation of future recapitalisations. Apply the 'need, want, like test' for all other capital works and even renewals.

How should we set our fees over the next 10 years?

Other

I have heard comments of "erratic" service in building section- whether true or not I do not know but remember who ended up paying for the leaky building mess (councils as last man standing) so quality in building in health areas is essential.

Is there anything else you would like to add to your submission?

I suggest you cancel the Heritage Centre proposal! The rate payers already pay for three museums in the Timaru District. As well as this, there are some 10 private, self-funding, specialist museums in the Timaru District! Another nonessential unit is a gross waste when considering looming recapitalisation of core services, simultaneously coming to the end of their lives.

Remember, once the Council owns it, we are stuck with it forever so a related financial worry-

Central government internal annual deficit -\$70 billion

New Zealand annual deficit-\$30 (?) billion

So don't expect central government to come to our rescue!

The possible answer: a local authority?

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NAME DONALD ALLAN GRIEVE

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

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DONALD JAMIESON



Submission Donna McPherson 12.5.24

The taiao environment is so important to the wellbeing of all.

Everything we do impacts and The Aorangi Timaru District economic focus has certainly impacted on the taiao and this submission raises just a few points.

Whatungarongaro te tangata, toitū te whenua- While people come and go, the land remains.

Rākau Trees

How is it that the around the world rākau grow big and strong and a valued by the community. Here is Timaru they are cut down for the smallest of reasons- no alternative just the chain saw. Where is the 'Green Belt' that was supposed to be in the Timaru District plan? You take the rākau out then you effect thier individual ecosystem- the manu birds, mū insects, maybe that was one of your residences favourite rākau and it held years old memories?

We have a Botanical gardens whose rākau trees are disappearing rapidly it that is supposed to be a place to enjoy trees!

Replanting is useful but think about how long a rākau takes to grow- heres an example: rākau acorn take 12 years before they have acorns- not relevant? Why do you think more rakiraki ducks come to the park at this time of the year or on Craigie Avenue- rakiraki love acorns!

Claremont Bush

This is a unique ngahere forest which should be treated with as much respect and care as others. This bush is facing a huge issue with wallabies and no one is doing anything.

Waterways

Drinkable and swimmable wai water learn from the councils mistake from the past and current. It isn't ok that we need to use an app to check to see if we can 'swim here.' And need 'trucked in wai water'. Some current issues in the district not just the one we know about like factories pumping thier waste into the moana- sea. I'm talking about the ones that slide under the radar such as the impact of the leaching uku clay from the 'development' at Washdyke or the impact on the reef beings from the collapsing Patiti cliff which is impacted by the growing sea wall going into the harbour. Then there the dead sand dollars after the dredge has done its job to enable larger ships including cruise ships to enter.

Culture and the Arts

Ask the people that know and listen. From my perspective 'looking back' and learning from mistakes is a big part of culture and arts. There is a very strong connection between culture and the arts and the taiao. Look at the paintings, items whenua land or such at the Aiganthre Art gallery , Te Ana Māori Rock Art or South Canterbury musuem.

You can put dollar signs in the plan and this that and the other supports economic Aorangi South Canterbury district but if you impact hugely on the taiao you have nothing. That is what is happening.

“Cherish the natural world, because you’re a part of it and you depend on it”. (David Attenborough)

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NAME *Dot Rapley*

ADDRESS



PHONE



EMAIL



SIGNATURE





HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND
POUHERE TAONGA

9 May 2024

Timaru District Council
2 King George Place
PO Box 522
Timaru 7940

Emailed to ltf@timdc.govt.nz

Tēnā koe,

**SUBMISSION OF HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND POUHERE TAONGA TO THE TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL
DRAFT LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34**

To: Timaru District Council
Name of submitter: Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga

1. Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the Timaru District Council's Draft Long Term Plan 2024-34 (the Plan).
2. Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT) is an autonomous Crown Entity with statutory responsibility under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 (HNZPTA) for the identification, protection, preservation, and conservation of New Zealand's historic and cultural heritage. HNZPT is New Zealand's lead heritage agency.

General approach

3. HNZPT acknowledges the challenge of preparing this Plan in a period of change and uncertainty, with legislative reforms and current financial pressures.
4. HNZPT recognises that the Long-Term Plan is a high-level document to provide direction for development initiatives and funding within the city and wider district. Within that, the Council has a responsibility to acknowledge the various tangible and intangible aspects of life that make up its heritage and ensure that these are appropriately represented within the Plan. Care for historic heritage is essential in creating an engaging and vibrant region that fosters local identity, draws people in and helps to sustain the local economy. It is a fundamental part of the fabric of the community.

5. The theme of this Plan is balance, with a focus on considering the methods of balancing what is desired over the 10-year period, with the reality of how that can be achieved. We understand that due to significant inflationary pressures, and increased contracting and input costs, the Plan does not propose any new facilities or services.
6. Subsequent to that, the Plan includes some proposals to defer or delay projects that are not considered a priority at this time, such as CityTown enabling works and the Aigantighe Art Gallery extension. We understand this cautious approach and encourage Council to revisit these projects within the next Long Term Plan review.

Theatre Royal

7. The Theatre Royal is included on the New Zealand Heritage List Rārangi Kōrero as a Category 2 historic place and is also scheduled in the Proposed Timaru District Plan. The theatre has architectural and craftsmanship values for its construction and interior detailing, it also has social significance as Timaru's first permanent venue for entertainment and the location of many significant events for Timaru.
8. HNZPT strongly supports the redevelopment of the theatre which forms part of the wider project to create a theatre and heritage centre incorporating this building and the neighbouring site. This project will breathe new life into this important heritage building and will see it reinstated as the cultural centre of the town once again. As such HNZPT supports either of the options, within Big Issue 1, that would enable the delivery of this project. The further deterioration and loss of this important building would be a significant loss of Timaru's heritage.

Climate change

9. HNZPT supports the Council's continued efforts to understand and respond to the effects of climate change. Heritage sites can be significantly affected by the impacts of climate change, including the loss of archaeological sites through sea level rise, and their continued retention requires us to understand these impacts and to respond to them effectively.
10. We recognise that climate change consideration has been incorporated into numerous aspects of the Plan, including the infrastructure strategy, and that Council acknowledges the need to reduce emissions while ensuring infrastructure is built to handle a changing environment and is resilient enough to handle hazards such as flooding and earthquakes.

Archaeological Authorities

11. Under the HNZPTA an archaeological site is defined as any place in New Zealand that was associated with human activity that occurred before 1900 and provides or may provide, through investigation by archaeological methods, evidence relating to the history of New Zealand. Archaeological sites are legally protected under sections 42(1) and 42(2) of the HNZPTA and an archaeological authority is required for any works that may modify or destroy an archaeological site, including demolition of a building constructed prior to 1900. It is an offence to undertake activities that may modify or

destroy an archaeological site unless authorised by an archaeological authority issued under the HNZPTA.

12. Legislative obligations regarding archaeology should be taken into consideration for all Council projects. HNZPT recommends that Council undertake best efforts to avoid identified archaeological sites in close proximity to any proposed projects in the first instance. This would minimise costs and delays. If avoidance is not possible, the associated costs and timeframes need to be factored into project budgeting and planning.

Incentives

13. HNZPT strongly supports adaptive reuse to enable heritage buildings that may no longer be suitable for their original use, to be appropriately adapted. This can ensure their longevity, and we encourage Council to always consider this option for their buildings.
14. Many of the district's heritage buildings are privately owned yet still contribute to the community sense of belonging and way of life. Financing the maintenance, repairs, strengthening and upgrade of these structures can often be financially challenging for owners. HNZPT supports the Council's ongoing assistance to heritage building owners through the Heritage Protection Fund, which encourages and assists owners with work required to maintain and enhance their heritage buildings, and we strongly encourage the retention of this fund.
15. There are also a range of other incentives Council could utilise to promote the protection and conservation of historic heritage. HNZPT supports incentivising mechanisms such as the remission of rates for landowners of historic heritage, free or subsidised processing of applications, and the provision of free specialist advice to heritage building owners.

Recommendations

16. HNZPT requests consideration of the following methods to protect and enhance Timaru's historic heritage:
 - Council recognises the adverse effects of climate change on historic heritage and implements measures to prevent further degradation wherever possible.
 - Council enables the delivery of the Theatre Royal project.
 - Council is aware of the potential archaeological and cultural importance of areas which are subject to development proposals or pressures, and continues to consult with HNZPT.
 - Council continues grant funding for repairs and maintenance and seismic strengthening for private owners of heritage properties.
 - Council considers further heritage incentives to facilitate the retention and strengthening of heritage buildings such as free or subsidised processing of applications, remission of rates and free advice to owners of heritage properties.

Submission

17. HNZPT does not wish to be heard in support of this submission but is available to answer any queries Council may have.

Ngā mihi,



Dr Christine Whybrew
Director Southern Region
Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga

Address for service:

Arlene Baird
Area Manager Canterbury West Coast
Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga
64 Gloucester Street Christchurch
Email: [REDACTED]

Hurunui Trails Trust
 P.O. Box 13
 AMBERLEY 7441



25 April 2024

Timaru District Council

Dear Councillors,

Re: Long Term Plan 2024-34/Mō te Mahere Pae Tawhiti 2024-34 - Support for submission of North Canterbury Equestrian Advocacy Group

On behalf of the trustees of Hurunui Trails Trust (HTT), I wish to express our unqualified support for the submission of the North Canterbury Equestrian Advocacy Group (NCEAG) to Council's 2024-2034 Long Term Plan.

HTT was incorporated in 2009, and since 2017 has been the designated agent for the implementation of Hurunui District Council's 'Walking & Riding Strategy'. The purpose of the Strategy is to provide strategic direction to encourage and promote the development and maintenance of walking and riding trails throughout the Hurunui District to deliver a broad range of social, cultural, economic, and environmental benefits, for both residents and visitors. HTT provides governance, guidance and practical support to community groups throughout the district on how to approach, fund, build, maintain and promote walking and riding trails.

As such, the core elements of NCEAG's submission are entirely consistent with both the purpose of HTT and achieving the objectives of the Hurunui Walking & Riding Strategy. In particular, we support the following elements of the NCEAG submission:

- Council actively supports the preservation of horse-riding on public lands for future generations, and that equestrian access is retained, regained, and improved;
- Council provides for equal inclusion, consideration and funding for recreational horse riding with respect to infrastructure planning, design, and construction;
- Council supports road safety messaging to educate the public and keep horses and their riders safe on roads;
- Council takes a proactive role in ensuring unformed legal road access is retained and to work with the equestrian community on any identified areas of improved public access.

Furthermore, we wish to strongly endorse NCEAG's proposition that recreational horse-riding is an increasingly important contributor to broader community wellbeing and prosperity.

In closing, we thank Council for receiving this expression of HTT's support for the Long-Term Plan submission of the North Canterbury Equestrian Advocacy Group.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Jeff Dalley
 Chairman
 Hurunui Trails Trust

Submission to the Annual Plan of the Timaru District Council

From: The Friends of the Aigantighe Art Gallery

Date: 11th May 2024

Introduction

Since our last submission, we have witnessed positive progress on the seismic strengthening and restoration of the Aigantighe House Gallery. Our members have commented on the relief they have felt to see the scaffolding in place and a major milestone to have been accomplished. We welcome the opportunities we now have to discuss this recent progress with relevant staff from the Timaru District Council. In a recent monthly meeting of our committee, all members present were unanimous in their decision to focus all our energy on the promotion of the House Gallery. The latter will include long term plans for ways of celebrating the official opening of a beloved house that has been silent for over seven years.

Decoration of the Interior of the House Gallery

A proposal contained in the Long Term Plan confirmed that re-decoration of the interior of the Aigantighe House Gallery would be completed as part of the project. However, there has been concern expressed by our members that the interior decoration may not be part of the overall project cost which was originally included in the “refresh” of the building. We would also appreciate an update on a financial issue raised in last year’s submission by our Past President Juliet Crawford. The latter focused on the “discrepancy” between the 2023 annual plan of \$3.7 million whereas the 2022 document states \$3.9 million. This issue may now have been resolved as we have been told recently that “All works are within scope and budget.”

The Modernisation of the 1978 and 1995 Extensions

Our members have viewed the above as being an intrinsic part of the two separate projects proposed in the Long Term Plan which would provide options for modernisation of the 1978 and 1995 extensions “ to make them fit for future purpose and solve some of the wider issues around storage, display and activity space.” Consequently, our members have been disappointed to hear that little has been discussed on the modernisation plan of the current art gallery. This year we have received many valuable art works donated by members of our community.

This trend is expected to continue and compromise our ability to house both local and national art treasures. Only two days ago the Aigantighe Art Gallery hosted 200 guests for the annual Plunket Art Show. The gallery was full to capacity and all tickets were sold. Space is also an issue when conducting activities for children, we feel it is imperative that educational opportunities are offered to the younger members of our growing community. One of our objectives has also been to support cultural tourism of the region.

I would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all the Timaru District Councillors who have supported the preservation and restoration of our unique house gallery, one of the few that still exists in New Zealand. With this invaluable support we will be able to successfully showcase the best of regional and national art in a domestic heritage setting.

Dr Jill Harland

Current President of the Aigantighe Friends



ORARI RIVER PROTECTION GROUP Inc. Soc.
A community environmental group founded 2003

Submission to Timaru District Council (TDC) on its Long Term Plan (LTP) 2024

We would like to thank Timaru District Council for this opportunity to submit on its Long Term Plan 2024.

Before we make comment on the Plan we would like to briefly outline our history and the role that we play in the community.

The Group was founded in 2003 by community members in the Geraldine area who opposed a proposal to build a dam for irrigation below the Orari Gorge. With overwhelming support from the community the proposal did not progress. The Group then undertook a process, with the blessing and support of ECan, to formulate an Integrated Management Plan for the Orari. The Committee that created this Plan included farmers as well as a wide range of community members. A result of this process was the instigation of a very wide range of studies on the river, its ecosystems, as well as its aquifer system that is vital for farmers in its narrow catchment. The Integrated Plan was used as a basis by the OTOZ Zone Committee in its deliberations and advice to Regional Council.

The Group is still very active with volunteers trapping pests, weeding invasive plants and monitoring water quality. It applies regularly to funding agencies for funding to carry out its work, and also advocates and submits where necessary. It supports and encourages all outdoor and environmental groups who are able to use the Orari's waterways.

The Group has a Mission and Objectives:

Mission:

To sustainably manage the Orari River catchments, integrating its ecological, social, economic and cultural values in order to achieve 3 main goals:

1. To sustain, protect and enhance the natural character and ecological values of the Orari River Catchments for present and future generations.
2. To provide for safe & appropriate /balanced recreational, educational, cultural, and historic opportunities
3. To be an advocate for greater protection of the Upper Orari River and catchments in District & regional Plans and for the use of the Orari River Integrated Catchment Management Strategy.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To retain the gorge in its free-flowing state;
2. To sustain, protect & enhance the natural character and ecological values of the Orari River catchment for present & future generations;
3. To retain the integrity of the river hydrology;
4. To maintain public access to the Orari River as an educational and recreational resource;
5. To advocate for greater protection of the upper Orari River and catchment in District & Regional Plans;
6. To recognise the potential for over-allocation and advocate for the use of the Orari River Catchment Management Strategy
7. To employ or contract workers as necessary to advance the objectives.

1. We are strongly supportive of TDC's intention to invest in the future through well conceived and planned projects that support the growth and wellbeing of the community and the environment. We agree strongly that healthy ecosystems lead to healthy living environments for all, thereby enhancing lifestyles. We see these aspirations to be parallel with our Group's Mission and Objectives..

The LTP's Community Wellbeing Outcome (Sustainable Environment & Enhanced Lifestyle) makes gratifying reading. We have been very impressed with TDC support of Peel Forest Outdoor Centre, **and submit** that we want to see this ethic of youth and community wellbeing develop further.

We strongly agree with TDC's statements in the Plan that supporting practices, partnerships and policies to protect and regenerate our native flora and fauna will encourage biodiversity, and the prioritisation of sustainable land and water use to help regenerate our environment. We also strongly support the ethic in the Plan that states, "We will foster a strong connection between our people and the environment..(and having)..Connected Citizens embrace social connection and learning through sharing stories and ideas, and civic engagement". This, again, lies in complete agreement with our aspirations.

To that end **we submit** that we wish to see TDC further strengthen and authenticate its resolve by including within its Plan much more defined and designated environment project outcomes, that in detail will have a greater capacity to drive projects and support community groups, while delivering a strong reciprocal sense of ownership and partnership. **We submit** that TDC should invest more in investigating and contacting local community environmental groups and make far stronger connections. We judge that the outcomes will be sharing of knowledge, resources, aspirations, and far more efficient outcomes for all.

2. TDC has stated in the Plan that is its role as guardian of our natural environment; to practice kaitiakitanga. To that end **we submit** that TDC must have an effective BioDiversity Department, with qualified officers maintaining consenting standards and be effective in ensuring that consents are valid and adhered to. It is vital that this Department would be instrumental in receiving and monitoring complaints about abuse of the environment, enabling TDC to have justified and valid statutory powers to ensure compliance.

Within the Significant Forecasting Assumptions (2.4 Resource Consents) the Plan recognises the need for Mitigating Risks. Although this Monitoring compliance with existing resource consent conditions will provide a record of compliance for future processes and renewals, there is no functioning biodiversity compliance mechanism.

We submit that this is a serious gap in the Plan to protect biodiversity and the ecosystem.

3. We strongly support TDC as a governance leader, advocate, and enabler, to work closely with the community to understand potential impacts and identify responses. We look forward to the Climate Change Response Plan, **but submit** that the community should have an input and be consulted at every level. **We submit** that it should be noted that many community environmental groups' members have a deep and detailed knowledge of the natural processes that may be exacerbated by climate change in their particular locality.

Summary:

We accept that TDC's LTP is in its present format makes general statements of intent regarding the environment and biodiversity. However, there is positive and clear intent, and we support that. We hope that TDC will have the capacity to create strong working teams to ensure that the intent is realised.

Finally, we petition for stronger and more direct connection with community groups who are working toward the same goal, and awareness of their potential as partners on the same journey.

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NAME Elizabeth Brehaut

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

Submission on the matter of CityTown and Timaru's Central Business District

Submission By Ethan Richardson

I am making this submission to express my extreme concern for the lack of funding for city centre revitalization efforts in the long term plan. In particular, the defunding of the CityTown project from 31.9 million to 1.5 Million dollars. The Council needs to put the CBD back on the agenda, the amount currently budgeted for revitalizing the CBD will make no impact on the quality of the area.

If we accept that the city centre is in decline, we must take action by funding the CityTown plan. If we do not act now, it may be too late to fully save our CBD by the time we get the chance. We have a plan that has won awards and is the best deep dive into how to rejuvenate the CBD we have ever seen. This plan is nearly complete, with it due to deliver its recommendation to you in early June. My plea to you is to fund this plan, currently we do not have the funds to deliver much more than repaved tiling and new toilets. We cannot let this opportunity pass us by.

Investing in our town centre is essential to create a vibrant atmosphere in our town where there is activity and a real sense of community spirit, to keep our local business open and thriving in our heart and to continue being an attractive option to all of those that could call Timaru home.

Here are some of the reasons why I urge the council to restore funding to this part of the Long Term Plan:

Maintaining Commercial Viability:

- 1) The current footfall is not sufficient to create a good environment to do business in. More businesses are closing in the CBD, and while we are in an economic downturn, the amount of shoppers visiting the area is well below where it could be. CityTown was set to create new attractions to create new reasons to enter the town, create new links into and around town, and focus on increasing housing stock to create a vibrant mixed use environment.

To quote the CityTown strategic framework "Today, the resident population of our Timaru's centre is small and insufficient to generate the daily footfall required to support thriving retail streets and activities on the present scale". This change will not happen without the CityTown project, by the council's own estimation we will not be able to support the current and potential businesses in the city centre without significant investment. The council has an obligation under the Local Government Act "to promote the social, economic... well-being of communities in the present and for the future.". If we do not fund work in the CBD in the next decade, we will be breaking that economic obligation.

- 2) Where investment has happened around the country, it has had a significant impact. Last year works of a similar scale in Invercargill resulted in more people visiting and staying longer in the city centre, with satisfaction in the CBD up across the board. In Rotorua, a CBD upgrade program saw foot traffic up 21%, the mayor commented: “I think we can confidently say that today Rotorua's inner city is a much more vibrant, attractive, safe and busy place than in past years, and that's real progress that we can be proud of”. Following major work on Queen Street in Auckland, foot traffic has significantly increased compared to 2019, as much as doubling at times of the day, and the GDP of Central Auckland is the fastest growing regional GDP in the country.
- 3) The risk of not taking any action is the collapse of business confidence and ability to do business. To quote the CityTown strategic framework “The overall vitality of the centre is under threat with the risk of significant underutilisation and underinvestment in existing building stock in turn lowering business confidence”.
- 4) With the ever increasing presence of online and big box shopping, town centres need a point of difference to attract shoppers in our modern climate. CBD's thrive when people see the area as a place not as a collection of shops, but as a social and cultural heart to the city where it feels like a destination where residents can hang out and feel a sense of identity. In fact, 89% of Timaru district residents believe the most important part of the CBD is as the social centre of the community, more so than its commercial centre. Despite this, only 58% see it as the social centre at current, with only 14% strongly agreeing that it is. This reality will not change without council intervention.

The CityTown project had a focus on enhancing Timaru's identity through its connection to Caroline Bay, and its heritage buildings, as well as creating a more inviting social environment. More people socializing in the heart of the town would go a long way to helping vacancy rates and business woes in the area.

Creating a vibrant community:

- 1) True vibrancy isn't solely creating 10 festivals throughout the year, that may help, but it only helps for 1 day. What our town needs is the kind of vibrancy that only occurs when people live, work and play in the city centre, something CltyTown understood well and was working towards as a main pillar of the project. This kind of vibrancy will not appear out of thin air, getting people to come and go from our CBD will require leadership, which as of now, only the council can provide with CityTown. Through CityTown we can mix our uses in the CBD to create a more vibrant, attractive community.
- 2) The community is clear in its desire for the CBD to first and foremost be a social centre, 89% of the town thinks the CBD should be our social centre. People want to spend time in the area and make it vibrant, but they have few reasons to currently, a lack of destinations in the area has made it so many people believe there is nothing in the city centre left for them. While the trials were deemed a failure, they did create activities to

bring people back to town when they had little other reason to, that work would be built upon in the full project.

Building an attractive town:

- 1) Data from the residents CityTown survey shows under 50's see a need for improvement of the town's social/gathering places by a 20-40% margin compared to those over 50. They also see an increased need for more culture, festivals and entertainment facilities across the board. Many people move to Timaru to raise families or have a quiet life, but if we lack a social life, we risk alienating these potential residents. These people want a quiet town, not a silent one.

With an ageing population, we need to encourage more young people to move to our district to work and support our elders, we lose large amounts of 18-29-year-olds to larger cities and few come back. We cannot do that without entertainment and social facilities, which CityTown was working towards restoring. Timaru used to have a vibrant nightlife and an active entertainment scene, with CityTown's plans to bring housing to the CBD that could become a reality once again and allure young professionals to the district to work and spend. Without CityTown In 10 years we are facing the reality of a town that has less activity, fewer stores and fewer people.

- 2) The prospect of domestic immigration from young parents is also at risk as the CBD declines. Young parents want to be able to take their children and teens out, but our current shops and facilities are inadequate to support that goal. Our parks are great, however they will only get us so far. In a world where parents want to limit screen time, we are giving them few options to spend quality entertainment time with their growing kids.
- 3) Our budding tourism sector will also rely on a vibrant and attractive town. The surrounding successful towns all have a point of difference, Oamaru has carved out a steampunk and heritage identity and Geraldine has leveraged its thoroughfare position. We do not have an X-factor to attract tourists to town yet, while Venture Timaru is working hard on this they cannot work with thin air. Council must provide assistance to build a unique identity for the town so Timaru does not remain off New Zealand destination lists.

Opportunity cost:

- 1) We will not get another opportunity like this for some time, this plan has been in development for nearly 5 years with award-winning companies, comprehensive resident surveys and over 290 pages of published planning and data. If we do not act now, all of this will soon become out of date and have to be consulted and planned again. It will become another consulting process that went nowhere.

- 2) The cost of doing nothing is enormous, from the businesses that shut down from the lack of customers to the decrease in domestic immigration to town from the lack of social life. To have the heart of the city stop beating cannot be an option, it would rob the town of too much commerce and social life. Inaction can be the most expensive action, by kicking the can down the road we make this more expensive for future generations with extra planning and building costs. Not to mention all the lost economic growth in the district.

What the council can do:

The best action we can take to begin solving our CBD's problems is to fund the CityTown project to a reasonable scale. While costings for specific CityTown projects are not public, I would implore the Council to ask staff how much would be required to adequately fund an array of originally planned projects for the plan. This doesn't have to cost 31.9 million again, it can be scaled back given our current budgetary restriction. Doing something is better than nothing, and at the moment we are doing nothing.

The Council has a plan practically sitting on its desk. We wouldn't have to spend another 3 years planning, we could start taking action by next year. An award-winning solution is costed and ready to be implemented within the next few years. All it needs is more funding.

Our CBD is the lifeblood of our district's economy, we must be willing to spend money on keeping our heart thriving, how else can we ensure that our economy and community will continue to grow into the future.

There is widespread support from the public for doing something about our increasing vacancy rates and to make a change in the heart of the district. In 2021 when the council consulted on CityTown 78% of LTP respondents wanted the council to take an enabling or transformative role in the CBD. The council needs to act on this public support for making a CBD a better place to live, work and visit.

The budget may be stretched, however the alternative to not working on the centre of our district is one of stagnation and decline I am not willing to accept. The money we invest now will reward us in the years to come in the form of a growing district. In the modern climate, if we are not growing we are going backwards. The only way I see us growing in population, culture, vibrancy and economic terms is to invest in our CBD through the CityTown project.

Thank you for considering my input, I look forward to speaking to it in your presence.



To: The Mayor,
Timaru District Council,

Dear Mr Bowen,

For more than 20 years, the deep drain on Richard Pearse Drive has been a bone of contention between residents/rate payers, as both an inconvenience and Health & Safety hazard. There has been one fatality from a car upended in the ditch, and at least 3 other occasions where vehicles have had to be pulled out.

The owner and sub-divider of the land, Mr. J. Gresham, tried to have the drain filled, but was told by Council that the land being zoned rural meant that the ditch was appropriate. The land is now residential, but still no result now that the zoning is a Hazard in a Residential region.

The building of the access bridges over a Council drain were at a considerable cost to the residents wishing to access their properties, despite the original request from Mr. Gresham to fill in the ditch when he sold the sections was both ignored and refused.

A logical solution would be to a concrete pipeline with the same diameter as the pipe across Guild Road would remove any water, and an approach to contractors around the town offering them a site to deposit un-wanted top soil or spoil would solve the Council's need to fill the ditch. With the drain gone, there would be no need for residents to keep weeds, etc. down on what is obviously a Council responsibility. Surely, Mr Bowen, after many years of wrangling over this Council responsibility a simple and satisfactory solution is definitely long overdue.

Kind regards,

Colin Scarbrook

(Signature)

Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



We are writing to you as a group with a significant stake in the outcome of the current deliberations on the future of the stadium complex who do not feel recognized as "stakeholders" in the process.

Aorangi Stadium includes a gymnasium with a wide range of equipment for weight training and other exercises typically used for "fitness circuit" classes. This area can accommodate up to 50 people in a single class.

Whilst many of the services provided by this facility are now catered for by the C Bay complex near Caroline Bay, Aorangi Stadium remains the preferred venue for Timaru senior citizens formal exercise classes. Around 7 one hour classes are run during the Monday to Friday working week throughout the year. These classes are attended by Timaru seniors equating to in excess of 200 "man hours" per week making this group of individuals collectively a principal user of this facility during the working week throughout the entire year.

Most of us pay \$5.50 per 1hour session for these classes. Some individuals are funded to attend by 3rd parties.

Why don't we use C Bay?

C Bay does not have the space to accommodate a group of our size.

Seniors generally prefer to exercise in a non-competitive environment catering to their diverse needs dictated by the typical issues experienced by our cohort. (A cohort which is predicted to continue growing as a proportion of the Timaru population)

During weekdays Aorangi is easily accessed by foot, bicycle and car by the majority of users.

A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

You are currently deliberating over the option of building a new facility at Aorangi or upgrading the current facility. We acknowledge that either way we will lose the use of Aorangi Stadium for a period of time. Obviously our preference would be for a solution that minimizes disruption to our use of the gym.

We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

Faye Baillie



Small business has the same yearly council registration fee as a large business

A sole trader with no staff is deemed a low risk business. We have many large businesses who are operating with many staff- this means more people to educate, assess, monitor and higher risk for problems to occur, these businesses are handling higher risk ingredients such as meats etc . These larger businesses pay the same base council registration fee as a small low risk business.

Currently for low risk businesses- audits are every 18 months but council registration is still an annual fee.

On average it takes less than 30 minutes to audit a sole trader based kitchen. All business details are held at council on a computer system- any change of circumstances are notified by the business operator.

Many in our industry are working from home based kitchens, MPI regulations for the FCP allowed this change over 8 years ago- but over this time council have never looked at their billing system to consider the small solo trader . The system has changed but the council fee rate allocation has not. Many are part time workers in their businesses. It is a point to note that in our line of work over 50% of the current FCP does not apply to our businesses and we are deemed of very low risk.

When taking into consideration a person's audit cost versus their income capability in their business- the proportion of income to registration/audit costs is vastly different when compared to a bigger business. For a sole trader with an income of as little as 10K per year- a \$330 council fee is 3% of their income and this is without audit costs.

Council fees are often a major barrier to new businesses becoming registered and food safe. Many in the industry are quitting their registration and operating illegally because of cost versus their income ability. They can no longer see the sense with compliance costs versus their income ability. Surely food safety should be the priority.

Cakers or home based cottage industry kitchens are deemed low risk, Sole traders, have no staff, work from a very small kitchen and in the last 10 years have never had a reported problem with their operations. We comply with audit costs and feel this is where food safety should be focused- not on blanket council fees.

Proposal for consideration

- line up council registration fees with business audit fee- this would reduce costs for both the business and the council (less paperwork for council) Yes we agree- this would mean a look at how the system is implemented at council but after 8 years of the current system in place- isn't it about time this happens to keep up with the current times? The system structure has change over time but how the council allocates its fees has not.

- Use a tiered system for our council fee. Sole traders would have a lower cost to pay versus bigger businesses that employ many staff. This would make the system more workable and encourage more to register- making food safety the priority.

Thanks for your time

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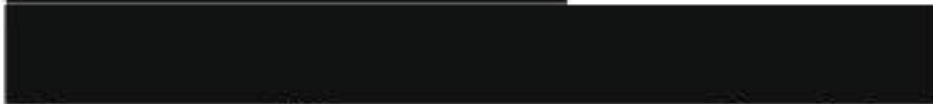
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Geraldine.nz
Naturally

Long Term Plan Submission 2024

The Geraldine District Development and Promotions Association Incorporated (Geraldine.nz) is a membership organisation (with around 100 members at present) that has been operating in Geraldine since 1926, representing the needs and views of the community.

Our members include local businesses, schools, clubs, individuals, and service organisations, all committed to the ongoing vibrancy of Geraldine as a place where people can enjoy a rich, interesting, and fulfilling lifestyle.

It is acknowledged that there are some difficult decisions to be made about the upcoming long-term plan for the district, which is geographically diverse and where each community enjoys a distinct identity and unique needs.

Regardless of differences, there is a common need for the infrastructure and services provided by the council. While there is much more the council offers to the community, its commitment first and foremost must be to the effective delivery of these.

In the LTP consultation documents, the Council has laid out the challenges it faces and the current options available to meet those needs.

It is the view of Geraldine.nz that, for each of the four big issues, the council's preferred option is the best approach to meeting community needs over the next 10 years and Geraldine.nz supports all the preferred options.

It makes sense to lift the debt cap by a moderate amount and to couple this with an increase in service charges and rate rises, to finance the capital works required to replace key infrastructure and underpin the resilience of these provisions into the future.

While cost/price increases are not a concept that anyone enjoys, it is needed, and it is acknowledged that there are limited avenues open to the council to generate the funds required to meet the identified needs.

Concerning the topic of balancing the *'things you use with the things you enjoy'* (Big Issue 3), it is the view of Geraldine.nz that the council has the balance about right at an 80/20 split. The challenge will be in deploying the 20% (approx. \$131m) to the best effect so that the community feels there is still some 'icing on the cake'.

The next few years will be a time of considerable constraint for the district; however, people still need to experience enjoyment to be able to sustain themselves through the more difficult aspects of a tough financial period. Resilience will be critical.

Additionally, the district still needs to be able to attract visitors who will inject much-needed external revenue into the local economy and attract businesses and workers to the area by continuing to offer outstanding lifestyle opportunities.

With funds tighter than ever, the neighbourhoods and communities of the district must prioritise and communicate with the council to enable innovative, informed decision-making, maximising the benefits to all.

On the following pages are the key topics/issues/projects of importance to the Geraldine community, as observed by Geraldine.nz.

Geraldine Strategic Plan into the Future

In 2021, Geraldine.nz submitted to the TDC LTP about the need for a strategic plan for Geraldine. Within the submission, it was stated:

‘There has long been talk of the need for a vision for Geraldine, to enable the community to collectively shape a future for the area that fits with the needs and aspirations of those who know and understand the community best – the people who live, work, and do business here, while protecting Geraldine’s personality and attractiveness.’

Other local organisations also made submissions on this topic, demonstrating its importance to the community.

It is a credit to the Timaru District Council that following the finalisation of the LTP, funds and project management provisions were promptly made available to progress the development of plans for each of the rural communities within the district, resulting in robust strategic frameworks to guide and inform the future of each of those communities.

In Geraldine, the process of creating the plan saw people around the community voice their ideas, interests, and concerns, across a range of topics. More than 1300 written responses were received during the consultation period, which was then distilled into common themes and further developed into a framework of 8 key objectives, with attached priorities.

The plan is accessible and provides clear guidance to the community board, community groups, individuals, funders, and to the council.

In the last LTP, beyond the strategic plan creation, the TDC allocated \$200k to each rural community to support projects linked to the enhancement of their town centre.

In Geraldine, these funds have thus far contributed towards the Geraldine Sculpture Trail, enhancement of Totara Square and the Cox St gardens, and active transport initiatives.

These projects are all underway and will make a significant contribution towards ensuring Geraldine’s town centre remains a safe, attractive place where people continue to choose to spend time shopping, connecting with others, and enjoying their leisure time.

Geraldine has always been a community that has worked hard to make things happen. Skilled and motivated people come together to take ideas and develop them into project groups and plans, to raise funds (both locally and from established funders), and, when relevant, to seek partnership with or support from, the council to bring projects to completion.

The Geraldine Domain Redevelopment (multi-purpose turf) and Geraldine Sculpture Trail project are just two examples of the success in which this combined approach has resulted.

With the strategic plan for Geraldine now in place, the community must begin to identify and develop new projects to meet the objectives in the plan, which is intended to be a focused, living document.

In addition to new projects and ideas coming forward through the strategic plan, Geraldine is a community faced with upcoming changes as many CBD properties (on a designated priority route) work through earthquake-strengthening requirements. The TDC-owned Geraldine Town Hall/Cinema building is one of the buildings impacted by the EQ requirements.

These requirements may see significant changes proposed to the townscape of Geraldine and there must be scope for the community to seek outcomes that protect the character and beauty of the town, while also meeting the EQ requirements.

To ensure that projects and initiatives can be progressed, for Geraldine and the other townships around the ward, there is a need for continued funding allocation from the Council. This will build on the benefit the current allocation has already made and will help the small towns within the district continue to thrive.

To that end, Geraldine urges the council to:

1. Continue support of the rural community Strategic Plans through the provision of regular review options
2. Continue to support the development of the rural wards through the provision of a regular allocation of \$200k each towards projects identified within the framework of their respective Strategic Plans

Active Transport in the Geraldine Ward

The Timaru District has an Active Transport Strategy in place for the district which aims to:

- Develop a safe, accessible, sustainable, and integrated network for active transport.
- Educate and encourage residents and visitors to choose active transport for active and healthy lifestyles.

Geraldine is a community invested in the concept of active transport:

- Bike Geraldine is a group formed to create and maintain cycling/walking/horse riding trails around Geraldine. The Waihi River and Gale Cutting Trails are two of their major successes.
- The Geraldine Sculpture Trail is a project to develop new and link existing trails to encourage users to enjoy nature and art while benefiting from healthful exercise.
- There are many walking, cycling, running, and fitness groups who actively and frequently use the existing trails, while Cycling Without Age offers opportunities to the elderly to enjoy Geraldine by bike.

Beyond this, many people in Geraldine choose to regularly walk or cycle in and around the town, for both health benefits and as a means of transport.

With the increasing popularity of E-Bikes in recent years, our community has seen strong demand from locals and visitors to be able to travel by bike to the outlying communities of Woodbury, Orari, Pleasant Valley, and Peel Forest, and further to Temuka and Fairlie.

There is a need to develop more options for shared-use trails and routes in and around the Geraldine ward to link the outlying communities, meet the needs of users, and keep users safe.

Further, there is an opportunity to create links with the trails/routes that are being created in other parts of the district (such as the trail to Fairlie) to provide locals and visitors with the means to travel around and explore the district by bike.

Doing so will generate slow tourism opportunities which brings economic benefits to the district, but the primary result will be an enhancement to the lifestyle and health of residents.

Beyond the twin values of enjoyment and health, safety is a major driver in the creation of trails and routes. Many of our local rural roads are narrow and were not designed for the volume and size of vehicles that travel along them today, let alone to allow for shared use of the road.

Safety is a critical requirement for any active transport option, and there are real and immediate needs in the Geraldine area to ensure the safety of cyclists.

One example of immediate concern is the stretch of Main North Road from McKenzie Healthcare to the Woodbury Road corner.

The first section of this road is signposted with a 50km speed limit; however, this increases to 80 km per hour about halfway along. Vehicles frequently exceed the 50 km speed limit and there is little space on the road for cyclists, who include children cycling to and from school, as well as those travelling by bike to Woodbury, Peel Forest, and the Waihi River Trails.

The development of trails links to key objectives 1,2,3 & 6 in the Geraldine Strategic Plan.

Geraldine.nz urges the council to:

1. Continue support of active transport initiatives for the district and Geraldine
2. Work with Geraldine-based groups to initiate active transport safety solutions.
3. Review the location of the 80 km speed limit on Main North Road and consider extending the 50 km limit past the Bennett/Woodbury Road interaction.
4. Work with Geraldine-based groups to identify and develop viable routes.

Destination Playground for Geraldine

Bordering on the edge of the Geraldine Domain, next to the open-air swimming pool and across from the camping ground, the Geraldine Domain Playground is one of the most popular of the district's 43 playgrounds and has long been an attraction for locals and visitors alike.

The playground area is surrounded by trees and picnic spots and is a place that draws children of all ages to play, as well as families and friends to connect, celebrate, share food, and play in a picturesque setting.

For travelling families, the playground is a much-loved mid-journey pause to stretch legs, burn off energy, take a toilet break, and perhaps grab a coffee.

The playground is a place that invites us all to stop and to slow down.

The current playground equipment is at the end of its useful life and is in strong need of revitalization to ensure this space maintains its place in the hearts and minds of children across the district and beyond.

The rise of the destination playground has brought with it a focus on the benefits that play brings to child development and how playgrounds can be created to offer a range of opportunities for users to support their growth.

There has been much discussion about the need for a major renewal of the domain playground in Geraldine which links to the enhancement of the CBD and the development of the Geraldine Sculpture Trail.

Further, there have also been many discussions/ideas about what a renewed playground could contain. While ideas vary, there is general agreement that the playground should share/reflect the story of Geraldine (nature/art/culture/landscape/fauna/flora/industry) in cohesion with the other public spaces across the community.

Interest has also been expressed by a user group about the potential development of the Geraldine Swimming Pool for the future and this will undoubtedly generate many ideas from the community.

It is the view of Geraldine.nz that, as the principal playground for the ward, there is a need for a total renewal of the domain playground to ensure it can meet the play and safety needs of the young and the young at heart for decades to come.

It is also our view that the community must retain a swimming pool and that any development of the pool should be complementary to and in cohesion with the development of the playground, the domain, and the public spaces of Geraldine.

While there is merit in the discussion around covering the pool for year-round use, it should also be recognised that an outdoor pool is a special experience that offers other enjoyment and benefits to users.

While still in the initial concept planning stages, a new playground for Geraldine has been identified in the strategic plan and links to key objectives 1,2, 6 & 8.

Geraldine.nz urges the council to:

1. Provide support for the planning and development of a new playground for Geraldine, including an allocation of funding.

Events Funding for Geraldine

Events have long been informally recognised as being the lifeblood of Geraldine, both from the perspective of community connection and inclusion, through events being a mechanism to attract visitors who bring a vital boost to the local economy.

The importance and contribution of events was formally identified in the 2014 Geraldine Strategic Tourism Plan and Geraldine.nz has aimed to incorporate those recommendations into its strategic aims.

Geraldine's flagship event, the Harcourt's Geraldine Festival (formerly the Arts and Plant Festival) has been operating for well over 30 years and attracts people from around the South Island. At around 18,000 attendees, GFEST is not only Geraldine's premier event but also one of the largest and best-loved in the district.

In addition to GFEST, the area also hosts the Geraldine Summer Fete, Geraldine Christmas Parade, and the Rock & Hop Geraldine Cruise. More recently, the Geraldine Motor Muster and Woodbury Harvest Gala and Food Truck nights have proved immensely popular and are already beginning to draw loyal crowds. Additionally, it has been a delight to see the rise of cultural celebrations such as Matariki, Lunar New Year, and Diwali in Geraldine.

Many of the events organised in Geraldine, and throughout the district, are free to enter, making them accessible and attractive to people from all walks of life. They perform an important social function in bringing people together, and enhancing community pride, while also attracting visitors who choose to spend money.

While the events themselves may not generate large revenues, visitors do spend on accommodation, food, transport, and other costs while in the area as well as on other experiences. The events also serve as taster experiences, introducing new visitors to Geraldine, and hopefully planting a seed of interest in them to return at a later date to stay for a longer period and use Geraldine as a base to explore the whole district.

These high-quality events consistently receive positive feedback, enjoy a loyal following, as well as managing to attract new attendees, while continuing to grow and develop. All are impressive outcomes, made more so by the fact that the events are often planned, organised, and run by volunteers.

Funding support from the council is vital for the continuation and growth of these events which put Geraldine and the wider district on the map for the visitor market. Survey results from the GFEST 2023 indicate that events serve as a drawcard to bring people to the region and cement the Timaru District as an attractive destination worthy of consideration in future holiday plans.

Events in Geraldine are linked to key objectives 2,6,7 & 8 of the Geraldine Strategic Plan.

On this basis, Geraldine.nz urges the council to:

1. Continue providing funding for events via the Community Events Fund and the Major Events Fund (as administered by Venture Timaru) to ensure that events can continue and develop over the next 10 years.
2. Recognise the importance of events to the whole of the district.

Geraldine Sculpture Trail

The Geraldine Sculpture Trail (GST) is a community project that received funding from the Strategic Tourism Asset Protection Programme (STAPP) operated by central government following COVID-19 and the project has enjoyed strong support from both Venture Timaru and TDC.

It is the largest project ever to enhance the public spaces of Geraldine and will produce benefits for generations to come.

The trail, with four loops of unique character, traverses' different landscapes around the centre of Geraldine and combines nature with art for the free enjoyment of all. It showcases all that Geraldine has to offer and reflects the story of Geraldine as a community.

Work has been underway since 2021 on the built infrastructure which is now almost complete. Some art has already been installed, and the focus is now on attracting and funding further sculptures.

Through the work of the project and the Waihi River Trails Volunteer Group, Geraldine is now host to a collection of rare and threatened rhododendrons from the internationally renowned Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust and a range of plants of significance in Todd Park.

Likely other opportunities to provide a home for rare plants and trees will continue to occur over time as the trails continue to develop. It would be beneficial to both current and future collections to receive recognition for their botanical importance.

The project has already had a positive influence on the town and the use of the trails is increasing constantly as people become aware of them. Active promotion of the trail by the project group is about to happen with the release of a website, social media platform, and promotional catalogue along with Venture Timaru's inclusion of the trail on its Timaru Trails app.

The trail work also links to the enhancements being made to the CBD, to the development of the domain, and future renewal of the playground. The GST project group ensures communication with other projects in the community to avoid duplication and enhance the overall benefit to Geraldine.

The project also acknowledges the close link with local iwi and the trail promotes the use of Te Reo as an integral part of New Zealand's culture and heritage.

The trail project links to key objectives 1,2,3, 6 & 8.

Geraldine.nz urges the council to:

1. Continue to support the trail during its development phase.
2. Commit to the maintenance of the trail for the future.
3. Formally recognise the significance of the plant collections in both Todd Park and the Rhododendron Dell.

Community Hub for Geraldine

Like many other communities, Geraldine is faced with aging buildings that are costly to operate and maintain. The Geraldine Sports and Recreation Facilities Review 2018 highlighted the need for the community to rationalise the number of buildings over time and to select/develop a small number of fit-for-purpose flexible spaces that could accommodate multiple uses.

While this recommendation was directed towards sports and recreation facilities, it applies equally to space needed for hobbies, special interests, creative, performing arts, and community groups.

Traditionally, Geraldine was a town many people in the district desired to retire to, but we now also have many young families, while also attracting students/agricultural workers/young professionals from overseas. As a result, Geraldine boasts well over one hundred different clubs and groups to meet the needs and interests of our diverse community.

Community spaces, such as town halls, provide not only a space for events and activities but also serve as the heart of the community. It is vital for the ongoing vibrancy and intergenerational viability of Geraldine that plans are made to ensure that a fit-for-purpose community space is available for the community to come together.

Geraldine's town hall (the current Geraldine cinema), like many buildings in the centre of Geraldine, is subject to earthquake evaluation and may require significant investment in the future to bring it up to the required level of compliance with building regulations.

Many small communities have recognised over time that it is no longer feasible to operate in silos with single-use buildings and facilities. Challenges include increasing costs of operation and maintenance, but also the increasing difficulty in finding willing, experienced, and skillful volunteers to manage and govern such facilities.

While not wishing to pre-empt any community discussions, or the outcomes of upcoming assessments of the town hall building, Geraldine.nz does want to encourage the community to start talking openly and constructively about community space needs for the future and how those needs will be met.

A community hub is a concept that should be considered as part of discussions about the future of the main street and the cinema. A well-planned and executed hub would offer a range of flexibly sized spaces within a modern, light, warm, and well-fitted building for the use of recreation/hobbies/special interest and community groups as well as other uses such as a cinema, etc.

Providing facilities for the community into the future links to key objectives 1, 2,3 & 7 of the Geraldine Strategic Plan.

To this end, Geraldine.nz requests that:

1. The council considers future community space needs following the assessment and evaluation of the Geraldine townhall building (currently Geraldine Cinema)

Peel Forest Outdoor Centre

The Peel Forest Outdoor Centre (PFOC), while located within the Geraldine ward, is an asset to the whole district, delivering outdoor education opportunities to the young people of our community.

The attraction of, and addiction to, digital devices creates barriers to getting young people into the outdoors, making the courses and programmes the PFOC provides ever more vital in offering experiences that may not be ordinarily accessible for many of today's young people.

The centre has worked hard in recent years to review its operations and programmes to ensure it is meeting the needs of users and is maintaining its relevance and reputation as one of South Island's most renowned providers of outdoor education services and experiences.

Through its education and school holiday programmes, PFOC showcases all that the district has to offer to young people, hopefully planting the seed that the Timaru District is a place where the outdoors is easily accessible and can be enjoyed as part of an active lifestyle.

The ongoing delivery of excellence in outdoor education to our young is linked to key objectives 1,2, 4 & 6 of the Geraldine Strategic Plan.

The centre is an important asset to the District and Geraldine.nz requests that the council:

1. Acknowledges its importance and contributions to the district and provides support as much as it is able.

Tourism

Tourism is an important contributor to the Timaru District's economy and most especially to Geraldine, one of the gateways to the district for road travelers.

While COVID saw international visitor numbers decline considerably across the country, the COVID period gave domestic destinations, including the Timaru District, a chance to shine as domestic visitors made the conscious decision to visit different places 'locally' as opposed to abroad. This, coupled with the excellent work by Venture Timaru to promote the region, saw real benefits from domestic tourism to our district during the COVID-19 years.

Venture Timaru has continued to develop tourism in this district with the completion and implementation of a Destination Development Plan and the creation of a Tourism Advisory Group to complement the strong social and print media 'We love Timaru' marketing campaign.

Work is also being done to support the development of much-needed tourism products in the area and it is heartening to see examples such as the Raptor Experience, the Māori Rock Art, the SCOFF food festival, the vintage machinery trails, cruise ship visits, and qualmark-rated accommodation providers. Continuing to develop 'hero' experiences is vital to the district.

Geraldine's location means visitors must travel through the town on their way to other destinations, providing a captive audience to promote the area as a visitor destination. Our challenge has always been to entice people to stay longer, to find out all there is to do in Geraldine and around the district, and to then participate in those activities.

While 'hero' experiences may be limited in our region, we can benefit from visitors' spending on accommodation, food, gifts, and transport, which all trickles down through our economy supporting businesses and creating jobs.

Geraldine.nz enjoys a close working relationship with Venture Timaru and has observed firsthand the positive difference a strong and motivated Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO) makes to the promotion and marketing of our district as a destination.

Tourism has been identified as an important activity within the Geraldine Strategic Plan and links to key objectives 5 & 6.

Geraldine urges the council to:

1. Continue recognizing the value of tourism/the visitor market to the district – especially during difficult economic times.

The Environment

The Geraldine ward area encompasses the patchwork plains of Canterbury, the rolling Downs with Talbot Forest, the rivers of Te Moana, Orari and Rangitata and then sweeps up towards Mesopotamia, passing Peel Forest and our Mountains, Huatekerekere/Little Mt Peel and Tarahaoa/Mt Peel, along the way.

Geraldine is blessed with this stunning and precious landscape, and it is our responsibility as a community to protect it, to rewind the ravages of previous generations who introduced non-native species which threaten our fauna and flora today, and to educate future generations.

This important work will help to protect our unique landscape and endemic species, enabling our residents and visitors of today, and into the future, to enjoy the benefits of the outdoors.

There are a number of groups volunteering to help with these aims in the Geraldine area, including:

- The Upper Rangitata Gorge Landcare Group
- Project Peel (formed in 2017 with the aim of enhancing the ecological values of Peel Forest Scenic Reserve)
- Orari River Protection Group
- Talbot Forest Working Group
- Geraldine Trapping Alliance (facilitates the construction of traps and distributes them to the community in order to enhance the local native wildlife)

Beyond these groups, who have worked hard to achieve significant results over the years, building close relationships with relevant authorities and impressive skills and expertise, the Department of Conservation (DOC), is tasked with managing and protecting all of Aotearoa/New Zealand's conservation estate.

Our government set the aim for Aotearoa to become **predator free by 2050**, freeing our country from the most damaging predators - possums, stoats and rats, to allow our native birds, lizards, plants and frogs to flourish once again.

This is an audacious goal and one that can only be achieved through collaboration with and commitment from all New Zealanders. Geraldine.nz recognises the importance of this goal and DOC's role in leading this project and has an appointed DOC representative on the Geraldine.nz board to enable closer communication and collaboration.

Geraldine.nz also maintains relationships with local volunteer groups working in this space, recognising all that they do and supporting them where possible to highlight their successes and promote their work.

The Timaru District Council has indicated through the Long Term Plan a commitment to a sustainable environment which is encouraging, however there is a need to be specific about what that commitment entails and for the council to develop plans to make it happen.

It should not fall to council alone to tackle such a vast and complex issue in isolation, however there is a role for council to play in being a leader, initiating and supporting collaborations and underpinning the work of other authorities and the very capable volunteer organisations operating within this sphere.

There are a range of ways that TDC can help in a direct and meaningful way, firstly in support of DOC's Predator Free 2050 project, supporting the initiative in the following ways:

1. Follow the model of the city sanctuary Dunedin, through providing staff to lead and direct predator control across Timaru city and other towns in the district. Linking in with Predator Free Canterbury and the trapping corridors now underway would go a long way to creating a sustainable predator free environment.
2. Work actively in conjunction with DOC and Ecan.
3. Engage with Business to support and work with the local authority to restore birdsong back into the Timaru district.
4. Instigate predator control on all council domains and parks carried out by council staff in collaboration with a band of active volunteers.
5. Support and education of the public in bringing back birdsong, invertebrates and lizards in the Timaru district.
6. Pass cat bylaws pre-empting the cat management act. Making all domestic cats micro-chipped, spayed or neutered and kept indoors overnight.

Then, beyond commitment to this nationally important goal, the TDC needs to prioritise support to the key environmental organisations, such as those listed above, who work in our district to protect and enhance our environment so that it remains a place for us all to enjoy now and into the future.

Geraldine.nz stands in support of the submissions made by such organisations and urges the council to give them serious consideration. We have one earth; it is ours to enjoy, and it is our responsibility to protect.

Thank you for considering our submission to the Timaru District 2024 Long Term Plan.

Balance approach to debt**Recommendation****Option 4 Higher than 2.5 ,lower than 2.8****Reasons**

- 1) ok with option 2 at 2.5 but with addition of cycleways to increase health and welfare of population ,leaving headroom for disasters
- 2) difficult to plan for costs of debt with volatility in financial markets ;so go for delivery of as much as possible of replacing critical infrastructure

Balance Things you use with things you Enjoy**Recommendation****Option4 other 75/25 split****Reasons**

- 1) Need more than option 2 80/20 on non core community services
 - A) walkways and cycleways eg connect Washdyke to Pleasant point cycleway into town ,so that it could be used ,rather than having to drive to it
 - B) Safe Cycle ways not only provide benefits in terms of offering variety of approaches to enjoying increased activity for population health, but also add to population health by reducing reliance on vehicles and their pollution (you could look overseas to examples of cheap safe cycleways- i have joined half day bike tours in a few cities around the world ,with examples of safer more pleasant routes planned for commuting and recreation)
 - C) Gym facilities eg Aorangi stadium upgrade needs temporary home for the gym ,whilst undergoing earthquake restructuring
Because social activity promotes healthy aging in body and increasingly recognised also positive mood and brain function
This enables the ageing to remain active members of the community, not only helping to prevent their being on drain on local health and social services ,but also continuing as active members of the community such as participating in volunteering activities
It has also just been demonstrated that for women ,starting exercise in their 50s can reduce the effects of previous inactivity
- 2) Need more than option 3 70/30 for core spending on infrastructure maintenance to reduce increased spending in future
(If you had agreed to previous governments 3 waters project ,you would have had less need to spend so much on water and waste services ,to be at less risk of serious waterborne infections in community)

Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



We are writing to you as a group with a significant stake in the outcome of the current deliberations on the future of the stadium complex who do not feel recognized as "stakeholders" in the process.

Aorangi Stadium includes a gymnasium with a wide range of equipment for weight training and other exercises typically used for "fitness circuit" classes. This area can accommodate up to 50 people in a single class.

Whilst many of the services provided by this facility are now catered for by the C Bay complex near Caroline Bay, Aorangi Stadium remains the preferred venue for Timaru senior citizens formal exercise classes. Around 7 one hour classes are run during the Monday to Friday working week throughout the year. These classes are attended by Timaru seniors equating to in excess of 200 "man hours" per week making this group of individuals collectively a principal user of this facility during the working week throughout the entire year.

Most of us pay \$5.50 per 1 hour session for these classes. Some individuals are funded to attend by 3rd parties.

Why don't we use C Bay?

C Bay does not have the space to accommodate a group of our size.

Seniors generally prefer to exercise in a non-competitive environment catering to their diverse needs dictated by the typical issues experienced by our cohort. (A cohort which is predicted to continue growing as a proportion of the Timaru population)

During weekdays Aorangi is easily accessed by foot, bicycle and car by the majority of users.

A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

You are currently deliberating over the option of building a new facility at Aorangi or upgrading the current facility. We acknowledge that either way we will lose the use of Aorangi Stadium for a period of time. Obviously our preference would be for a solution that minimizes disruption to our use of the gym.

We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

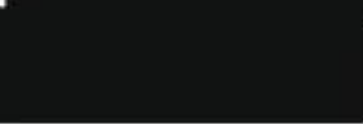
Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

NAME *Frank Webb*

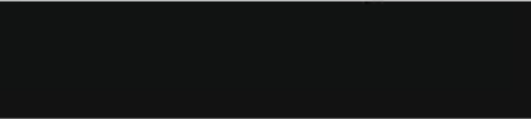
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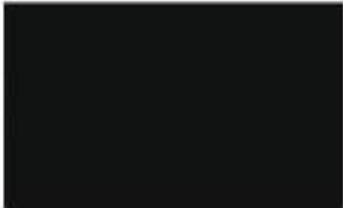
PHONE



EMAIL



SIGNATURE



Fraser Ross

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Timaru

12.05.24

Submission

Re TDC Long Term Plan 2024 -2034

Pleased that the Council has given the ratepayers and residents of the Timaru District the opportunity to comment on the proposed LTP plan. I would like to provide comments and recommendations on the Council's intention of 'Balancing the Big' Issues and I will be advocating that other issues are not overlooked.

My name is Fraser B Ross, QSM & DLM, and have lived in the Timaru District most of my long life. I know the Timaru District well and visited most places within that area over the years. And I have been responsible, along with others, for ensuring that natural areas are protected for the long term. Conways Bush, Kakahu Bush and Arowhenua Bush, just to name some.

In the past I have worked with a previous Council member, on a volunteer basis, assisting him on the maintenance and care of some of the Council owned reserves, Claremont Bush and Waitohi Bush in particular. Previously I was member of the group who minded the little penguins along the Marine Parade and elsewhere around the foreshore of Timaru. That past Council staff member gave valuable assistance with projects to protect the penguins and ensure visitors could view them in an orderly manner. I asked the Council's Ecologist to survey the little penguin nest sites which he did and found them to meet the criteria as *Significant Natural Areas*. Which are now listed in the Timaru District Plan when it becomes fully operative.

So, I hope I can assist Council in determining that natural areas and biodiversity are important to our community and must be given long term funding to safeguard their future well-being.

Specific Requests.

I understand that funding for the *Significant Natural Areas* programme is proposed to be cut by 50% and may have long term impacts for biodiversity. The Council is to be commended most strongly for implementing and for achieving significant results in terms of the number of SNAs now in place. So, ask that the funding for this special programme be maintained at current levels, at least, to ensure that what has been done successfully in the past is not undone. Also, funding needs to be maintained in order to complete the whole SNA programme.

I also support the Council's provision to provide rate relief to the property owners who have SNAs on their land. Ask that this be continued in full.

Groups and individuals, in the past and now, have advocated that Council appoint an in house biodiversity officer to its staff. Who would greatly assist Councillors to understand the need and importance to the District of protecting biodiversity. So, ask that funding be made available for the appointment of such an officer to the Council's staff.

As mentioned Council owned several important natural areas, or manages others. In particular Claremont Bush and Waitohi Bush need to adequately funding to protect and maintain their inherent natural values. From both animal and plant pest species, and preventing them from entering these reserves or eliminating them if they are already there. So, ask that Council provide adequate funding in order to protect the inherent biodiversity values of these important reserves and eradicate pests where needed.

Climate change is becoming a pressing issue affecting a whole range of areas within the District. Coastal areas along our coastline are already being affected to a much greater extent. So, ask that Climate Change be taken much more

seriously, within the Council's Long term Plan, as the status quo may not be sufficient to deal with the possible future consequences.

Within the District there are several natural limestone outcrop areas which are significant for their landscape values and rock formations, as well as providing, often the only safe habitats, for rare native plants and wildlife. Mining on limestone outcrops is already happening and, if not already done so, Council should determine and protect areas of limestone outcrops that are important. So I ask that funding be made available to survey and protect vulnerable areas of limestone outcrops within the Timaru District.

Within the District we have some very rare species of native wildlife such as the long tail bat and other species. Council can help by ensuring the habitats for such rare and endangered species are maintained for the long term. So, ask that Council work together with other groups to achieve this aim and provide some funding when needed.

In conclusion; I fully understand that Council needs to provide funding for the big issues and not to burden ratepayers at this time when the cost of living is making life more difficult for us all. As I have tried to stress that the Biodiversity values are important and provide nature based services not to found elsewhere. Our biodiversity has changed markedly over the past years of human settlement and what we have left now are remnants of that former pristine environment. So, I ask, most earnestly, that this LTP will provide adequate financial resources to look after what we have left now and safeguard it for the future.

Yours

Fraser Ross

I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission.

Geraldine Cemetery

As a regular visitor to the Geraldine Cemetery I note that all entrances are closed off to vehicles. I understand that this would be due to the very wet grounds when it rains. In the previous 8 years that I have been going there I have not seen much damage from the visitors vehicles but more so from the contractors who maintain the cemetery. When wet I leave my car on Huffey street and walk in, as I have seen lots of others do, however there will be many, especially the elderly who won't be able to visit their loved ones graves because of this closure. Please don't take this as a complaint rather be concerned that many graves that will not get the attention they would normally get over the Winter.

As the Geraldine Cemetery is one of the only large ones in South Canterbury that doesn't have road access I would be pleased if the Parks section of the TDC would give this matter serious consideration.

My solution to this would be to dig out a roadway and fill with gravel from the Huffey Street entrance by the returned servicemans graves, down to the roundabout of the ashes graves, turning right there, going down to the end of the cemetery and turning right again leaving through the other Huffey Street entrance. I feel this would give a much better access to everyones graves including the contractors who maintain this area and Undertakers. For me, I would be pleased if this could be done even partially and completed when budgets allow. Maybe even sealed in years to come.

I thank you for your time and hope you will give consideration to this plea.

Yours sincerely,
Gail Bradley



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We are writing to you as a group with a significant stake in the outcome of the current deliberations on the future of the stadium complex who do not feel recognized as "stakeholders" in the process.

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NAME

Gary Brehaut

ADDRESS



PHONE



EMAIL



SIGNATURE

*9/4/2024*

Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa, the Outdoor Access Commission is the Crown agent responsible for providing leadership on outdoor access issues.

Our role is to provide advice on free, certain, enduring, and practical access to the outdoors.

We administer a national strategy on outdoor access, including tracks and trails. We map outdoor access, provide information to the public, oversee a code of responsible conduct in the outdoors, help to resolve access issues and negotiate new access.

Much of our work focuses on active transport. We support the creation, maintenance, enhancement, and promotion of active transport, for recreation, for safety, health and wellbeing, for a shift to more sustainable travel. The creation, maintenance, enhancement, and promotion of recreational access for walking and cycling has been our principal focus, but we have also engaged with equestrian interests to support their access interests. Access for horse riding has unfortunately often been overlooked as a legitimate requirement. For example, we are aware of instances where horses have been excluded from unformed legal roads. We are also aware of where traditional horse access on road verges has been prevented by the creation of pathways exclusively for biking and walking.

Shared pathways involving horses is not without it's challenges. However, with planning and education, shared pathways or adjacent separate bridlepath solutions can be found.

Herenga ā Nuku supports Equestrian Advocacy Groups seeking legitimate public access.

Nga mihi

Geoff Holgate

Geoff Holgate

Kaitohutohu ā-Rohe | Regional Field Advisor
+64 [REDACTED]

I work part-time and variable hours, and will respond to enquiries as soon as possible



**Herenga
ā Nuku**
AOTEAROA

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CERALT MORION.



Kia ora

Here is my submission to the LTP 12/05/2024

My submission is based on the local government act and my personal principles of ethical and moral decision making.

The Local Government Act 2002 Part 2 Point 10 (b)

a) to enable democratic decision making by, and on behalf of communities

b) to promote the social, economic and cultural well being of communities in the present and for the future

It has been commendable how the majority of councillors have made themselves available to the public in an open way by coming to the markets, libraries and via email for many weeks prior to the deadline.

This is based on my personal principles of fairness and the moral obligation to include marginal communities that may struggle to get their voices heard

Balancing debt to deliver projects

Yes keep the 2.5 Debt Cap but at the same time spend more money on climate change issues as they are poorly allocated in this plan. We as a collective of residents have opted to elect councillors on the ground of keeping rates low. This has resulted in underinvestment over many years and we need to take personal responsibility for that. So I propose NOT to reduce rates over year 2 and 3 but keep them at a higher level (ie 16%) to be able to increase spending on climate change work, create a buffer for the future and assist lower income residents.

- It is pleasing to see that rates rebates have been promoted well.
- At least include no rent increase for people in council housing. While that may not be commercially wise, it is morally right and we have to make up for it by other sources of income.
- Working together with other agencies to improve access to funds for those living in council housing and create more options for the elderly and people with disabilities. An example would be an organisation for elderly living, Abbeyfield.
- Make polluters pay for rubbish collection. A lot of rubbish ending up in the street bins comes from fast food outlets, they should pay extra rates for the clean up.
- Allocate a card system (free delivery to refuse station of rubbish once a fortnight) to residents where bin collection is not possible, so the community bins are not used and overflowing. This may reduce the amount of rubbish dumped near river beds, on the road side and the like. Once in place illegal dumping will incur high fines.
- Create a voluntary system of paid library membership because many of us can afford this and will thus help to continue this essential service free for the whole community. The staff of all libraries are to be commended on their excellence in service and friendliness.

Balance income and costs

Partially agree with option 2 but as mentioned above without higher debt costs by keeping rates at a level where this is not needed, no faster elimination of deficit as this affects the funds for climate change work (I use the word work as mitigation and prevention work needs to be done)

Balancing the things you use with the things you enjoy

I support option 2 80/20 split

As part of the Local Government Act promoting cultural well being is part of the job of our council.

A community without any options for leisure, meeting others, promote local talent, have spaces for exhibitions, learn about our natural and human history is a dead community. While for some sport is the ultimate leisure activity this is not for everyone, hence the representation of communities, that means a variety, not just a few. I cannot stress enough to the councillors, staff and our community that each of us has the responsibility to create a human environment with a variety of options. I **strongly support** the immediate start of the rebuild of the theatre/heritage building.

Balancing user pays with common good

Option 2 mostly OK but

- Look at options to make consent processes less onerous by having template options as discussed with councillors Shannon, Pye and the mayor. Can we look at options that are less labour intensive, have less check points so can be cheaper? This could help people who are frustrated by consent processes, while not suitable for each project there would be a choice.
- Commercial activities need to have higher fees for infrastructure delivered by the council, this could include amongst others: retirement villages, new shopping centres and waste management of industrial areas including more stringent effluent rules (polluter pays)
- The common good includes promoting more inner city living, how can consent processes be stream lined for the buildings in Stafford Street so the upper levels can be converted into appartments? This could be onerous and high cost for individual owners but if a general plan for all buildings can be produced that only needs one consent it would be advantagous for the council as it would improve our CBD at minimal cost to the council.

Other information

Last but not least I wish to express my disappointment about the lack of climate change work included in the long term plan, other than mentioning it here and there no details or actual work has been included. After previous submissions by concerned residents a climate change advisor was appointed. Consultation with us followed but what happened to all this information? What were the recommendations and why is council not acting?

I will use quotes from the complete Long Term Plan to make my points.

“To combat climate change impacts, Council is working toward carbon accounting and develop strategies to decrease/mitigate emission. The unit has already identified the main sources of carbon emissions and is working with the climate change advisor to lower its carbon footprint.”

Many years ago I already pleaded for council to be an example and install solar panels on all its buildings, the reply was “now is not the time” and it appears that time has yet to come. Even when the library got a new roof, solar panels were not included! This would ultimately reduce energy costs, reduce carbon emissions for fuel and send a message to the community that the council is at least doing something. I am looking forward to hear what other recommendations you have received from the climate change advisor. How far are the plans to include rain water collection for new builds?

Here are my main points that need to be done now so we are not facing the cost of paying for a disaster.

- Start work on protection of the erosion inundation around Red Ruth, we cannot wait for Kiwirail to take action, this is our region, with constant underfunding of Kiwirail we cannot wait for a disaster to happen and rely on central government to bail us out as we will not be the only ones in danger. Compliments to the waste minimisation team for their education efforts so we can reduce the need for landfill space and
- Work together with ECan on advancing work on the rivers which will include stakeholders having to adept to living spaces and land use. Your words under the heading **External Factors Asumption point 3.3 Climate Change** *“The agriculture sector may need*

transition as traditional crops become less viable and pest control needs to increase though new opportunities could emerge” Although there is no mention of dairy at all, and it is not easy to convert from animal trampled soil to crop farming, changes are definitely needed. If people wish to risk flooding because they want to keep the status quo we as a community should not be made responsible for their adverse events.

- I would like to thank the council and in particular Temuka Community Board and our local councillors for helping us to make a small contribution to food resilience by supporting the establishment of a community garden by supplying the land and water infrastructure. We as residents can contribute in a small way but we need local and central government to do the big things for the good of us all.
- Start procedures to relocate the various hut dwellers, they too have to face reality, not moving is not an option so we need to work out how and have a real time plan on when this can be completed. Preferably before the next local election or if that is not possible at least have a guarantee the plan cannot be reversed by a new council.
- Are we accepting erosion at certain points, are dwellingss affected and do they need to be moved?

“Our communities lack connected infrastructure dedicated to walking, biking, mobility, which means people rely on vehicle transport to get them where they want to go. We want it to be easier for people to choose environmentally friendly transport options, and leverage the value that less cars can have on the enjoyment of public places in our district”

Well that sounds good but halving the budget for cycling to create these options does not fit with this statement. Timaru has been very lucky to have MyWay, more designated stops and extended hours have certainly improved the possibilities for the city, and while the surrounding towns have community cars I want the council to work with ECan to improve interregional options. I have included this in my submission to ECan as well. I want to see strong support for interregional buses and trains and want council to lobby for these options on our behalf. It should be possible to create a cycle route around Timaru with protected lanes, not just painted on the street. A number of streets are wide enough to accommodate this. Less parents turning up in cars at schools will make transport for students much safer. More regional transport will benefit the increasing number of elderly people unable to self drive.

Airport

Two local elections ago I spoke to the then candidate for mayor Nigel Bowen and told him I did not agree with changes to the airport due to the poor service of Air New Zealand. Constant delays and cancellations needed to be addressed first. Lots of promises made, larger planes are now used which I suppose makes the work for the staff at the airport easier after the renovation. However the service, despite endless promises but zero delivery, have not improved at all so I do not want any more money spend on the extension of the landing strip. We cannot influence adverse weather events but poor maintenance, poor staff management, minimum interest in clients and lack of alternatives can be addressed. I want to see a clear plan on how they will deal with customers that are stranded after cancellations. The argument that a pre paid trip is no guarantee it will actually happen is very poor. If I pay for a washing machine I expect it to be delivered, so if I pay for travel it should be delivered and not at extra cost and effort on my account. We can allocate that money on climate change mitigation.

Thank you
Gerrie Ligtenberg

██████████
██████████



9 May 2024

Timaru District Council
Upload via www.timaru.govt.nz/ltp

Dear Elected Members,

**SUBMISSION ON THE TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2024-2034
TIMARU CBD GROUP**

This is a submission on the Timaru District Council Long Term Plan 2024-2034 from the Timaru CBD Group.

BACKGROUND OF GROUP

The Timaru CBD Group is a registered Incorporated Society. The group was formed in April 2017 after the Timaru District Council facilitated consultation with business owners, building owners and the wider community and it was identified that a strong advocacy group was needed to maintain and enhance Timaru's vibrant town centre. An Executive Committee and three working groups were established to focus on different areas of responsibility for the Timaru CBD.

Over the past seven years the Timaru CBD Group has been active. Its Experience and Enhancement Working Group has run numerous successful promotions and events aiming to attract people into the Timaru CBD and to create a vibrant, lively and welcoming inner city. It has also been active in advocating on behalf of the town centre businesses and building owners on issues ranging from parking limits to the need for a master plan for the future development of the CBD. As part of advocacy work, the Timaru CBD Group successfully requested Timaru District Council to adopt a Business Improvement District policy. This policy has led the Timaru District Council to propose a targeted rate on Timaru CBD landowners that will be levied as part of the Long Term Plan 2024-2034. The targeted rate will fund the CBD Group's activities which are set out in their Draft Strategic Plan that has been previously provided to Council. The vision of the Draft Strategic Plan is:

‘We are a strong connected BID community. Our central destination is the number one choice where people want to work, live and play. Our business district thrives both economically and socially’.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF TIMARU’S CBD

The Timaru CBD is South Canterbury’s largest commercial centre and is also the largest commercial centre between Christchurch and Dunedin. The CBD is the social, cultural and economic heart of the South Canterbury area and contains large amounts of retail, hospitality, office, administrative and entertainment activities. The critical mass of these activities draws large amounts of people to the CBD daily.

CHALLENGES OF TIMARU’S CBD

Despite the many positive attributes of the Timaru CBD, it is subject to significant challenges. Parts of it are suffering from under investment. New buildings are rare. Vacancy is reaching concerning levels and large parts of the CBD have little or no activity at night. While there has been some new development, it is limited. Out of centre commercial development, including the TDHL and Council enabled Showgrounds Hill development, and internet shopping, threaten to draw significant trade and investment away from the CBD.

SUBMISSION

CityTown Master Plan

The Timaru CBD Group requests that the CityTown Master Plan is finalized, and sufficient funding and resourcing is provided for its implementation. Our key expectation is that the CityTown Master Plan provides an ambitious vision and comprehensive suite of actions to promote the social, cultural and economic regeneration of the Timaru CBD. A list of key minimum expectations as to what should be delivered and implemented as part of the CityTown Master Plan are set out in the relief sought section of this submission.

Council has invested approximately \$4m to date in the CityTown Master Plan project. While we consider this expenditure to be significantly out of proportion to the value delivered by the project to date, we support the finalization of the CityTown Master Plan.

The Timaru CBD Group considers that the CityTown Master Plan has the potential to establish a strategic vision for the Timaru CBD; coordinate actions to enable and promote its development;

and encourage private sector development. Implementation of the CityTown Master Plan will not only leverage the investment already made in the master plan, but it will also have a significant multiplier effect on promoting and enabling new development and retaining existing development in the Timaru CBD. The Timaru CBD Group considers that it is imperative that the Long Term Plan funds the implementation of the CityTown Master Plan. Providing insufficient funding to implement the CityTown Master Plan is highly likely to stymie private sector investment and growth in the Timaru CBD and continue its economic decline.

We understand Council currently has some hesitancy in progressing the Timaru CityTown Master Plan given some partly negative feedback received during the initial consultation. Despite the fact that the Timaru CBD Group has been critical of some of the initial consultation material associated with the CityTown Master Plan, that should not be interpreted that the group does not support the concept of the CityTown Master Plan and the benefits it can deliver. The strength of the Timaru CBD Groups' comments to date should be seen positively by Council as it represents an active, committed and engaged stakeholder group. Whilst there may be divergent views on certain matters, we see this as a positive contribution to the intellectual discussion and key to finding solutions to the complex challenges faced by the Timaru CBD.

Business Improvement District

The CBD Group applauds Timaru District Council for adopting the Business Improvement District policy and appreciates the leadership they have shown throughout this process. Timaru CBD Group requests that the LTP acknowledges the rationale and benefits for the establishment of the Business Improvement District and the need to continue to support it, including the targeted rate that funds the Timaru CDB Group's Business Improvement District. Doing so will provide a transparent justification for the targeted rate and the rationale and benefits for the establishment of the Business Improvement District.

The CBD Group also requests that the Council match the money generated by the targeted rate dollar for dollar (or part there of). The additional funds will help support the Business Improvement District and expedite the implementation of their Draft Strategic Plan.

Engagement with the CBD Group

The CBD Group also acknowledges the time and resources of Timaru District Council's elected members and staff in engaging with the Timaru CBD Group. The Timaru CBD Group requests that the Timaru District Council continue to resource and engage with it as the primary stakeholder representing the Timaru CBD. We continue to look forward to a positive and collaborative working relationship with Timaru District Council

Establishment of a Timaru CityTown Sub-Committee

The Timaru CBD Group requests that Timaru District Council establish a Timaru CityTown Sub-Committee aimed at advancing the growth and development of the Timaru CBD. The Timaru CBD Group considers that a Timaru CityTown Sub-Committee will provide critical political leadership and oversight of the implementation of the CityTown Master Plan and will also help advance the development and growth of the Timaru CBD.

The significance of the Timaru CBD, the magnitude of the challenges it faces and the scale and complexity of the task of implementing the CityTown Master Plan justifies a specific Timaru CityTown Sub-Committee. While the Timaru CBD Group appreciated the Council establishing and facilitating the CityTown Steering Group, our members had a growing sense of frustration with the limited mandate of that steering group and lack of representation from elected members. Timaru does not have the benefits and focus provided by a Community Board. A Timaru Citytown Sub-Committee would provide that focus.

It is crucial that the Timaru CBD Group has representation on the Timaru CityTown Sub-Committee as the primary stakeholder representing landowners and businesses in the Timaru CBD, and also as administrator of the Business Improvement District.

RELIEF SOUGHT

This submission seeks the following relief:

1. Timaru District Council continues to support and finance the finalization of the CityTown Master Plan.
2. Timaru District Council provides sufficient funding and resources to implement the CityTown Master Plan within the lifetime of the Long Term Plan. At a minimum the CityTown Master Plan should provide the following funding and resourcing:
 - a. Infrastructure upgrades and renewals to provide for the expected development capacity and growth in the Timaru's CBD.
 - b. Streetscape, public realm and public facilities upgrades in accordance with the CityTown Master Plan.
 - c. Periodic review of all Council controlled regulations that affect the Timaru CBD to ensure those regulations:
 - i. support residential and commercial development;
 - ii. align with each other where possible and desirable;
 - iii. are effective and efficient.
 - d. Continue to advocate that the Timaru CBD is well serviced by public transport.

3. The Long Term Plan acknowledges the need to continue to support the Business Improvement District including the targeted rate that funds the CBD Groups Business Improvement District. The LTP matches the money generated by the targeted rate dollar for dollar (or part there of).
4. Timaru District Council continues to resource and engage with the CBD Group as a stakeholder representing Timaru CBD landowners and businesses.
5. The establishment of a Timaru District Council CityTown Sub-Committee aimed at implementing the CityTown Master Plan and advancing the growth and development of the Timaru CBD, with representation on that sub-committee from the Timaru CBD Group.

HEARING

The CBD Group confirms it wishes to be heard in support of its submission.

Signed on behalf of the Timaru CBD Group,

Glen Patterson

Chair of the Timaru CBD Group

12 May 2024

To the Timaru District Council,

General Submission - Timaru District Council Long Term Plan 2024-34

I am writing to express my high level concerns regarding the current provisions for infrastructure funding and policy development outlined in the Timaru District Council Long Term Plan 2024-34.

As a resident who is passionate in the prosperity and sustainable growth of our district, I believe it is crucial to highlight these concerns to ensure our community's future success.

1. Diversifying Funding Sources for Growth:

It is evident that relying primarily on rates income to fund infrastructure projects is unsustainable and insufficient to support the level of growth anticipated in our district. I urge the council to explore alternative funding sources, such as seeking grants from central government initiatives dedicated to regional development. Additionally, the potential for public-private partnerships (PPPs) should be thoroughly investigated as a means to leverage private capital for essential infrastructure projects.

While rates will continue to play a role in funding, diversification is essential to alleviate the burden on ratepayers and ensure adequate resources for infrastructure development. I encourage the Council to actively pursue opportunities for external funding to support our community's growth aspirations.

It's common for some local Councils to use both Financial Contribution (FC) models and Development Contribution (DC) models to fund infrastructure projects associated with growth and development. Each model serves a different purpose and can potentially be implemented concurrently to ensure adequate funding for infrastructure needs (as long as they are not being taken for the same thing). Using both models simultaneously allows Councils to leverage different approaches to funding infrastructure, depending on the specific needs of the community and the nature of development projects.

Utilising an FC model only is reactive (i.e. only deals with the immediate need) whereas incorporating a DC model helps Council build up funding in advance to better deliver infrastructure without waiting until someone comes along, this helps facilitate growth and provides greater certainty to those looking to invest.

2. Development Contribution Policy:

For Timaru, the absence of a robust Development Contribution Policy poses a significant impediment to our ability to fund infrastructure projects essential for accommodating growth (whether it be Commercial, Industrial or Residential). A well-defined policy framework is essential to provide certainty on costs and enable delivery of infrastructure (Roading and Three Waters), which is extremely important for developers, businesses and industries looking to invest in Timaru.

Development Contributions help apportion costs over the Districts towns more evenly, ensuring that developers and those creating the demand/effect, contribute their fair share towards the costs of infrastructure expansion.

I urge the council to expedite a comprehensive Development Contribution Policy. One that is equitable, transparent, and reflective of the growth projections outlined in the Long Term Plan and that anticipated by Future Development Areas within the Proposed District Plan. It is imperative that this policy aligns with the needs of our evolving community, which includes the need for improved environmental outcomes such as increased stormwater treatment/management and consenting requirements, and provides a sustainable funding mechanism for infrastructure investment.

3. Infrastructure and Stormwater Management in Timaru/Washdyke:

The industrial growth potential of Washdyke presents a valuable opportunity for economic development and job creation within our District. However, I believe our District continues to miss opportunities to other Districts as a result of not being infrastructure 'ready' to fully realize this potential. Adequate infrastructure and stormwater management are paramount. This subsequently affects the actual and perceived growth in our District which in turn influences growth assumptions (i.e. you only will ever get what you have always got if you only ever plan by the rear vision mirror).

I urge Council to ensure enough funding has been allocated for infrastructure and stormwater management in this key area of Timaru. By investing in critical infrastructure now, a better foundation for long-term economic prosperity can be provided which will attract further investment to Washdyke and subsequently benefit the District.

In particular, budgets for stormwater treatment and management are often very hard to determine and can be under estimated due to better environmental outcomes being needed, including dealing with site specific constraints, building for resilience, as well as increased consenting and regulatory compliance. Subsequently I question whether conservatism has been built into the forecast funding.

In conclusion, I encourage the Timaru District Council to prioritize enabling growth through strategic infrastructure investment and policy development. By diversifying funding sources, establishing a robust Development Contribution Policy, and adequately funding infrastructure in key growth areas such as Washdyke.

Thank you for considering my input, and I trust that the Council will take proactive steps to address these crucial issues, as in my opinion this is one of the most significant issues holding our District back.

Sincerely,

Glen McLachlan

Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



We are writing to you as a group with a significant stake in the outcome of the current deliberations on the future of the stadium complex who do not feel recognized as "stakeholders" in the process.

Aorangi Stadium includes a gymnasium with a wide range of equipment for weight training and other exercises typically used for "fitness circuit" classes. This area can accommodate up to 50 people in a single class.

Whilst many of the services provided by this facility are now catered for by the C Bay complex near Caroline Bay, Aorangi Stadium remains the preferred venue for Timaru senior citizens formal exercise classes. Around 7 one hour classes are run during the Monday to Friday working week throughout the year. These classes are attended by Timaru seniors equating to in excess of 200 "man hours" per week making this group of individuals collectively a principal user of this facility during the working week throughout the entire year.

Most of us pay \$5.50 per 1 hour session for these classes. Some individuals are funded to attend by 3rd parties.

Why don't we use C Bay?

C Bay does not have the space to accommodate a group of our size.

Seniors generally prefer to exercise in a non-competitive environment catering to their diverse needs dictated by the typical issues experienced by our cohort. (A cohort which is predicted to continue growing as a proportion of the Timaru population)

During weekdays Aorangi is easily accessed by foot, bicycle and car by the majority of users.

A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

You are currently deliberating over the option of building a new facility at Aorangi or upgrading the current facility. We acknowledge that either way we will lose the use of Aorangi Stadium for a period of time. Obviously our preference would be for a solution that minimizes disruption to our use of the gym.

We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

NAME Graeme Howes

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

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NAME

GRANT KEELEY

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE



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NAME *Hank Veldstra*

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

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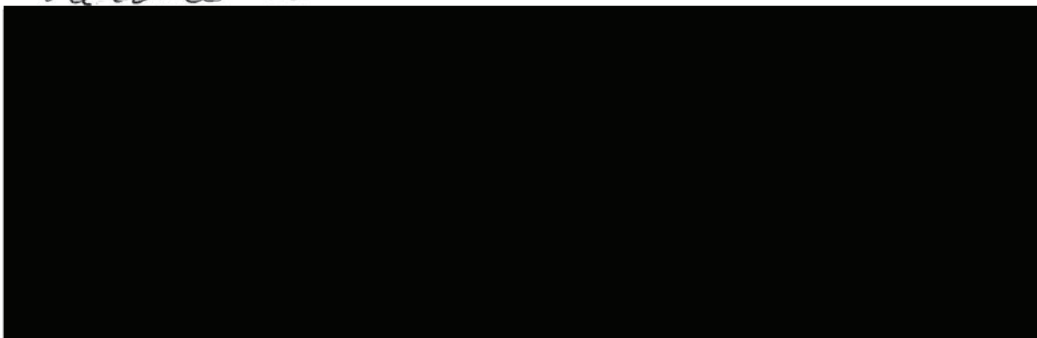
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Heather Chene



Hermann Frank
Timaru
New Zealand

6 May 2020

Submission
re Long Term Plan 2024 – 2034

Generally I agree with proposed preferred options and just would like to make a few comments.

1. I agree that the balance between core tasks and community spending should remain at the current level i.e. about 80/20 percent. As it is noted, while infrastructure is critical, for us to attract people and keep them in our district we also need to make it a great place to live with things for people to do.

I would highlight a few of these things stated on the Council website:

- being able to preserve and display the taonga that tell the story of the district
- all the sports fields, skate parks, playgrounds, halls, theatres and walking tracks that give energy and life to the district.
- also under 'Corporate activities', it is mentioned that the Council has the task "to manage the natural and built environment sustainably"

2. Again, the preferred option of maintaining the current level of spending is supported. In line with the point 1 above, I would ask to maintain the current (relatively low) level of spending to preserve and where possible enhance the special biodiversity in the District.

To my knowledge, this is currently undertaken through supporting work in SNAs. It is important to maintain SNA funding at current, or an increased level, so that initiatives such as the SNA grant scheme, and work on biodiversity sensitive areas such as limestone scarps and coastal lagoons and wetlands can continue. This has been undertaken in conjunction with land owners and other agencies and has also been a great way to build or maintain relationships. The Council has supported work in the past few years. To make a more lasting impact this would need to continue. I also note that for many years the employment of a 'Biodiversity Officer' has been discussed, but never implemented.

3. While the Council might not have many flexibility to decrease costs or increase income, just three areas where I have some concerns:

- a. Why is the increase in rates for rural properties substantially lower than in town areas?
- b. the expenditure for 'Democracy' nearly doubles over the length of this Long Term Plan. While the Council has responsibility to be open and transparent, this increase does not seem to be justified
- b. Regarding Fees, most of them would not cover costs, but in some areas this might possible e.g. dog registration and animal control. So there should be some flexibility here.

Regards
H Frank

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In addition, this support form the Gymnasium is a specialist facility providing rehabilitation for all claimants and as such constitutes a valuable related asset. Further, a subjective assessment of participants reflects many deaths on past papers.

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted signature block]



c/- Ines Stäger

Geraldine

Geraldine 12 May 2024

Timaru District Council
2 King George Place
Timaru

Via email: ltf@timdc.govt.nz

Feedback on Timaru District Draft Long Term Plan 2024/34 “Finding the Balance”

Introduction

The Talbot Forest Working Group (TFWG) was formed in 1997 following a seminar held in Geraldine to draw attention to issues facing Talbot Forest Scenic Reserve (TFSR). Talbot Forest has national significance as a unique remnant of a low rainfall mixed podocarp hardwood forest. For such a fragment of native forest to have survived in such close proximity to an urban environment is a rarity in Canterbury. The forest is a fantastic asset to Geraldine. The long-tailed bats and rifleman are two rare species that are present in Talbot Forest and surrounding areas.

The TFW group is comprised of representatives from the Department of Conservation, Environment Canterbury, Timaru District Council, Geraldine Community Board and members of the local community (volunteers).

The group's broad objectives are:

1. The provision of information that will contribute to the wellbeing of Talbot Forest Scenic Reserve and environs.
2. The protection and enhancement of existing native vegetation remnants.
3. Working to establish appropriate linkages to Talbot Forest to provide wildlife corridors.

The group is a strong voice and advocate for the enhancement of the landscape and biodiversity values of the area. It communicates and consults with the community over conservation issues and raises awareness. The group provides educational displays for events, writes, and contributes to newsletters and articles in the media. Workshops for the public on pest control and guided tours for school groups and the public have been held. TFWG has made submissions to annual and longterm plans before and submitted on plan changes relating to the Geraldine Downlands landscape and biodiversity values, pest

management strategies and effects from artificial lighting on wildlife particularly Pekapeka-tou-roa/long-tailed bats.

General comments

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the LTP 2024 -2034.

TFWG is generally supportive of the LTP and TDC's focus on striking a balance between rates affordability and meeting levels of service delivery. From the document it is not clear how this may be measured or monitored.

Climate change

Climate change affects us and our environment in many different forms: flooding, sea level rise, extreme weather events which seem to be occur increasingly frequent.

Trends gained from observations and research indicate that space invaders (pest plants, mostly garden escapees) are already increasing rapidly. More exotic plants will naturalise themselves in amongst indigenous ecosystems, having adverse effects on our biodiversity. Garden escapees such as Chilean flamecreeper, bittersweet, jasmine etc. used to get frosted three decades ago, which reduced the vigour of those plants. With milder winters they no longer get frosted and as a result strangle plants in bush and forest remnants. Similarly, infestations by pest animals and other organisms are exacerbated by the changing climatic conditions.

We urge the Council to plan for resilience, mitigation, and adoption now so that as a region we are ready in case of an event and subsequent impacts. Adequate resources are needed now, to develop such a plan.

Flooding events up north have clearly shown that, we are not equipped to deal with a catastrophe.

All decisions and actions need to consider the changes in climate and environmental impact. Deferring actions means more resources are needed in the future to minimise impacts.

We urge the council to invest in nature-based solutions, which can address climate change in three ways:

- Decrease greenhouse gas emissions related to deforestation and land use.
- Capture and store carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.
- Enhance resilience of ecosystems, and as such support societies to adapt to climate hazards such as flooding, sea-level rise, and more frequent and intense droughts, floods, heatwaves, and wildfires.

Biodiversity

Environmental well-being will contribute towards and benefit the well-being of our community. Timaru District Council has done an excellent job in identifying, mapping, and listing Significant Natural Areas in the TDC Plan. To protect, maintain, and enhance these SNAs, adequate resources are needed.

Biodiversity indicators across the region continue to decline. This is disappointing as considerable effort by community groups, businesses, the farming community, individuals etc. has gone into protection and enhancement of indigenous ecosystems.

We understand, the SNA budget is to be cut by 50%, which means less can be achieved. We urge the council to increase its environmental health funding to include meaningful community biodiversity fund to help land occupiers with SNA on their property to protect, maintain and enhance them. First and foremost, it is crucial to protect indigenous biodiversity that remains in the district before restoring what has been lost - nature does a far better job than we are able to. Therefore, it is urgent to assist in looking after SNAs.

We encourage the Council to employ a suitably qualified biodiversity person, to ensure SNA values and other biodiversity values within the district are enhanced through supporting landowners and care takers with advice, through advocacy and raising awareness.

TDC was a signatory to the Biodiversity Strategy for the Canterbury Region. We understand that the Regional Council has recently invited stakeholders to a meeting with the aim to revitalise the Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy. We urge TDC to participate in the strategy revitalisation process.

Biosecurity

Exacerbated by climate change, diseases and animal and pest plants are on the increase and pose a risk to people, to nature and to the economy.

TDC has been co-operative in removing weed pests from council land in Geraldine. But roadsides also host much unwanted vegetation. At present just gorse and broom are targeted; other invasive species should also be dealt with, particularly in areas near and adjacent to indigenous ecosystems.

We encourage the council to resource biosecurity to protect nature, communities, and the economy.

Infrastructure and tourism

TFWG has in the past presented and submitted on the impact of lighting. Excessive lighting affects the natural environment and its inhabitants, as well as people. While energy efficient lighting is supported, there are risks to wildlife and humans from exposure to blue LED light outside daylight hours.

Provisions for down lighting, instead of lighting up the sky, has been achieved through the district plan for the Geraldine Downs. Monitoring is essential to reduce adverse effects on fauna. Such provisions should be taken further across the district.

The natural environment, such as outstanding natural features and landscapes, and clear night skies are being widely promoted to entice visitors to the district. Tourists are encouraged to stay and experience these assets.

A policy framework and robust light management is needed to reduce light pollution now and for future generations.

The latest protected dark sky area in place is in Oxford Forest Conservation Area with the aim of extending the project to include the township of Oxford and beyond.

Conclusion

We urge the Council to act on climate change now, to be prepared and to protect the good work that has already been done through the SNA programme etc.. The well-being of the community is important; therefore, our environment needs to be protected and not degraded. Future generations have a right to a healthy environment.

Talbot Forest Working Group wishes to be heard.

Ines Stäger

On behalf of Talbot Forest Working Group

Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



We are writing to you as a group with a significant stake in the outcome of the current deliberations on the future of the stadium complex who do not feel recognized as "stakeholders" in the process.

Aorangi Stadium includes a gymnasium with a wide range of equipment for weight training and other exercises typically used for "fitness circuit" classes. This area can accommodate up to 50 people in a single class.

Whilst many of the services provided by this facility are now catered for by the C Bay complex near Caroline Bay, Aorangi Stadium remains the preferred venue for Timaru senior citizens formal exercise classes. Around 7 one hour classes are run during the Monday to Friday working week throughout the year. These classes are attended by Timaru seniors equating to in excess of 200 "man hours" per week making this group of individuals collectively a principal user of this facility during the working week throughout the entire year.

Most of us pay \$5.50 per 1 hour session for these classes. Some individuals are funded to attend by 3rd parties.

Why don't we use C Bay?

C Bay does not have the space to accommodate a group of our size.

Seniors generally prefer to exercise in a non-competitive environment catering to their diverse needs dictated by the typical issues experienced by our cohort. (A cohort which is predicted to continue growing as a proportion of the Timaru population)

During weekdays Aorangi is easily accessed by foot, bicycle and car by the majority of users.

A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

You are currently deliberating over the option of building a new facility at Aorangi or upgrading the current facility. We acknowledge that either way we will lose the use of Aorangi Stadium for a period of time. Obviously our preference would be for a solution that minimizes disruption to our use of the gym.

We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

NAME *Ingrid Wilson, Karen McKechnie, Pam Allan, Melissa Welsh, Mura Adams*

ADDRESS [Redacted]

PHONE [Redacted]

EMAIL [Redacted]

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My Physio
36 Waihi Rd
PO Box 4053
Highfield Taranaki 7942
060559

My Physio Ltd

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NAME *J. DARLING*

ADDRESS



PHONE



EMAIL

SIGNATURE



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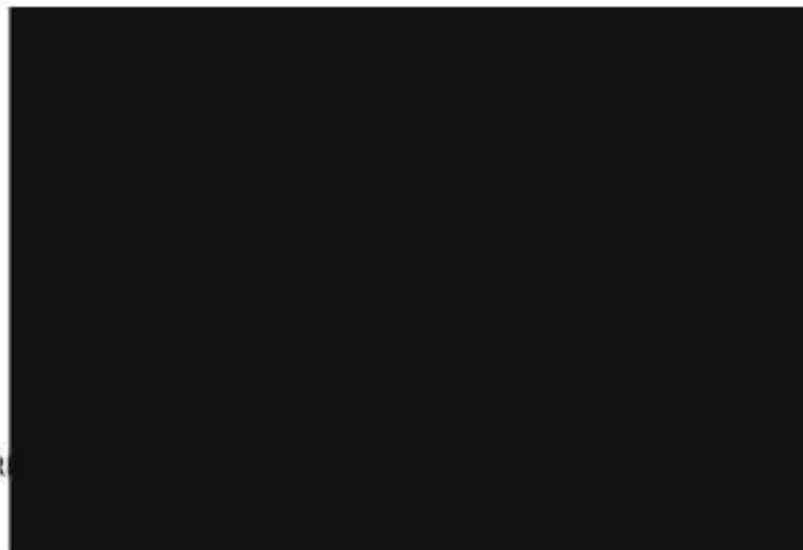
NAME *J.C. A von Valkengoed*

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE



Geraldine Community Board
Jan.Finlayson@timdc.govt.nz

12 May 2024

Mayor Nigel Bowen
Timaru District Council
ltp@timdc.govt.nz

Kia ora Nigel,

Geraldine Community Board submission on Timaru District Council draft 2024-2034 Long Term Plan

The Board wishes to be heard in support of its submission.

The Geraldine Community Board acknowledges its opportunity to comment on the Timaru District Council draft 2024-2034 Long Term Plan. This submission addresses district-wide and Geraldine-related matters.

Introduction

The Board acknowledges the Timaru District Council's ongoing responsiveness to the specific and general needs and interests of the Geraldine ward.

In particular, the Board acknowledges funding, in the operative Long Term Plan, for items in the *Geraldine, Woodbury, Peel Forest, Orari and Surrounds Strategic Framework 2023-2033*. The framework's development drew strong engagement by the community and resulted in a plan with a coherent view of the Geraldine ward's future, including priorities. The Board is alert to budgetary constraints relating to the 2024-2034 LTP, but wishes to see capacity to deliver on strategic framework items built in. This submission addresses many of these items.

The Board acknowledges the Geraldine ward's place as part of the wider Timaru district.

District-wide considerations

Debt cap

The Board agrees with the Council's proposal to raise the debt cap to 2.5 times income. That agreement is qualified, however.

If the proposal is approved, it will see the district ‘going out on a limb’, with reduced room for adaptation to significant unexpected events. On the other hand, retaining a debt cap of 2.1 times income would likely result in non-completion of infrastructural work whose grandparenting onto future ratepayers and residents would be unjust and difficult to manage practically. On these grounds, the proposed increase is prudent. However, it should be treated as exceptional and a concerted effort should be made to bring the debt cap back down to 2.1 times income as quickly as practicable.

Recommendation:

- **The debt cap should be: raised to 2.5 times income to enable necessary infrastructure work; and restored to 2.1 times income as quickly as practicable.**

Rates

The Board accepts that district-wide LTP rates increases are needed in order to get necessary work done and to spread the load across the district and through time. An increase of an average 18% for Geraldine ratepayers against lower increases for other parts of the district warrants reconsideration, however. The Board acknowledges the many factors involved in setting of rates, but suggests there would be unfairness in such a disproportionate increase.

Community board targeted rates should increase by \$1 per year to help boards respond to requests for support, and in line with costs increases generally.

Recommendations:

- **In principle, rates increases should go ahead as per above.**
- **The proposed Geraldine average rates increase of 18% should be reconsidered.**
- **The community board targeted rate should increase by \$1.**

Fees

The Board accepts proposed fees and charges relating to services as justifiable, whether user-pays or shared-cost (or some combination), and where increases are due to underlying cost increases. However, costs relating to Land Information Memoranda – in particular, \$450 for LIMs for residential single units - stand out as worthy of reconsideration.

Such high cost to property owners for existing information about their own properties is somewhat unusual. It is more so when considered that other members of the public may possess information about an owner’s property which the owner does not possess, and may struggle to obtain due to cost. For Geraldine residential property owners, many of whom are on low fixed incomes, and, of course, for others in the wider district, this is a real possibility.

The Board asks that the Council reconsider LIM costs in this light.

Recommendation:

- **Land Information Memoranda costs should be reconsidered as per above.**

Theatre Royal and Heritage Hub

The Board wishes to see planning for the Theatre Royal and Heritage Hub construction amended, in the lights of the wider district's present financial circumstances and the circumstances of Geraldine's own town hall/cinema.

The Board acknowledges the work done to enable the project's completion to a high standard at agreed cost. However, that cost is too high for the district at present. It would be preferable for the work to be staged so that the theatre can be opened for the district's use as soon as possible, leaving the heritage hub components until financial pressure on the Council has diminished.

Additionally, it is with some chagrin to Geraldine residents that, against a backdrop of Council commitment to the Timaru theatre, formal commitment to earthquake strengthening of their own town hall/cinema is yet to come. Staging the Timaru-based project over time will, as well as relieving wider financial pressures, better enable the Geraldine work. This issue is addressed in more detail later in this submission.

Recommendation:

- **The Theatre Royal and Heritage Hub project should be staged as per above.**

Timaru Airport

District residents and others flying on commercial flights to and from the area appreciate the convenience of Timaru Airport. Local and other recreational aviators have significant interest in the airport also. The Board's understanding is that Council budget and the future of Air New Zealand's Q300 fleet (and potential replacement aircraft) are primary factors in Timaru Airport upgrade planning. The Board requests that, in addition, the recreational aviation community be equally involved in any upgrade planning envisaged by the LTP.

Recommendation:

- **Timaru Airport upgrade planning envisaged by the LTP should include thorough consultation with the recreational aviation community.**

AF8 and climate disruption readiness

Council workstreams on district preparedness for Alpine Fault rupture - which is overdue and will almost certainly be catastrophic for the whole district - and climate disruption should continue, in part because empirical data indicate need, and in part because suspending the work with a view to eventual resumption would likely result in inefficiencies. The temporal qualities of the two forces – one characterised by

immediacy and the other by drawn-out complexities – should be taken into account when providing for the work in the LTP.

Recommendation:

- **Workstreams on AF8 rupture and climate disruption should continue as per above.**

Rural roading

The Board acknowledges the Council’s work to get best value from its roading budget, including in rural contexts. Given its present financial circumstances, the Board does not suggest significant new spending; however, it is important that there is enough resourcing to allow timely roading development where roading problems arise from changed use patterns. Additionally, rural roading maintenance levels should be retained, with provision for increase where changes in use lead to greater wear.

Recommendation:

- **Rural roading should be sufficiently resourced to allow development and maintenance response to changes in use.**

Investigate bringing district roading provision in-house

Ongoing reported dissatisfaction with contracted roading provision suggests it would be worthwhile for Council to consider bringing roading provision in-house.

Issues reported relate largely to work quality and longevity, contractor lack of discretion over project scope, and focus on short-term outcomes. In-house ‘ownership’ of roading provision would almost certainly have the advantages of local and (increasingly) institutional knowledge, improved accountability, and certain discretion around projects’ scope, with a view to the district’s roading ‘big picture’.

Consideration of transitioning to in-house roading provision will be a complex process, but one worth undertaking, in the Board’s view. Further, if its conclusion is that the status quo is preferable, at least the Council and the district will understand why.

Recommendation:

- **Consideration should be given to bringing district roading provision in-house.**

Geraldine-specific matters

Strategic framework funding

Funding for items in the *Geraldine, Woodbury, Peel Forest, Orari and Surrounds Strategic Framework 2023-2033* was provided in the final year of the operative LTP. The framework is proving its worth by holding the focus of the Board and the wider community; it is a community-built ‘big-picture’. The Board asks that LTP funding for a

similar level of provision, probably at the three-year marks, be dedicated to achieving objects of the framework (over and above objects addressed by funding from other budget lines).

Additionally, the Board requests resourcing for framework refresh. Ideally, refreshes should take place approximately every three years, preferably once per local government triennium.

Recommendations:

- **The LTP should include funding for objects of the *Geraldine, Woodbury, Peel Forest, Orari and Surrounds Strategic Framework 2023-2033 as per above.***
- **The LTP should include resourcing for refresh of the framework.**

Council-owned property

Geraldine town hall/cinema

The Board requests earthquake strengthening of the Geraldine town hall/cinema take place and that lease arrangements support the community's continued access to the cinema as far as possible.

Reserve gazettal

Certain council-owned land parcels assumed by the Geraldine and wider communities to be secured formally as reserves are not in fact gazetted under the Reserves Act 1977. These include, for example, Kennedy Park, Riddells 'reserve', Pekapeka Gully, and Todd Park. For many, their gazettal as reserves, probably recreation reserves, would improve public certainty about their management and relevant decision-making; for other parcels, there may be benefit in reservation with reserve status other than recreation. The Board suggests the Council consider a stocktake of its land parcels in the Geraldine ward with a view to reserve gazettal as appropriate.

For land parcels with plantation trees' harvest pending, any gazettal should be undertaken after harvest and associated clean-up.

Geraldine Domain playground

Need for renewal of the Geraldine Domain playground has been on the table over a long period, in part because it receives regular intensive use by locals and visitors and is showing signs of that heavy wear, and in part because work on its reconceptualization was initiated at public expense as part of the Geraldine Sculpture Trail's early stages.

The Board asks that initiation of Geraldine Domain playground renewal be included in the LTP, for its ongoing enjoyment and utility by locals and visitors, and for coherence with wider Geraldine facilities including the GST.

Geraldine Pool development feasibility

The Board in November 2023 pledged \$10,000 from its discretionary fund for a study of the feasibility of redesigning Geraldine Pool, including its potential roofing. This

followed advocacy by community group the Geraldine Pool Committee. The Board saw potential benefit of such a study for a significant part of the local community.

A recent development, perhaps temporarily setting this aside, is a Council decision to obtain a study of the feasibility of the Council pool network, funded through the LTP. For now, the Board is open-minded about the value of that work; however, the Board requests that, throughout, the study keep in view the Geraldine-specific circumstances and purpose of the Pool Committee's work and the Board's discretionary fund pledge.

Non-motorised recreation and commuter assets

Multi-use non-motorised recreation and commuter trails on council-owned land, and in connection with other land, are valued by Geraldine ward residents. Older average age of residents, community interest in outdoor recreation, and community interest in natural environmental matters mean there is a strong audience for easily-accessed trails for recreation. Relative proximity of much of the ward's housing to schools, workplaces, and facilities means the trails are also used for commuting.

The Board requests the Council maintain and enhance Geraldine multi-use non-motorised recreation and commuter assets.

Council-owned buildings in Geraldine

Consideration should be given, within the span of the LTP, to completing a stocktake of Geraldine ward council-owned buildings with a view to statutory requirements including earthquake strengthening.

Recommendations:

The Board:

- **requests earthquake strengthening of Geraldine's town hall/cinema and support for ongoing community access to the cinema as far as possible.**
- **suggests reserve gazettal of certain council land parcels as per above.**
- **requests initiation of Geraldine Domain playground renewal.**
- **requests Geraldine's unique circumstances be kept in view in the Council pool network feasibility study.**
- **requests the council maintain and enhance Geraldine multi-use non-motorised recreation and commuter assets.**
- **suggests a stocktake of the ward's council-owned buildings as per above.**

Other Geraldine issues

Response to changing use of roads and roadside land in small townships

Changing patterns of use of roads and roadsides in and around small townships can affect those townships. Changes in ownership of rural properties sharing roads with the townships, and changes in use of the townships' buildings, for example, can trigger qualitatively and quantitatively different vehicle and visitor use. In turn, this can create issues which were hitherto absent, for example, increased pedestrian/cyclist/bridle needs and parking requirements.

The Board suggests the LTP include explicit capacity to respond appropriately where changing patterns of use of roads and roadsides affects the Geraldine ward's small townships.

Events

Community-generated and -hosted free and low-cost events play a significant role in the life of the Geraldine ward. They attract locals and visitors, bringing entertainment and cohesion, and supporting the local economy. The Board appreciates past support from the Council for events in Geraldine, and asks that resourcing for small and large community events continues to be available.

Pest animal control

Considerable public and private pest animal control is undertaken within the Geraldine ward. There is some strategic coordination between regimes; in such situations, the collective effort's effectiveness can be greater than the sum of its parts. The Board suggests the Council increase collaboration with other organisations performing pest animal control to further increase effectiveness of pest animal control in the area.

Geraldine Academy of Performance and Arts

The Board asks that the Council support, as appropriate and possible, action by the Academy to secure its future as a main provider of the arts, and education in the arts, in the Geraldine area.

Timaru Botanical Gardens satellite

An increasing number of rare plants have been planted alongside the Geraldine Waihi River Trails. Many of the rhododendrons among them have been planted, and will be planted, as back-ups for rare rhododendrons at internationally recognised plant collection, Pukeiti. In order to ensure the plants' ongoing maintenance, and to recognise the plants' and the collection's botanical significance, the Board suggests the area be designated a satellite of the Timaru Botanic Gardens.

Ongoing relationships with community organisations

Significant benefit accrues from Council relationships with Geraldine community organisations such as the Geraldine Waihi River Trails Group, the Talbot Forest Working Group, the Geraldine Sculpture Trail, the Peel Forest Outdoor Centre, and others. The relationships are codified variously, including through reference in the strategic framework. The Board requests that the council continue such relationships due to their value.

Recommendations:

The Board:

- **suggests the LTP include responsiveness where changing use of roads and roadsides affects small townships as per above.**
- **requests that availability of resourcing for small and large community events continue.**
- **suggests increased collaboration with other organisations on pest animal control.**

- requests the LTP include support for the Geraldine Academy of Performance and Arts, as appropriate and possible, in its work to secure its future.
- suggests the area alongside the Geraldine Waihi River Trails be designated a satellite of the Timaru Botanic Garden (boundary to be determined).
- requests continuation of relationships between community organisations and the Council as per above.

Related additional matters

Rating review and central government regulation's impact on infrastructure costs

The Board wishes to raise two matters related to, but not in the direct scope of, the LTP.

With the Three Waters legislation repealed, and, anecdotally, queries about rating fairness rising in number, the Board would like to offer support for what it understands is Council's intention to hold a rating review, as soon as practicable.

Additionally, the Board understands that infrastructure costs have risen sharply and out of proportion to the Consumers Price Index in recent years, causing downstream significant cost increases for ratepayers and residents. Where these increases are related to central government regulation, advocacy for review of relevant regulation is warranted. To be clear, the Board is not opposed to regulation *per se*; rather, the Board's view is that downsides (financial, temporal, and other) of abundant regulation have potential to outweigh its positives. The Board suggests the Council investigate, as far as possible, negative impact of regulation on council infrastructure provision, with a view to advocacy for central government action to reduce that impact.

Recommendations:

- **A rating review should be undertaken as soon as practicable.**
- **The Council should consider advocacy for reduced central government-directed regulation as per above.**

Kā mihi,

Jan Finlayson,
Chair, Geraldine Community Board.

Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



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Jan Reedes



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NAME

Jonathan Innes.

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE



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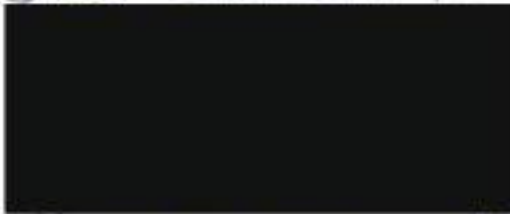
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JANET ELIZABETH YOUNG



Timaru, 7910. Email



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Janice Green





Peel Forest Outdoor Centre

Long Term Plan Submission 2024

Summary:

The Centre has a history dating back to 1994 when the Peel Forest Outdoor Pursuits Charitable Trust, a registered Charitable Trust (CC23343) trading as the Peel Forest Outdoor Centre (PFOC) Trust was established to oversee skills training, outdoor education & recreation, and environmental education programmes at Peel Forest and throughout Canterbury.

PFOC delivers outdoor education to around 4,000 young people in the high season (September through to May) annually and is one of the largest, single visitor contacts (whether an attraction and/or accommodation) in the area.

The Centre works with schools and youth groups delivering a range of outdoor activities, and environmental education and providing accommodation to meet the needs of clients. This delivery can be one-off activities, multi-day camps, 7-day developmental programmes or continuous delivery of the school's outdoor education programmes.

Other business includes the delivery of holiday programmes to children and families to support the local community during the holiday periods. We provide courses to the local community for those wishing to develop personal skills for adventure races and safety in the outdoors that include, river safety, kayaking and navigation. We also rent our accommodation to visitors to be able to enjoy Peel Forest during weekends and holidays.

PFOC, like outdoor education historically, has focussed its delivery on youth due to its proven ability for personal and social development.

The Centre has worked with 18 out of 28 schools in the Timaru District as well as other youth groups within the district including the YMCA, Scouts, Girl Guides, Adventure Development etc.

In addition, PFOC has worked with 85 other school and youth groups that come from as far south as Dunedin and north as North Canterbury.

Clients come from a broad range of socio-economic backgrounds with PFOC working closely with groups that support all abilities and those at most risk. These include YMCA, 180 Degree's Trust, Recreate NZ, and NZ Defence Force Youth Development to name a few, but all benefit from professionally and safely delivered outdoor and environmental education programmes.

As we look to the future and consider your document Finding the Balance (long-Term Plan 2024-2034) which is out for consultation we believe...

- the council has got their split of funding right in their document Finding the Balance (Long-Term plan 2024-2034) that is out for consultation.

While infrastructure should be a priority, and as indicated around 80% of the capital spending is on water, roads and waste, no one wants to live in a district with nothing to see or do.

It is about providing the kind of services and community facilities that make people want to visit and move to the district, and hopefully make it their home and keep those already in our district.

- Balancing user pays with the common good makes logical sense, and
- We support balancing income and costs.

While supporting the above the Peel Forest Outdoor Centre also requests that the Timaru District Council:



- Recognises the significance of the PFOC to the district and acknowledges its contribution to environmental education and experiential learning for young people (and the wider community) in its Long-Term Plan.
- Provides for holding the current PFOC property rental for the term of the lease so that the centre can minimise any increases passed onto schools.
- Recognises the involvement of key members of the PFOC (Mgmt and Board) involved in the draft strategy development of PARS (Play, Active Recreation and Sport). This strategy on adoption will encourage innovative thinking and a positive impact towards well people and places of the Timaru District.

Connection to District's Community Wellbeing Outcomes & DOC strategy:

The activities of the Centre and its teaching/education align with key community well-being outcomes of the Timaru District Council and therefore have an important role to play in supporting the delivery of the district's Long-Term Plan (LTP) while giving energy and life to the district.

At the same time given the highlighted importance of environmental sustainability, it is relevant to consider the principles and goals of the Dept of Conservation Heritage & Visitor Strategy. The Centre works closely with the Department of Conservation (DOC) including programmes such as predator trapping.

Several trends are affecting how outdoor education programmes in New Zealand are currently run:

- ▶ Sustainability is becoming more popular amongst schools and young people. Equipment manufacturers are going green, outdoor industries including clothing manufacturers are ramping up sustainability efforts,
- ▶ Population increases are placing pressure on our natural recreation and wilderness areas,
- ▶ Natural history – knowing how to identify trees, birds, and flowers, is likely to re-emerge as being important. In addition, the concern for childhood obesity and well-being will increase the importance of developing a love of the outdoors.
- ▶ We are in an era of student experiential learning. Environmental education provides skills and new ideas to address pollution, recycling, depletion of resources and changing climates.

While “environment and sustainability” are important issues for schools, in choosing their school camps there are other more important considerations – activities on offer, distance from school, costs and accommodation facilities.

PFOC is nationally respected and recognised for having been at the forefront of developing an environmental education ethos. It is one of the few core sites that still has the infrastructure and staffing ability to offer exceptional (combined or otherwise) environmental and outdoor programmes.

PFOC's geographic position in Central South Island means it is well-located for easy regional access from rural and urban schools and other communities of demand.

Delivering land-based and river-based activities the centre acknowledges a deep sense of protection and management of the whenua. Global and local impacts such as climate change and water pollution can affect local habitats as well as how people perceive, relate to and care for them.

To look after both the landscape its stories, flora, and fauna for future generations we look forward to developing further our knowledge while working more closely with Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua. Having mana whenua of the area their voice is paramount. Currently, a trapping network is being drawn up linking with the Rangitata Restoration project, Project Peel and DOC.

Community Contribution:



PFOC works closely with and contributes significantly to, the community around it. The schools and youth are where it has focussed, but its wider impact includes:

- Since its inception in 1994 has generated a turnover of \$15.1m. Much of this has been returned to the local economy by way of staff wages, local businesses providing sales and services that support the delivery of activities and programmes and ongoing costs of running the Centre e.g., ground and building maintenance, fuel and vehicle costs, food purchases etc.
- It has worked with and supported Peel Forest businesses including The Green Man, Rangitata Rafts and Hidden Valleys by passing on trade, sharing staff and hiring equipment and facilities.
- Worked alongside DOC, paying concessions for the use of the scenic reserve that contributes to its upkeep.
- Rented the reserve land from Timaru District Council it uses in Peel Forest that has few alternative use options.
- Employed people from the local community in a range of roles.
- Provided information and assisted tourists visiting the area in the absence of an information centre in the village.
- Worked alongside and supported environmental groups including Project Peel, Orari River Protection Group, Rangitata Restoration Project, ECAN and DOC. Currently, a trapping network is being drawn up with the site linking with Project Peel, DOC, and the Rangitata Restoration Project.

Its impact further afield includes:

- Providing training, work experiences and development opportunities to aspiring outdoor professionals, working with polytechnics and universities. Staff have gone on to work at Outward Bound or even started their own companies.
- Provide staffing and equipment for national events such as Spring Challenge, Summer Challenge, and the Coast 2 Coast.
- Purchased specialist equipment from NZ outdoor retailers.
- Contributed to the national professional outdoors and environmental education community (in which staff and instructors are active participants)

Going Forward:

Being able to grow activities in the Peel Forest area and enable more of the community to experience the region would benefit the district and therefore the PFOC has an important role to play in supporting the delivery of the district's Long-Term Plan (LTP 2021-2031), the blueprint for the delivery of Council Services over the next 10 years.

Focus areas include:

- ▶ **Connected Citizens...**bringing groups together from within and outside of the district to engage in outdoor & environmental activities/learnings with professional instructors for personal growth and insightful enjoyment. The centre working alongside partners like DOC and Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua can take a role in advocacy and leadership in authentic, distinctive, and environmentally sustainable programmes.
- ▶ **Enhanced Lifestyle...**community wellbeing is enhanced by spending more time in the outdoors and access to native bush, flora, and fauna. Peel Forest has much to share with the wider district community.



- ▶ Sustainable Environment...encourage biodiversity, kaitiakitanga and a clean environment by supporting the centre to tell the eco story through various educational mediums, platforms, and partners to enhance the Peel Forest area.
- ▶ Diverse Economy...leveraging local strength and thriving together by partnering with the centre and other parties creating future possibilities/partnerships to continue the journey of the centre and the environment for the long-term future of the wider community, and
- ▶ Resilient Infrastructure...investment in the future by creating a partnership between parties e.g., PFOC, DOC, TDC, Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua, to enable future eco collaboration & development of the Peel Forest area for wider community participation.

Why we are needed:

At the Peel Forest Outdoor Centre, **we focus on developing programmes and activities that offer lasting, life-changing outcomes for individuals and the community we live in together.**

The statistics below highlight some of the challenges we face AND we need to acknowledge we are part of the solution.

We need to encourage our children into the outdoors to allow them to develop normal, essential life and survival skills that are important in daily life as well as during crises ie natural disasters (earthquakes, floods). Our young people need to experience challenges to gain the skills needed to overcome adversity.



Ref: Whenua Iti – social impact report

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Jeff Paul



I am making this submission to express my strong support for prioritising investment in the arts, culture, and heritage sector as part of the Long Term Plan for the Timaru District Council. As a ratepayer deeply invested in the well-being and prosperity of our community, I believe that nurturing our humanities sector and committing to the Theatre Royal and Heritage Hub rebuild is essential for the holistic development of our district.

Investing in the arts, culture, and heritage sector is not merely about supporting creative expression; it is an investment in the social, economic, and cultural fabric of our community. Here are a list of reasons why I urge the council to commit to investing in this sector in the Long Term Plan:

Social Cohesion: The arts bring people together, fostering a sense of belonging and community pride. Cultural events, festivals, exhibitions and public art installations provide opportunities for residents to connect, share experiences, and celebrate our diverse heritage.

Economic Growth: A vibrant arts and culture scene attracts tourists, stimulates spending in local businesses, and supports jobs in the creative industries. Investing in cultural infrastructure and programming can contribute to the growth of our local economy and enhance our district's attractiveness as a destination for visitors.

Mental Health and Well-being: Engagement with the arts has been shown to have positive effects on mental health and well-being. Access to cultural activities, such as music, visual arts, and theatre, can reduce stress, combat social isolation, and improve overall quality of life for residents of all ages.

Identity and Pride: Our heritage and cultural traditions are integral to our sense of identity as a community. Preserving and promoting our local history, landmarks, and traditions instills a sense of pride and ownership among residents, strengthening our collective identity, our relationship with Te Ao Māori, and enhancing our quality of life.

Furthermore, numerous case studies from other communities demonstrate the transformative impact of investing in the arts, culture, and heritage sector. From revitalising neighborhoods to driving economic revitalisation, these examples underscore the value of prioritising the humanities in community planning and development.

I refer you to the 2022 research project undertaken in Waikato, entitled "Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in the Waikato", which reached the following conclusions:

- **Engagement with arts, culture and creativity positively impacts wellbeing:** On average, Waikato residents who have a high level of engagement with arts, culture and creativity have higher well being than those who have little or no engagement. The more often we attend, create or participate in artistic and cultural events, the higher our wellbeing is likely to be.
- **Access to arts is important to everyone:** Waikato residents who believe they have greater access to arts, culture and creativity are also more likely to

have higher overall wellbeing. This exists for all people, but for those who consider themselves less engaged with the creative sector, perceived access is even more important.

- **Mental wellness is a priority need in Waikato:** Mental wellness is one of the strongest predictors of overall wellbeing for all Waikato residents, regardless of level of engagement with arts, culture and creativity. There is a wealth of evidence that shows that engagement with arts, culture and creativity is one way of improving mental health outcomes, so encouraging more engagement can contribute to a positive shift.
- **The Waikato community values arts, culture and creativity:** All Waikato residents recognise the value that arts, culture and creativity contribute to their everyday life, as well as that of their whānau and children.

I believe that this study could easily be comparative to the Timaru District were it to be undertaken here. Timaru has a large creative community, as is evidenced in the current “TimARTru” festival taking place this month, featuring a diverse local range of art and cultural events.

I would also like to include in my submission a call for the Timaru District Council to make climate change resiliency an issue of utmost importance. The next national climate change risk assessment for New Zealand is only two years away, and I fear it will produce an even bleaker picture of the challenges we are to expect than the current one, particularly given the catastrophic events in Hawkes Bay just last year. I strongly believe that the Council has the leadership to prioritise this matter of urgency, and would encourage them to assess how well they are following the Ministry for the Environment advice on what role Councils should be taking in preparing for and adapting to change, and identify improvements that could be made.

In conclusion, I urge the Timaru District Council to recognise the immense benefits that investing in the arts, culture, and heritage sector, and climate change resiliency, can bring to the Timaru District. By prioritising these vital sectors in the Long Term Plan, we can create a more vibrant, inclusive, resilient and prosperous community for all residents.

Thank you for considering my input and I look forward to speaking to it in your presence.

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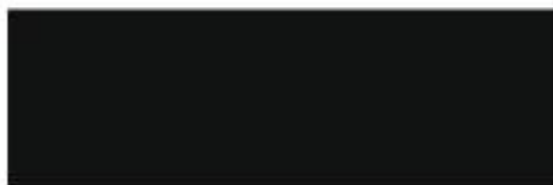
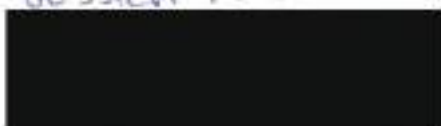
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8/4/24

JESSICA R COOK



I think as well as the physical aspect of the gym, maintaining and improving stamina, strength and balance, the importance of social interaction and mental wellbeing cannot be overestimated. Aorangi gym is a brilliant resource.

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I love this gym - go twice a week
 So friendly, professionally run, in good vicinity
 Great age group - been to others and this
 is the best for over 50 age group

Please please keep this gym in the new plan
 - no room for us at other gyms.

Jill Pearce

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Dill Connor



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G. J. G. Murrays



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NAME

Jo Taylor

ADDRESS



PHONE



EMAIL



SIGNATURE





Timaru District Council – Long Term Plan Consultation Submission

from:

Joan Paul
[REDACTED]

I have read through the Council's Long Term Plan Document - 'Finding the Balance'
The only comment I will make is to agree with Option 2 (Higher User Pays) Page 12

I have lived in the South Canterbury district all my life and obviously in that time there has been many changes. Changes to the way people live, the Economy, Climate Change, and an advanced change in Electronics such as Television, Computers, the Internet etc.

The main purpose for my submission is the ballooning cost of the Theatre Royal & Heritage Hub refurbishment and build.

The Theatre Royal - I don't think Timaru residents have missed it having being closed for 5 to 6 years! Yes, it maybe nice to have a fine-looking theatre, but seriously is it going to be used frequently, bringing good revenue into our town, a town that cannot afford to have such an expensive luxurious theatre?

There will be some people wanting the Council to carry on with the proposed refurbishment, but will they be prepared in this present economic environment to financially support this project, a project which is escalating to cost our ratepayers a staggering \$57m and whose to say this costing won't increase even more!

Will the ratepayers be happy to have large increases on their TDC rates, not forgetting the Environment Canterbury rates are on the rise as well? Rates that many people cannot afford with the present Cost-of-Living and the Economic downturn!

A question,,,,,,,,,

When it was first mooted to have the Theatre Royal refurbished and a Heritage Hub added in the design work, did anyone in the Council have the vision to suggest local architects, surveyors and builders could be tasked to handle the work?

PLEASE COUNCILLORS do the Right thing and put a STOP to proceeding any further, and don't forget we Ratepayers voted you on to the council to wisely spend our money.
The more time this debate goes on there is no doubt the costs will increase even more.

Our District has not a large enough population base to warrant such a huge expenditure, an Expenditure that I am sure can be allocated to some more worthy project and which is needed for the citizens of our district.

Joan Paul
[REDACTED]

10 May 2024

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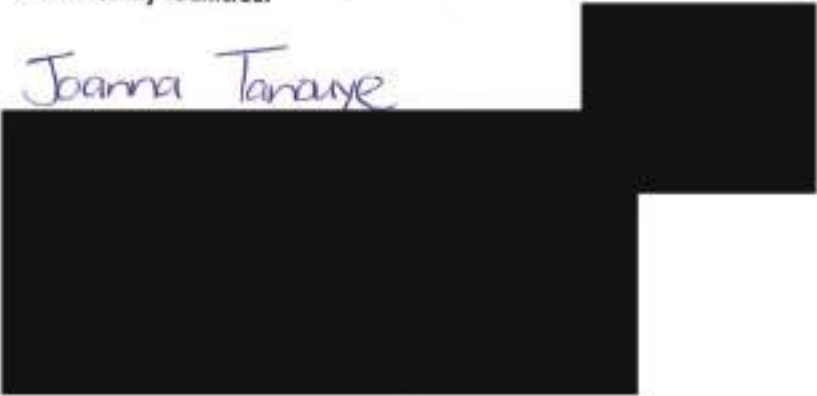
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Joanna Tarauye



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02/04/24

In addition to the above points, I also believe there is a strong connection through this gym and our group, to continuing good mental health and welfare. The continuance of this group is significant, the gym and its staff provide a safe and reliable space for a vulnerable group of residents which cannot be overstated.

[Redacted]
John Cook

[Redacted]
Timothy

LTP Submission 5.24

Financial environment – Ensuring we balance income and costs.

It appears, from the issues raised in the consultation document, that Council has been living beyond its means for some years.

Whether or not this situation has arisen due to insufficient clarity of management information (such as inaccurate forecasting and monitoring of budgetary variances to expenditure and revenue) or competent direction and management is difficult to discern from the heavily aggregated, top-level financial information provided in support of the LTP consultation.

Economic conditions are increasingly difficult for residents and businesses in the Timaru district with the economy in recession, declining employment, uncomfortably high inflation, and the prevailing high interest-rate environment.

It is to be hoped that Council is acutely aware of the very difficult environment that many of their urban and farming ratepayers face (declining commodity prices, increased input costs, high interest rates). South Canterbury, and Timaru District in particular, will be further damaged by disproportionately increasing the Council rates burden.

It behoves Council to prioritise spending in a responsible manner reflective of the need to reduce expenditure to be commensurate with the revenues available without placing excessive demands upon the stakeholders.

This may require further reflection upon Council's expenditure priorities in just the same way as ratepayers and stakeholders routinely have to do in the face of rising costs and constrained income. Even central government is now embarking upon a programme of cost reduction and staff redundancies as they face the reality of expenditure being greater than income. We were disappointed to see that such an approach does not appear to have been considered by Council.

It does not seem unreasonable to suggest that Council should adopt a similar programme of operational cost containment and reduction to that of central government. It is, after all, perfectly possible to balance income with costs by reducing expenditure.

We submit that the fundamental and guiding principle of a minimal rate increase (say, no greater than the CPI) should have been adopted and mandated as a matter of Council policy, when drafting the LTP for consultation. To do otherwise is to be irresponsible under the present economic circumstances.

Revenue – Balancing user pays with common good.

In order to grow revenue, it has been proposed that Council should increase user fees.

Prior to discussing this initiative, the inevitable question that arises is: why it is that greater emphasis has not been placed upon investing in infrastructure and initiatives to increase district-wide growth, the ratepayer base and therefore revenues? Such an approach would also have the handy result of diluting costs across more ratepaying units.

Consideration of the new schedule of proposed fees indicates that some fees will increase markedly. The basis for these proposed fees is unclear as no supporting information is made available and it is, consequently, impossible to say whether they may be correct or not.

It is important to note that many of the fees are subject to legislation that requires that only a maximum of the actual cost may be recovered from users as to do otherwise would be to levy a tax – a course of action that TLA's are not authorised to implement under existing legislation. Both The Auditor General and the Treasury have provided comprehensive guidance as to the calculation of cost recovery charges.

It is not possible, from the information provided, to ascertain whether the guidance has been followed and, therefore, whether the proposed fee increases are correctly justified, calculated and/or, importantly, legal.

Intuitively, it seems that several of the proposed fees may be excessive when considered in the light of the likely cost calculation. There is ample comment, in the press, as to the chilling effect on development, for example, of high consenting fees.

We submit that the proposed fees be presented, supported by the necessary activity-based costings, to justify them for consultation and adoption. The legal basis for taking a decision to raise cost-recovery charges as a revenue-gathering exercise simply does not exist under current New Zealand legislation.

Nice to Have versus Must have – Balancing our approach to debt to deliver projects.

Given the imperative to balance the budget it seems timely to reconsider projects such as the Theatre Royal rebuild.

We cannot conceive of any circumstance that would not result in the indefinite postponement or cancellation of the Theatre Royal or Aorangi Stadium projects. There is absolutely no justification for imposing disproportionate rates increases upon a financially stressed ratepayer base by proceeding with projects that are not focused entirely upon delivery of core Council responsibilities or facilitation of growth in the ratepayer base.

We submit that the Theatre Royal and Aorangi Stadium projects should be either postponed until the budget is able to be provided without the need to impose significant rates increases or cancelled as unaffordable.

The necessary corollary to this submission is to retain the present debt cap in order to mitigate interest costs incurred (Option 1).

Long Term Plan Submission

I support a new Theatre for Timaru, but I would like to see the old theatre as a complete demolition, 100% demolition.

Build a completely new fit for purpose theatre and make an architectural statement while doing it.

I would like to see councillors travel out of Timaru and have a look at the new buildings and as an example Lincoln University which makes an architectural statement with 2 new buildings on their site to date. These new architecturally designed buildings challenge your senses. That's what modern architecture should do.

We need to stop trying to fix or reclaim parts of old builds which in turn hide potentially huge cost overruns when invariably foundations or structures hide unforeseen expensive repair costs to the predictable surprise of everyone involved versus a brand new build with a fixed cost contract. The Christchurch Cathedral is a great example how costs overrun when working with an old structure.

As another example to councillor's is the city of Devonport in Tasmania which is similar in size to Timaru city and has redeveloped some of the city and waterfront which in turn has attracted a new Global Hotel chain as part of this redevelopment. It also includes a new multi-story council building, with meetings rooms, council offices, café and either a book shop and or information centre on the ground floor.

As part of the Long Term Plan the new theatre and or heritage hub could also be incorporated with new council offices and meeting rooms plus other facilities which in turn has all staff on one site. I also recommend looking at other build sites in the city including the option of building it on top of the Bay Hill.

You could then move the museum into the old council offices which would give the museum more space.

Included below 2 photos showing the Devonport redevelopment.



LTP Submission notes; John McKenzie

Note 1 - Balancing our approach to debt to deliver projects

Debt levels are too high now.

A 15% rate increase is opposed on the grounds that rates in the Timaru district are becoming unaffordable for lower income ratepayers and ratepayers on fixed incomes such as national superannuation.

It is not fiscally prudent to max out the credit card by taking the council's level of debt so close to the limit, this restricts the council's ability to respond to future events such as disasters, adverse climatic events and other unforeseen circumstances.

Rates are a tax on property for delivery of services to the ratepayers. The use of land based rating, as opposed to capital value rating runs counter to the central government taxation system where taxation is imposed according to how much someone earns.

The Timaru District land based rating system equalises the rating burden to the disadvantage of lower income residents. This is a deliberate Gerrymandering of the taxation / rating system to the advantage of those that are much better off. As the Council increases rate levels this pain is being passed disproportionately to lower income residents who struggle to pay.

While the Revenue & Financing Policy is part of the LTP it is unlikely that this consultation process provides an opportunity to influence the content of that policy to the extent of a change to **capital value rating**. I hope that elected members will have regard to this impact in future reviews of the policy and give serious consideration to capital value rating so that rates are levied in a manner consistent with central government taxation and the ability to pay.

Note 2 - Balancing the things you use with the things we enjoy.

The Theatre Royal project has become unaffordable to the rate payers. Pause the project and look for a better way to enable performing arts to be delivered in the district.

The Museum component of the project should proceed as the current museum is unsuited to public use and difficult to access.

Note 3 – Balancing user pays with common good

If you keep increasing user charges it pushes those services beyond the reach of low income earners in our district. There needs to be more value placed on community good, Building Consent & Planning Consent processes don't just benefit the applicant. As an example - the wider community benefits from good dog control. Please have regard to this when considering the Public / Private benefit split in your User Charges.

Note 4 – Other information

Bouquets

A big thank you for the following:-

- C-Play. What a great outcome the New Caroline Bay Playground development is – it is so popular that it has become an attraction for people to visit Timaru.
- Walkways & Cycleways,
- Parks & Reserves indigenous plantings

Brick Bat

Litter Bin Removal. The focus of decision making seems to have been on cost saving without any recognition of the environmental effects of litter, loss of convenience and encouragement to be a tidy resident of Timaru; This is a slap in the face to all those people that pick up litter on their daily walks. Litter such as broken bottles & fast food packaging that we have to carry further than before. The removal of litter bins is resulting in more litter remaining in our parks and walkways.

The car park at the north end of Caroline Bay has Nine wheelie bins servicing it, yet the nearby litter bin on the Benvenue Cliffs walkway nearest Virtue Avenue has been removed. I used to regularly collect litter and deposit it into this bin on my dog walks but can't do that now. Nor can I walk onto the Bay with my dog for half of the year, to use the Nine bins at the north end car park. Other residents have complained to me about the effects of this reduction of service in other parks & reserves too.

Long Term Plan

John & Kaye Jackson <[REDACTED]>

Tue 7/05/2024 8:07 PM

To: LTP Consultation <ltlp@timdc.govt.nz>

To members of Council.

Firstly I have no objection to Council increasing the debt cap, providing the money is spent wisely and prudently and is not used for more consultants.

As a Temuka resident I believe there are many issues facing this Council that need to be resolved and yes they will all require money. In my mind I feel Coastal erosion is most probably our most immediate problem and in years to come it would be nice to know what plans are in place when the coastline encroaches on the dump and the cemetery and for residents in that immediate area. The inland road from Geraldine to Arundel needs a two lane bridge as floods in recent years have shown, traffic congestion on the showgrounds hill needs to be sorted out, that unsightly heap of clay from the showgrounds needs to be sorted out. Then water sources from which we drink need upgraded to meet demand, sewerage ponds, especially Temuka's needs upgraded to handle the extra capacity being created by all the new housing, Timaru's needs the smell issue sorted and roading has many issues.

Parks & Gardens, as a gardener driving around Timaru and Temuka it disappoints me to see how the roses are cared for, most of the time they seem to be unloved and uncared for, weeds often higher than the roses. Yes I know roses require a lot of care, honestly I believe Council would be better removing all roses except for those at the Trevor Griffiths Rose Garden, the botanical gardens and in the Temuka Domain and either plant grass or pave the areas.

In the Long Term Plan projected rates are laid out, my question is with greater debt comes more to repay, what is there in place to stop Council continually increasing our rates. In future our area is going to be subjected to more floods and possibly an earthquake or two, is there a contingency fund in place or would rates be increased again to cover the extra costs,

Does our community need a Heritage Hub Theatre Complex, yes it would be nice if we had the funds to do it but I think this area has more pressing issues and these should be addressed before adding an extra burden on ratepayers.

Finally I realize Council will make these final decisions but councilors are elected by our residents so why are our councilors not guided by our residents when they make critical decisions which affect our community. Our community is made up of a huge number of elderly ratepayers and I have heard from a number who struggle to pay their rates now to how they are going to pay for the proposed rate increases, recently I heard a couple in there 80's stating they may have to take out a second mortgage if their rates increase.

Rate payers are not a bottomless pit of funds and should not be treated as such. What we want and what we require are vastly different, let's get the infrastructure

right first and when that is done we think about how we can enhance our community.

Faithfully yours,

John Jackson.

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John McKissock

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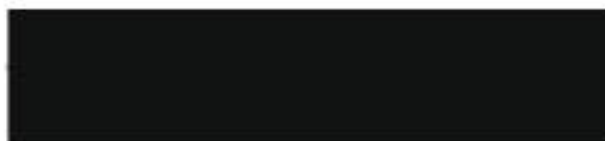
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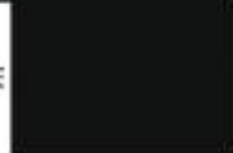
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During weekdays Aorangi is easily accessed by foot, bicycle and car by the majority of users.

A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

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We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

NAME John Weir

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

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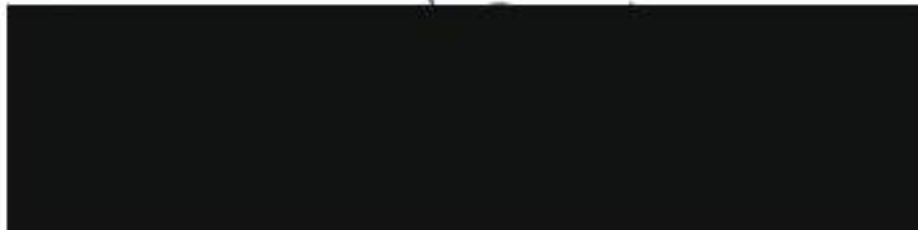
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Signed.

John Stratford.



Pam Stratford



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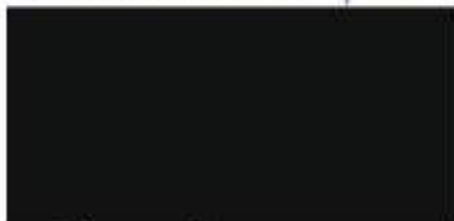
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JOHN NELSON YOUNG



Timaru, 29/10.

Email



10 May 2024

Timaru District Council
2 King George Place
PO Box 522
Timaru 7940

Dear Councillors

Long Term Plan – 2024-2034

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Long-Term Plan. There has been a lot of effort put into this plan and I commend the councillors on how they have been very visual and accessible during this process.

1. My Name is Joshua Newlove, I am an Architectural Designer, Director of NB Architects. Deputy Chair of the Timaru Civic Trust. I also own commercial & residential properties in Timaru.
2. I have responded to the questions the LTP put forward on the web-based submission, the following is additional to these answers.
3. I am incredibly passionate about our district and want to see it thrive. I would like my children to feel they have a future here and can contribute to the district in whatever career they want to pursue.
4. Fostering civic pride is incredibly important as having a community that is proud of their hometown is what will attract new residents and visitors alike.
5. I have read the strategic direction and vision that has been put forward in the LTP. While this has good points there is no clear objective of where we want Timaru to be in the next 10 years, it is very broad and lacks a unifying vision.

E.g. current Vision is *“Where people, place and business prosper within a healthy, adaptable and regenerative environment.”*

This is nice collection of words, but it could be any town or district in NZ, we all want that no matter where we live, we all want to prosper and be healthy etc. But it is relatively meaningless, we are missing the how.

6. I have watched Council Meetings online for some time. There has been mention of work Venture Timaru is undertaking with a focus on Timaru becoming a population base of 75k by 2050. This to me is a goal that should be central to the strategic direction of the LTP. If we have an aspirational goal of growing our population base then as a business owner, I can get excited about the future. I can plan to grow our business to meet the demand that a goal such as 75k by 2050 will need. When Council is faced with decisions about where to invest its capital or what projects need funded the question you need to ask is *“does this help enable the goal of 75k by 2050?”*

You want people to prosper in this district, then do not let us die of old age. If our population is not growing, then our district is slowly moving into a retirement home and eventually death, these are real demographic changes that are happening, they are happening all over the country, and we compete directly with other towns and districts for people. We cannot bury our heads in the sand about it we need to confront that reality and we need to have a firm aspirational vision of where we want Timaru to head, and I believe 75k by 2050 is the goal to have.

7. There are steps underway I believe that are pushing the district in the right direction. The recently completed CPLAY is a massive drawcard for the district or both residents and visitors. The soon to be completed Fraser Park redevelopment another. Completing the Heritage Hub and Aorangi Park redevelopment are other key components of making the district an attractive place to live and work.

There has been a red-hot focus on the heritage hub both from media and in council meetings and it has often incorrectly been linked as being responsible for the rates increase, this must be one of the most consulted on and talked about projects the district has ever had. The real issues of this project are firstly the changes in scope (from theatre to heritage hub) and the budget implications of this scope change have not been communicated well at all, to a point where in media articles it is only talked about as “the theatre project”. Secondly The timeline from closing the doors of the theatre to now have been considerable and this time has added to the cost through the worst inflation the country has seen in decades. Thirdly the procurement process has been appalling with architects appointed then subsequently fired. Only to be re-hired under southbase as a design/build project has added significantly to the time and cost.

I am still however firmly in support of the Heritage Hub project going ahead. It a facility we require and will be of huge benefit to the community.

8. Land availability is the key to unlocking growth. We must not be afraid to think bigger than the immediate need. There is currently outline plan work being

undertaken for the areas around Kelland's hill for residential development. Is this enough land for 75k by 2050?

are developments of small scale (5-20 allotments) delivering the best value for purchasers, or do we need 100-200 allotments per development to make land pricing more competitive with other districts, and how do we make that happen?

We are talking about an additional 300 homes per year for the next 26 years to make 75k by 2050 possible. Do we have the correct settings to make this possible, is our District plan review aligned with this goal?

Do we have the right amount of industrial land and commercial land to create the jobs to make 75kby 2050 happen?

We can build all the new community facilities we like but if we are not growing the population base in a real and meaningful way they just become a burden for the ageing population that remains here.

9. I want this district to thrive, I want my business to grow and succeed, I want our community to be proud of our district and I want our children to make Timaru their home for the future. The LTP as presented is a nice budget to put forward, but Councillors, what is your vision for our district?

Yours sincerely,



Joshua Newlove

Note: this submission is written in a personal capacity and is not the express views of any business or organisation I am involved with.

12 May 2024

Timaru District Council
2 King George Place
Timaru

Feedback on Timaru District Draft Long Term Plan “Finding the Balance” Consultation Document 2024/34. By email: ltp@timdc.govt.nz

Thank you for the opportunity to provide some feedback on the above document. Since I can remember, I have been interested and enthralled by Aotearoa’s natural heritage, particularly our indigenous biota, both plant and animal. Within my lifetime, I have witnessed an alarming degradation of our natural heritage, and in recent years the ever-increasing effect of climate change on indigenous biota. Therefore, although there are many issues that the council desires feedback on, I am limiting my comments to those that concern me most and are, I believe, very critical for the long-term resilience and wellbeing of the environment and us as inhabitants.

The protection, maintenance and restoration of the remaining areas of natural ecosystems in the district, including native forests, grasslands, river plains, wetlands, estuaries, coastal dunes, I believe is essential for providing places for indigenous biota to survive and thrive, and to help mitigate the effects of climate change. TDC’s identification of SNAs and support for SNA landowners has been outstanding and I urge the council to continue to fund and resource this programme at least to the same level as currently, preferably to increase over the years.

An integral part of protecting, maintaining and restoring natural ecosystems is the control of animal and pest plants, and I ask the council to adequately resource control of pests.

The effects of climate change are becoming increasingly obvious and severe, affecting the environment and each of us in many ways, e.g. severe weather events, flooding, sea level rise, terrestrial and oceanic heat waves....Planning for resilience, mitigation and adaptation is critical. Protection and restoration of our natural ecosystems needs to be an essential component of the council’s response to climate change, as there are social and economic benefits as well as environmental benefits.

Yours sincerely
Joy Sagar.

I do not wish to present at the hearing.

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NAME

Julie Houston

ADDRESS

[REDACTED]

PHONE

[REDACTED]

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

[REDACTED]

SUBMISSION ON TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL DRAFT LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34

TO: Timaru District Council
Submitted via email <https://www.timaru.govt.nz/ltp/submit>

Name of submitter:

1 Opuha Water Limited (**OWL**)
Address: 875 Arowhenua Rd
RD4
Timaru 7974

Contact: Julia Crossman
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Wish to be Heard:

2 OWL wishes to be heard in support of this submission.

Submission – Climate Resilience and Flood Passage Management

Background

The Opuha Dam and Lake Opuha

- 3 Opuha Water Ltd owns and operates the Opuha Dam and Lake Opuha as well as downstream irrigation infrastructure.
- 4 The Opuha Dam is a 50 metre-high earth dam and is situated at the confluence of the North and South Opuha Rivers 17 kilometres north-east of Fairlie. The associated lake, Lake Opuha, covers up to 710 ha and stores nearly 72 million cubic metres of operational/usable water. The catchment above the Lake extends along the Two Thumb Range from Mt Dobson through to north of Fox Peak and is a lowlands hills, eastern facing catchment. Flows released from the Opuha Dam are attenuated by the Downstream Weir (**DSW**) approximately 1.8km downstream of the Dam. The Opuha Dam facility includes a 7MW hydro station at the base of the Dam that generates electricity with all the water that is released from Lake storage.
- 5 The Opuha Scheme is an augmentation scheme that operates by releasing water into the Opuha River to sustain in-river flows in the Opuha and Opihi Rivers while supplying reliable water to its irrigator shareholders and the urban and industrial water users of Timaru via the Timaru District Council's community water take. The water supplied by the Scheme presently facilitates the irrigation of approximately 16,000 hectares of land within the Mackenzie and Timaru Districts, and the power generated by the hydro station supplies, on average, 3800 households per year.

- 6 The Opuha Dam has been operating for nearly 25 years since being officially opened in November 1998. The Opuha Scheme arose out of the realisation by many sectors of the community that the Opihi River had significant periods during which the natural hydrological storage within the catchment was unable to provide sufficient water for both instream and out of stream users. This, combined with climatic extremes, produced periods where the surface flow ceased in the lower reaches of the Opihi River above the Temuka confluence. At the time when the Dam was being mooted, records had shown that the river had experienced severe drought conditions in every decade since the 1930's. The flow records at the time demonstrated that the 'natural state' was not satisfactory and would not meet all demands. Rather, the proposal was intended to substantially enhance river flows and to reduce the environmental risks far beyond that which was known to occur under natural conditions.
- 7 The Opuha Dam has been an enabler of economic growth in South Canterbury and has facilitated the development of a robust agricultural sector comprising a wide range of land use activities, including dairying, horticulture and arable cropping, sheep, beef and deer farming and specialist seed growing. These on-farm activities support significant downstream industries such as the vegetable processing facilities at Washdyke, dairy processing and also represent a significant portion of South Canterbury's export economy and earnings.
- 8 While Lake Opuha is an artificial reservoir built principally for water augmentation purposes, it also provides excellent amenity and recreational benefits to both the local Fairlie community and further afield to the public of South and Mid Canterbury. The Lake is also an increasingly popular destination for the region's schools as part of their rowing and water-based activities and programmes. The Lake and downstream river continue to be a popular recreational fishery and the elver bypass at the Dam enables elver to migrate into the Lake where they mature or head further upstream into the headwaters of the Lake Opuha catchment or are released downstream via a trap and transfer programme.
- 9 The Opuha Dam was a community-led infrastructure project to provide water for multiple purposes. The priority awarded to water released from the dam is as follows:
 - 1st Environmental Flow
 - 2nd Community supply
 - 3rd Irrigation
 - 4th Electricity Generation
- 10 The strategic importance of the Opuha Dam and OWL's hydro-electric, irrigation and community supply schemes are recognised in the following regional planning documents:
 - The Canterbury Regional Policy Statement – the hydro-electric scheme is “regionally significant infrastructure” for the purpose of this document; and

- The Canterbury Land and Water Regional – the national benefits of the Opuha hydro-electric and irrigation and community supply schemes are recognised within Policy 4.51 and Rule 5.125C of this document, and OWL’s status as a “principal water supplier” is recognised and provided for through the CLWRP’s policy and rule framework.

OWL and the Opuha Scheme

- 11 OWL is a co-operative company owned by approximately 235 irrigator shareholders with a Board comprising five farmer shareholder Directors, two independent Directors, and one associate director. It has a management and operation staff of thirteen, based at the office/depot near Pleasant Point.
- 12 There are 16,000 shares held by OWL’s irrigator shareholders, enabling the irrigation of a notional 16,000ha. The Opuha Dam releases water into the Opuha River which joins the Opihi River at Raincliff. There are four irrigation schemes that draw water from the Opuha and Opihi Rivers – Kakahu, Totara Valley, Sutherlands and Levels Plains schemes. OWL holds consents for each of the schemes to divert water from the river and those irrigators that take directly from rivers or affiliated shallow groundwater wells have individual consents for their water takes. There are further shareholders who irrigate directly from the mainstem of the Opuha River and Opihi River below the confluence. The final grouping of shareholders are those that on the non-augmented tributaries of the North and South Opuha, Te Ana a Wai, and Upper Opihi (above Raincliff). While not directly augmented by water released from the Opuha Dam, these takes are affiliated to the Scheme because OWL is required to offset their takes from the tributaries, through releases down the mainstem of the Opihi River.

A community initiative

- 13 The dam was built in 1998 after a partnership between the Electricity Corporation of New Zealand (ECNZ), local authorities, irrigation companies and farmers. The project faced a major setback in 1997 when the partially completed dam was breached by a flood, but it was repaired and completed within a year.
- 14 The funding of the Opuha Dam project involved various sources of capital, both public and private. The initial cost of the project was estimated at \$32 million, but it increased to \$42 million after the flood damage.
- 15 Opuha Dam Partnership (ODP), was formed in 1994 with the purpose of being the interim entity through which the Dam project would be financed and undertaken - to construct, operate, manage, and control the Dam, generation plant and all related facilities). The partners of ODP were Timaru Electricity Ltd (50%), Opihi River Holdings Ltd (25.4%), TDC Opuha Investments Ltd (14.9%), South Canterbury Farmers Irrigation Society Ltd (6%) and Levels Plain Irrigation Company Ltd (3.7%).
- 16 The Public Authorities involved and their roles were:

- Electricity Corporation of New Zealand Ltd (ECNZ), was initially a principal party to be involved, with interest in the project because it would generate renewable electricity and reduce peak demand on the national grid. ECNZ later withdrew from the project.
 - Alpine Energy Ltd (though Timaru Electricity Ltd) invested through equity interest in Opuha Dam Partnership. Alpine provided technical expertise for the hydroelectric plant (Alpine Energy is a local lines company that distributes electricity in South Canterbury).
 - Opihi River Development Company Ltd (through Opihi River Holdings Ltd) invested and represented the interests of existing irrigators on the Opihi River. The company also helped with water management and allocation issues.
 - Canterbury Regional Council, were responsible for issuing various resource consents.
 - Mackenzie District Council, owner of a 4.96% equity interest in Alpine Energy Ltd, provided loan capital to Opihi River Development Company Ltd.
 - Timaru District Council, owner (through TDC Opuha Investments Ltd). Also had a 47.5% equity interest in Alpine Energy Ltd. The council secured water supply contracts for their urban and industrial users.
 - Opuha Dam Limited, a local authority trading enterprise, acting as trustee of the assets of Opuha Dam Partnership and the contracting party with the Dam builder.
 - South Canterbury Farmers Irrigation Society Ltd (SCFIS) and Levels Plain Irrigation Company Ltd), together represented the interests of new irrigators who would benefit from the dam (enabling them to diversify and intensify their land use activities). The irrigation companies also helped with scheme design and construction. Farmer irrigators paid a capital contribution (\$250 per 4 hectares of irrigable land) and agreed to pay annual water charges based on water use.
- 17 In 2007, the farmer irrigators bought out the project and became 100% shareholders of Opuha Water Ltd ("OWL"), the company that owns and operates the dam.
- 18 The funding of the Opuha Dam project was a complex and challenging process that required collaboration and compromise among various stakeholders with different interests and expectations. The project was seen as a win-win solution for the region, as already highlighted, it provided multiple benefits for the economy, environment and society.
- 19 The Opuha Dam project is an example of how community-led initiatives can overcome barriers and deliver positive outcomes for rural development. The project demonstrates how public-private partnerships can leverage resources and expertise to achieve common goals. The project also shows how water storage can be a sustainable and adaptive solution for managing water scarcity and variability in a changing climate.

Climate resilience

- 20 While it was the droughts of the 1980's that were the catalyst for the Opuha Dam, this community asset has also proven its worth in term of flood mitigation.
- 21 Intense rain events during the most recent La Nina climate cycle have emphasised that to enable a resilient and prosperous community, we need to be able to manage climatic extremes. One key part of the tool set to deal with this in South Canterbury is the Opuha Dam.
- 22 Flood buffering is an incredibly valuable tool for managing floods to mitigate the damage they can cause. Lake Opuha is managed throughout the year to keep its level at the optimum height for water supply surety during dry periods, but the lake is also lowered when flood-level rainfall is predicted. This means more flood water can be stored in the lake and held back from the rivers.
- 23 There have been a number of high rainfall events in South Canterbury which have highlighted the role the Opuha Dam plays in managing floods. An example of playing a significant flood buffering role was during the severe flooding of late May-early June of 2021. Parts of South Canterbury were hit by an 'atmospheric river' bringing incredibly high rainfall. At the time, the Lake was only 15% capacity having managed to provide the necessary minimum flows the Opuha and Opihi Rivers required to maintain a healthy ecosystem; it had been a long dry summer and early autumn. Then the rain hit, over a 48-hr period the lake rose by 11.84 metres and captured 43 million cubic metres of water. At the peak of the event the lake had inflows into it of 450 cubic metres per second but was only discharging approximately 14 cubic metres into the Opuha River system. Had the Opuha River system had not held back the high flows from its catchment, the lower reaches of the Opihi River system would have been higher again with likely substantial more community damages the result.
- 24 Then in early July 2022, while the lake was at 84 percent capacity, the Opuha Dam was able to absorb the impact of between 300-400mm of rainfall in the lake catchment over four weeks. At one stage there were 230 cumecs flowing into the lake while releasing only 27 cumecs.
- 25 OWL acknowledges and accepts that climate change is highly likely to amplify the variables where small-scale flood events become moderate, and moderate become extreme.

Dam Remediation

- 26 OWL publicly communicated a dam deficiency in 2019 following discovery of some signs of possible internal erosion in the dam. Since this time OWL have maintained the highest priority focus on the dam.
- 27 As a result of the internal erosion issue, OWL have a made a number of variations to normal operational procedures including:

- Enhanced frequency of dam surveillance
 - The operation of the lake at a maximum 90% capacity
- 28 OWL board and management has also led comprehensive investigations to understand the exact nature of the erosion, remediation options available, and the capital works required to ensure the dam remains an intergeneration asset.

Opuha Dam capital work plan

- 29 As a result of the numerous in-depth investigations, OWL now has an action plan of the infrastructure remediation that is required over the next decade, which has been shared with shareholders and which OWL is now sharing with key agencies and government entities. In the short-medium term, projects include the low level outlet (LLO) enhancement project which is currently underway, service and auxiliary spillway reconfiguration which improves flood passage and increases the Annual Exceedance Probability ('AEP') from 1:200 to 1:10,000. If external/regional funding can be achieved, the latter project will have the capacity to further mitigate flood risk through the whole river system. In the 10-year timeframe, OWL will need to address the internal erosion issue but further thought needs to go into potential solutions for this specific issue. See Table 1.
- 30 OWL has communicated with shareholders, that significant capital expenditure is required, which is extremely challenging for our relatively small farmer co-operative. OWL has indicated that shareholder capital contribution will be a required part of the mix but tied into commercial debt and community funding.
- 31 OWL submit that the value in the dam reducing peak flood flows and providing flood buffering in the lower catchment, which will be enhanced further in the upgrade projects, creates a strong argument for support by the region and community. Cylone Gabrielle demonstrated the importance of such resilience, and OWL asserts that it cannot be expected that shareholders fund this alone.
- 32 OWL has confidence the dam improvements will significantly extend the lifespan and resilience of the dam as a critical asset for the community and maintaining benefit for future generations.

Request

- 33 The Opuha dam is a critical asset for the South Canterbury community, providing economic prosperity both on-farm and to the wider community, environmental benefits, local power generation, security of drinking water, amenity and recreational value, and flood buffering. The South Canterbury, and more specifically the Timaru district, community is a significant beneficiary of the Opuha Dam and climate change has amplified these benefits.
- 34 Proactive investment now will dramatically reduce the flood repair funding requirements in the future. This is very much a case for being the 'fence at the top of the cliff rather than the ambulance at the bottom'.

- 35 Capital investment is required and OWL submit that it is fair and equitable that the wider community contributes to the lasting benefits the dam provides.
- 36 OWL has made a separate submission to Environment Canterbury's LTP 2023-24 which is proposing a targeted rate trial in the Selwyn District to carry out additional flood and river resilience activities. OWL believes this approach, via a targeted rate of Mackenzie and Timaru district ratepayers, could also be utilised to fund the capital works required for the Opuha Dam. Alternatively, and given the more widespread regional benefits of the Dam, a general rate contribution from these district ratepayers may be considered more appropriate.
- 37 OWL is considering all options to fund these capital works and are open to an alternative funding model that is not a targeted rate.
- 38 Whatever funding model is ultimately deemed most appropriate, it is clear that collaboration between OWL, Environment Canterbury, Timaru and Mackenzie District Councils and Central government, is necessary.
- 39 Necessary to inform the above, the most immediate need is completing further flood protection modelling of the Opihi/Opuha rivers which would include the Opuha Dams capacity to assist with flooding mitigation. OWL have requested that this is undertaken by ECan with urgency, and seek co-funding from TDC for this.
- 40 It is important to make clear that at the same time as funding is sought from external agencies, OWL shareholders are also being called upon to make an equivalent if not greater investment. Shareholders are not gaining any additional revenue or benefit from this investment – this capital work is required in order to retain this asset and prepare for climate change extremes.
- 41 In closing, as demonstrated earlier in this submission, the Opuha Dam would not be here today if it hadn't been for the collective vision and provision of funding from a number of parties in the 1980s and 1990s. In order to ensure the Opuha Dam continues to be an intergenerational asset for the South Canterbury Community, that collective vision and partner funding must be repeated.
- 42 OWL requests the opportunity to present to the full Council at the LTP 2024-34 Hearing.

Table 1: Opuha Dam capital works action plan

Project description	Benefits			Comments/Notes	Target Commencement Date	Target Completion Date	Opuha Funding (Bond)	Shareholder Funding	Government, Regional and Local Activities	Totals
	Dam Safety	Community/ Economic Benefits	Flood Gaining							
Current Projects										
Upstream Outlet Enhancement Project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	An upper outlet project will allow to achieve a natural improvement in water discharge capabilities from the lake. The project will require flood realignment, and require to any dam safety issues via the lowering of the lake level. These features will also assist any future dam safety related project by providing greater risk management during a project due to the enhanced lake level (000004, Redwood Washbond of auxiliary up-bay operation significantly from 1:100 AEP to 1:1,000 AEP.	Nov 2023	June 2024	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			\$3,500,000
Renewable Energy										
Power Station - Fire Protection - Power Station System Replacement - Power Station Generator Refurb. - Power Station Generator Refurb.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		The concern raised by the Opuha Power Station is a viable contributor to OML. The power station is now 25 years old and a refurbishment is warranted to protect the future revenue and not be exposed to potentially long outages caused by equipment obsolescence issues facing an unstructured breakdown.	Dec 2023	Dec 2026	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$4,600,000
Flood Management										
Auxiliary up-bay wall replacement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			Enhancement of the wall between the embankment and the up-bay to fully protect the embankment in the new event that the up-bay overflows.	Jul 2025	Jun 2027	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		\$4,600,000
Flood Management										
Service Spillway – Open & Invert Lowering Project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Focused on enhancing the ability to pass flood flows, and to provide full ability at a lower lake height than is currently available. Via the lowering of the invert of the spillway, and adding the gates that retain the ability to still have the same active lake level heights, then we have a greater approved ability to pass floods and control the lake level down to the new invert height. Reduces likelihood of auxiliary up-bay operation from 1:1,000 to 1:4,000 return period.	Jul 2020	Apr 2026	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$28,000,000
Flood Management										
Auxiliary Weir Upgrade (replacement from stage)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	It would be preferable to design in a up-bay operating mechanism that is	Jul 2027	Apr 2029	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$4,000,000

<p>Dam Safety</p> <p>Include Variable (until Inflow & Value</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<p>not a final plug, to better control the downstream effects.</p>	<p>Jun 2008</p>	<p>Jun 2009</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>\$11,000,000</p>
<p>Dam Safety</p>				<p>The installation of a valve on the upstream end of the period to allow the period to be notified in a seismic event if necessary, and consequently, the installation of a variable level intake for environmental reasons, allowing water to be sourced from various lake levels, improving the sustainability perspective of the designed system.</p>	<p>Jun 2006</p>	<p>Jun 2007</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<p>\$17,000,000</p>
<p>Dam Safety</p> <p>Dam external seismic remediation</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<p>Addressing the confirmed dam safety deficiency of material erosion at the Cyclas Dam will be the most important and complex capital item to address within the list of capital work.</p> <p>While it is the most important capital item to address, the probability of failure that it presents is very improbable, which is why other dam safety items have been elevated above this for capital works track.</p>	<p>Jun 2006</p>	<p>Jun 2007</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<p>\$17,000,000</p>

Living Wage South Canterbury
c/- Julian Maze,

Contacts:



9TH May 2024.

The CEO
Timaru District Council
ltp@timdc.govt.nz
Timaru.

By email.

Timaru District Long Term Plan 2024-2034.

1. Introduction.

These submissions on the Timaru District Council's 2024-2034 Long-Term Plan are made by Living Wage South Canterbury(LWSC).

We wish to speak to our submissions.

Please contact us by email.

2. What we want.

- a. We want the Timaru District Council (the TDC) to revisit its Living Wage decision of 17th October 2023.
- b. We therefore oppose the current proposed plan (which excludes a consideration of Living Wage accreditation) but would support it if:
 - i. the Council would allocate a modest one-off sum¹ to investigate and report on the cost to the TDC of becoming an Accredited Living Wage employer.
 - ii. Agree to set up promptly a small, joint Council-LWSC working-group to secure the data needed to determine that cost, examine the pros and cons; and recommend a course of action to the Council; and

¹ The TDC asked us to pay the cost of gathering the necessary data; it estimated \$3,000,00, not \$30,000 as submitted in the TDC staff paper to the Council.

- iii. Support the working -group:
 - 1. to gather the data ;
 - 2. To complete its report and
 - 3. present a report and recommendation to the Council for consideration and vote.
- c. We see no need for external consultants to be engaged to undertake that project.

3. Submissions

Supporting our proposal, we have five main submissions:

1. The TDC is bound by § 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act).
2. The TDC is also bound by § 14 of the Act.
3. The TDC must adhere to good-practice decision making.
4. The TDC must always act in good faith.
5. The process we advocate remedies the TDC's failure to meet its legal obligations when it voted on 17th October.

The process the TDC adopted to reach its 17th October decision ignored both the provisions of its governing statute, and accepted good-decision making practice, to such a degree that made the decision fatally flawed.

What we seek, as we have for now three years, is a Council decision on accreditation based on hard data, and meets your obligations under the Local Government Act.

While we do advocate for the TDC to become an Accredited Living Wage employer, **we advocate first** for the data, which only you can gather or authorised be gathered, be put together and subjected to a fair analysis of the pros and cons of accreditation.

So, we make the following submissions:

1. **The TDC is bound by § 10 of the Act.**

1. As a territorial authority under part 2 schedule 2 of the Act, the TDC is a creature of statute. It is compelled to do what its statute prescribes, but forbidden to do what is not.
2. § 3 of the Act first sets out the purpose of its governing statute:

3 ...

The purpose of this Act is to provide for democratic and effective local government that recognises the diversity of New Zealand communities; and, to that end, this Act—

1. states **the purpose of local government**; and

(b) provides a framework and powers for local authorities to decide which activities they undertake and the manner in which they will undertake them; and

(c) promotes the accountability of local authorities to their communities; and

(d) provides for local authorities to play a broad role in promoting the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of their communities, taking a sustainable development approach.

(emphasis added)

3. S10 of the Act later defines the TDC's specific purpose:

10(1)The purpose of local government is—

(a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and

(b) to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future. *(emphasis added)*

4. This section imposes list of purposes which every decision must promote. It is a binding regime. Whether a decision advances these objectives, or fails to, creates the yardstick by which the correctness of every substantive TDC decision must be assessed. The question must always be: "Does our decision promote these objectives?" If it does not, then the decision is arguably ultra vires: unlawful.

5. Moreover, the list of adjectives in S 10 (b) (social, economic etc) describing promoted areas of well-being is not a disjunctive list.

That means you cannot cherry-pick: any decision the TDC makes that impacts on one more than one of those areas of well-being, must promote each of them.

The statute does not permit you to promote one aspect of well-being while ignoring one or more of the other three general objectives. Compromise to accommodate competition between the objectives is unavoidable, but you cannot exclude a factor.

Example: you could not decide to build, say, a waste facility that was essential, out of sight, and cheap to run but

environmentally hazardous for the district. It would have to promote all aspects of well-being. So, using this example, essential, out of sight, and run at a cost to over-come any environmentally hazardous risk.

6. The mandatory factors required by section 10 (1) (b) were not once adverted to by councillors at its meeting. That means, in our submission, that the purposes which the TDC exists to advance for its community were not even considered, let alone played a part in the decision.
7. The TDC's decision not to examine whether to become an accredited Living Wage employer therefore failed the S10 test.

2. The TDC is also bound by S 14 of the Act.

1. S 14 (1) (a) of the Act requires a Council to conduct its business in an "open, transparent and democratically accountable manner."
2. S 14 (1) (b) of the Act obligates the TDC to "make itself aware of and have regard to, the views of all of its communities."
3. S 14 (c) (ii) of the Act also obligates the TDC to take account of the interests of "future as well as current communities".
4. Last, S 14 (c) (iii) of the Act obligates the TDC to take account of the likely impact of its decision on each aspect of well-being referred to in S 10.
5. These sections of the Act would have required the debate to have open to oral submissions, canvassed these mandated issues, and made a judgment on which elements of S10 (1) (b) were impacted and to what extent.
6. The obligatory factors required by sections 14 (1) (b) and (c) (iii) were not once adverted to by councillors, amplifying the s 10 defect.

Ours was the only community view considered and that supported the staff's recommendations which the Council rejected. It then made a decision not to proceed further without consulting anyone, without any supporting evidence and without considering its purpose as a council. It was an arbitrary decision.

3. The TDC must adhere to good-practice decision making.

1. A public body must comply with recognised decision-making good practice.
2. The Ombudsman's office provides guidelines on decision-making good practice.
3. Those guidelines include obligations, before making a decision, to:
 - i. give the person seeking the decision an opportunity to provide all relevant information;
 - ii. take into account all and only relevant information;
 - iii. ignore, therefore, matters that are not relevant to the decision;
 - iv. act fairly and reasonably when exercising its powers including making a decision;
 - v. have regard to any specific legislative or procedural requirements,
 - vi. act in good faith and for a proper purpose,
 - vii. make the decision on reasonable grounds and based on supporting evidence. (emphasis added)
 - viii. Broadly, satisfy general administrative law requirements.
4. These requirements were breached because:
 - i. LWSC was not given an opportunity to be heard in person on the issue of not proceeding at all.
 - ii. It was therefore not able to provide information that was relevant to that issue, which arose as a possibility only during the TDC discussion, namely whether grounds existed not to proceed at all.
 - iii. While entitled to reject the recommendations in the staff's report, the Council had no evidence on which then to make a decision not to proceed at all. The proper course was to adjourn and seek data to consider the context of not proceeding.
 - iv. The debate also in some case high-lighted the profound ignorance of some councillors of the LW accreditation process.
 - v. For example, the debate assumed costs for contractors for which no evidence existed and burdens for contractors themselves to become accredited at some cost to themselves, which costs and burdens do not exist.
 - vi. The debate illustrated an ideological opposition among councillors, and concern about voting to proceed no further on the issue in a way that was indefensible.

5. The TDC must always act in good faith

1. We draw particular attention to the obligation to act in good faith because the TDC's silent disengagement with us through 2022-2023, and the process by which this issue was put before the council and dealt with raises a good-faith argument.

6. The remedy.

1. Our proposal remedies all these defects.
2. Note:
 - i. there are just four criteria for accreditation.
 - ii. The TDC meets three of the four already and has for three years.
 - iii. The fourth is centres round the cost, if any, to the TDC of requiring regular contractors to pay staff on TDC jobs at least the Living Wage. That is the data we have sought for nearly three years and which the TDC in 2021 told us it was committed to gathering.
3. Our proposal enables the TDC to reach a decision using actual data on cost and consider the issue having regard to the statutory obligations imposed by S 10 And 14 of the Act.
4. It would ensure a process which also meets your obligations to consult your community and make a decision based on the law and not the personal ideology of councillors.
5. We reject, too, the implied need for external consultants to do the research and analysis with and a cost of up to \$30,000. We were asked by the Council to fund the data gathering which Council staff advised us would be about \$3,000. We offer skills in this area to gather and analyse the data and offer them freely.

These submissions are made by Julian Maze and Ruth Swale, co-spokes people for LWSC.

We invite to read appendix 1.

9th May 2024

"Ruth Swale"

.....
Ruth Swale

"Julian Maze"

.....
Julian Maze

Appendix 1

1. Living Wage South Canterbury.

Living Wage South Canterbury is a social justice network that advocates for employers to pay at least the Living Wage to their staff and, importantly the staff of contractors with whom they habitually engage.

Our network is one of many similar networks in New Zealand and part of New Zealand's Living Wage Movement, a non-party political movement.

2. The Living Wage

The Living Wage movement arose in response to public bodies sacking service workers and outsourcing their jobs to private companies. Those companies then secured contracts for the work, employed the unemployed workers and paid them rates lower than they had been previously paid. By outsourcing the work, public employers drove down their wage costs but drove up poverty, moving that cost to the community, through food banks, or the taxpayer, through benefits or wage subsidies.

In New Zealand, Working for Families subsidises the wages' component of every company that pays its staff wages inadequate to live on.

The Living Wage rate in New Zealand is set at about 68% of the average hourly earnings in New Zealand. That dollar figure is reviewed annually by The Family Centre, an NGO prominent in social policy research.

The current rate is \$26.00 but rises to \$27.80 on 1 September 2024. The delay between the new rate's release and its implementation gives employers time to plan for implementation. The \$1.80 increase over 2023 aligns with a 6.9% increase in New Zealand's average hourly wage.

2. The TDC's position.

Since 2021, when the TDC made its decision, it has paid its own staff at least the Living Wage. We applaud that step.

3. Becoming an accredited Living wage employer.

There is a distinction between paying staff the Living Wage and becoming an **accredited** Living Wage employer

Because of the original impetus, an accredited Living Wage employer is one who pays not only its own staff at least the Living Wage **but ensures that the staff of those from whom it habitually buys goods and services are also paid at least the Living Wage on the Accredited LW employer's contract.** Not anyone else's contract.

It recognises that your "team" comprises not just the people you pay direct every fortnight, but those whom you pay indirectly every fortnight: people employed on contract work by an independent employer, but who nevertheless work for you, week in and week out: cleaners are the classic example of low-paid workers in this category.

Note: there are just four criteria and the TDC meets 1,3 and 4 already:

1. All directly employed workers are on the current Living Wage prior to accreditation
2. All indirectly paid workers employed by contractors, delivering a service to the enterprise on a regular and on-going basis are either on the current Living Wage or on milestones agreed to.
3. Employers provide workers with access to a union, and
4. Employees' terms and conditions have not been reduced to meet the current Living Wage rate.

4. Why become an accredited Living Wage Employer.

There is one over-arching reason: The TDC has a statutory duty to promote the economic well-being of this community.

The TDC acted on that principle when it agreed to pay its own staff at least the Living Wage.

Becoming an accredited Living Wage employer enables the TDC more fully to fulfil its statutory purpose by requiring its regular contractors to do the same, at least on TDC work, as you do yourself, and sets an example to other employers to do the same.

Studies show that paying the Living wage promotes greater job satisfaction, lower staff turn-over, fewer sick-days, and greater productivity. This saves money by lowering recruitment, training, and lost productivity costs.

However, GATHERING THE DATA on which the TDC could make an informed decision DOES NOT COMMIT TDC to become accredited.

Ruth Swale and Julian Maze
Co-spokespeople for Living Wage South Canterbury.

Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



We are writing to you as a group with a significant stake in the outcome of the current deliberations on the future of the stadium complex who do not feel recognized as “stakeholders” in the process.

Aorangi Stadium includes a gymnasium with a wide range of equipment for weight training and other exercises typically used for “fitness circuit” classes. This area can accommodate up to 50 people in a single class.

Whilst many of the services provided by this facility are now catered for by the C Bay complex near Caroline Bay, Aorangi Stadium remains the preferred venue for Timaru senior citizens formal exercise classes. Around 7 one hour classes are run during the Monday to Friday working week throughout the year. These classes are attended by Timaru seniors equating to in excess of 200 “man hours” per week making this group of individuals collectively a principal user of this facility during the working week throughout the entire year.

Most of us pay \$5.50 per 1 hour session for these classes. Some individuals are funded to attend by 3rd parties.

Why don't we use C Bay?

C Bay does not have the space to accommodate a group of our size.

Seniors generally prefer to exercise in a non-competitive environment catering to their diverse needs dictated by the typical issues experienced by our cohort. (A cohort which is predicted to continue growing as a proportion of the Timaru population)

During weekdays Aorangi is easily accessed by foot, bicycle and car by the majority of users.

A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

You are currently deliberating over the option of building a new facility at Aorangi or upgrading the current facility. We acknowledge that either way we will lose the use of Aorangi Stadium for a period of time. Obviously our preference would be for a solution that minimizes disruption to our use of the gym.

We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

NAME

Julie Wainwright

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

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NAME *Karen Munnings*

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE





Netball South Canterbury Inc

Long Term Plan Submission

Netball South Canterbury continues to remain 100% behind the Aorangi Park Stadium redevelopment.

For the last three years we have continued working alongside the Aorangi Park Reference Group to ensure that the final design proposal to be put to Council for approval meets the current and future needs of all the core user groups within Aorangi Park.

The Aorangi Park upgrade was first promoted through the LTP back in the 2020/21 year. At that time the timeline provided for the whole consult/design/build process to be completed within three years and the new facilities open for public use during the 2024/25 fiscal year. Three years on and Council have still not yet got past signing off on the initial conceptual design stage with, as far as we are aware, no decision yet on a preferred design option or having this or any of the options put out for detailed pricing.

We believe the community wants and deserves this new facility. They can see the value to the community of the upgraded facilities and will get behind any fundraising necessary to meet the community contribution requirements set by the Council. Both the CBAY and CPLAY projects are great examples of how supportive the community can be in assisting with fundraising for what it believes are important community assets.

We therefore urge Council to progress in their decision making with the proposed upgrade options so sports and community users of Aorangi Park have more certainty about the future going forward. Previous Council consultation has quite clearly shown the community wants action on this project and we ask that Council now act decisively on this community feedback. The existing Aorangi Park has over 5,000 users utilising the various facilities every week right through the winter months. All the sports see the redevelopment as an opportunity to improve access to the facilities and grow their membership.

A new stadium will provide additional opportunities for both regional and national age group events to be held in Timaru. This will not only benefit the sports involved but also our local economy, with hospitality, accommodation, and transport providers all in a position to benefit from these events.

We further ask Council to begin consideration now of its future operational plans for usage of the new facilities. The status quo will not suffice. The aim must be to have enough flexibility to ensure the best possible access and utilisation is achieved for all the sporting codes that wish to use the venue. Facilitating multi purpose use of the available spaces across different sporting codes should be a core goal for the facility's operational management that will ensure increased patronage and better overall utilisation of the venue.

Karen Naylor
Board Member on behalf of Netball South Canterbury

12 April 2024
Timaru District Council
2 King George Place
Timaru 7910

Submission to Long term Plan 2024/25
Southern Trust Events Centre Gymnasium
Aorangi Park, Timaru.

We are regular users of the gymnasium located within the Southern Trust Events Centre at Aorangi Park.

I have read with concern suggestions that this facility is to be closed as part of any upgrade or replacement of the stadium building.

Ourselves, and other users are opposed to this and would like to see the gymnasium retained both now and as part of any proposed changes to the overall facility.

The gymnasium is very well used by the local community who attend classes here on weekday mornings and Monday and Wednesday evenings. There are currently 211 regular users of this gymnasium.

These classes are run in conjunction with Sport Canterbury and the 'Active for Life' programme and cater for the more mature age group of our community who find the activities specifically designed for their needs, aimed at encouraging participation, and operate in a friendly and supportive environment.

This facility is well located in the residential areas of west Timaru and provides easy access and parking.

Any loss or reduction of access to the gymnasium would impact on current users who I feel would not readily travel to or use other gymnasium facilities located elsewhere in Timaru.

We and other users would welcome a visit from councilors to the facility while in use to discuss the current situation and any potential changes.

Thank you



Karen and Gary Foster



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KEN MITCHELL



9 May 2024

QEII comments on Timaru District Council Draft Long-term Plan

Through our partnership with landowners, QEII plays a key role in biodiversity conservation on private land in the Timaru District. Our regional representative works alongside landowners to place covenants on their land to protect areas with high biodiversity values, in perpetuity. There are currently 48 registered covenants across the Timaru District, protecting over 900 hectares of a range of indigenous biodiversity and ecosystem types. Covenants protect regenerating native bush, shrub and tussock lands, wetlands, riparian zones, and naturally uncommon ecosystems such as limestone that provides habitat for rare and threatened species.

Biodiversity protection and enhancement on private land is critical in the district. Much of the district is mapped as an acutely threatened land environment, especially outside of the alpine and montane areas. A high proportion of rare and threatened native ecosystems are found on private land, so working with and supporting private landowners is vital. There are extensive opportunities to work with landowners to establish protection in perpetuity for these special places.

With Timaru District Council currently considering the priorities and budgets for the next ten years, we want to emphasise the importance of council investment in biodiversity and highlight the opportunity for QEII and the council to work together to establish legal protection in perpetuity for areas of high indigenous biodiversity value.

We acknowledge and commend the work that the Council has undertaken to identify SNAs and work proactively with landowners to engage and support them with conservation activities. Protection of these areas with QEII covenants is a way to safeguard high-value areas in perpetuity, and we can see opportunities to work more closely with the council to share-costs and support landowners to establish legal protection.

In our work with some other councils across the country, council staff and QEII reps often initially visit a potential site together, and then QEII takes on responsibility for the process to covenant registration, including drafting protection agreements, auditing new fencing before paying joint funds, and arranging surveys. The council will generally contribute to fencing costs as part of this process, and their contribution can often be the difference between a landowner being able to afford protection with QEII or not.

We support the council's Significant Natural Areas Fund as it is an important mechanism for supporting landowners with biodiversity protection and enhancement. Over the last three years, several QEII covenants that protect important limestone ecosystems have benefited from this fund with support for enhancement activities like weed control. When investing in new and/or existing covenants, the council can be confident that the outcomes of this funding are safeguarded in perpetuity.

The council also plays an important role in bringing together different stakeholder groups with an interest in biodiversity to discuss projects, priorities, and funding decisions, and we encourage the council to continue resourcing this work.

We would welcome the opportunity to talk further with Timaru District Council about opportunities to work together and support landowners with this important work.

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K. E. Smith



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Kerica Stevenson



Submission to Timaru District Council on the Long Term Plan

Dear Timaru District Council,

I am writing to express my concerns regarding several critical issues in the current Long Term Plan. While I appreciate the effort put into drafting the plan, there are significant shortcomings that must be addressed to ensure the well-being and sustainability of our community.

Firstly, there is a glaring lack of funding allocated towards climate resilience initiatives. In an era where climate change poses an existential threat to our environment and way of life, it is imperative that the Council prioritises investments in climate adaptation and mitigation strategies. Without adequate funding, we risk being ill-prepared for the inevitable impacts of climate change.

Furthermore, it has come to my attention that the Council has failed to fulfill its commitment to employ a second Sustainability Officer, as agreed upon in the previous Long Term Plan process. Sustainability is not a luxury but a necessity in today's world, and the absence of dedicated personnel undermines our ability to implement and monitor sustainable practices effectively.

Additionally, I am deeply concerned about the lack of comprehensive carbon baselining, particularly regarding embodied carbon. Without accurate data on our carbon footprint, it is impossible to set meaningful climate targets or track our progress towards reducing emissions. I urge the Council to prioritise carbon baselining efforts to inform evidence-based decision-making.

Another pressing issue is the untreated industrial waste being discharged into the sea. This not only poses a threat to marine ecosystems but also jeopardises public health. The Council must take immediate action to address this issue and enforce stricter regulations on industrial waste management.

Furthermore, there is an urgent need for investment in cycling infrastructure and pedestrian safety measures within the main centre. Despite the substantial expenditure on a Master Plan for the Central City, there has been a disappointing lack of follow-through in the 10-year plan. It is crucial that funding be allocated to build separated cycle lanes and implement pedestrian improvements to enhance connectivity and safety for all residents.

Specifically, pedestrian improvements on Bayhill are urgently needed to improve connectivity with the rest of the main street. The current situation is precarious, with numerous near-misses between large trucks and pedestrians. Narrowing the crossing points to meet safety standards and implementing traffic calming measures are essential steps to mitigate these risks.

In conclusion, I urge the Timaru District Council to take decisive action on the aforementioned issues in the Long Term Plan. By prioritising climate resilience, sustainability, waste management, and pedestrian safety, we can create a more livable and resilient community for current and future generations.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Kylee Galbraith

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NAME *Lee Keeley*

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NAME *Len Rapley*

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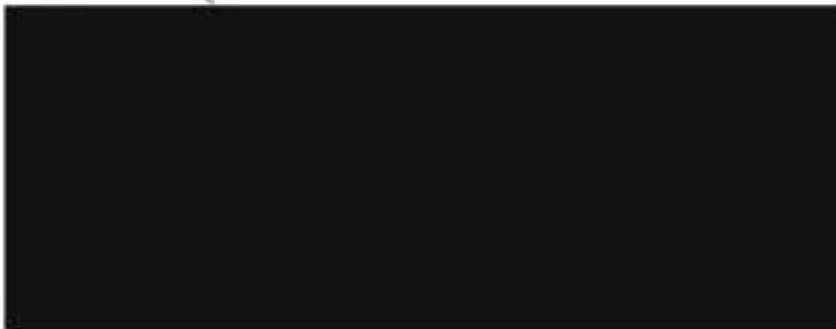
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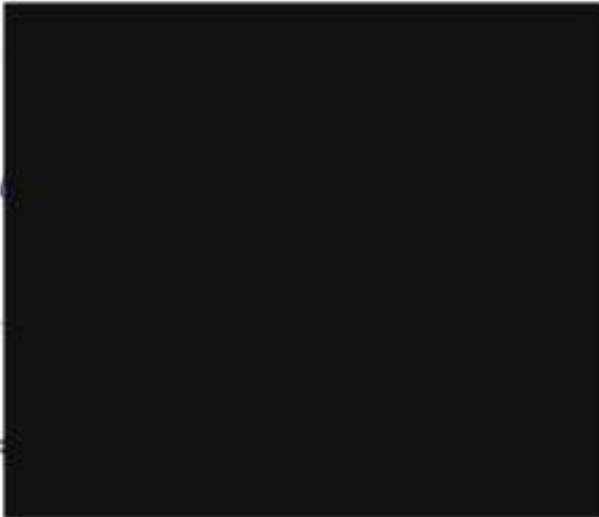
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Forcune R.C. O'iams



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NAME Mrs L. PAUL

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

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NAME *Lynda Tindal*

ADDRESS [REDACTED]
PHONE [REDACTED]
EMAIL [REDACTED]
SIGNATURE [REDACTED]

Although I have ticked your "preferred" options, I do not fully support the choices listed under each category.

I wish to make the following points:

Rates increases need to be much lower. I, along with many others in this district, am a superannuitant living on an inadequate fixed income. Many have little or no savings to fall back on. Through no fault of their own there has never been enough to save. Many pay rent - how I don't know. As an example, although my spending is extremely modest I still have a \$200 shortfall each month.

Perhaps councillors do not realise how serious this is - you all receive a much higher income from your Council work than even superannuation - and of course many of you are employed or have business interests and investments. The people you constantly mix with and talk with more than likely have good incomes and are well heeled.

The proposed rates increase of 15-17% is a nightmare many cannot afford - where will it come from? The rebate goes only part way to assist. Any increase at all will be a cruel burden for many.

Perhaps it is time to investigate another method of raising rates - maybe based on capital value rather than land value, so that higher value properties pay significantly more.

Planned projects: I do not favour of some of the projects listed in our preferred options.

- **Theatre Royal:** I support SOME upgrade - not a total upgrade.

The rebuild/enlargement of the stage area & back stage facilities are desperately needed, should have been upgraded years ago. Because of this deficiency we have lost years of entertainment and cultural events.

Also the rear carpark needs doing now.

In addition, new seating in the auditorium.

However, I do not support any refurbishment/rebuild of the auditorium itself or the entry /reception area or bathroom facilities. These were done not so long ago and last time the place was used the entry etc was fine.

(It has never been made clear just exactly what was planned. Most of what I have read has it linked to the planned Heritage Centre.)

- **Heritage Centre:** I do not support the addition of the Heritage Centre at this stage. Leave that for the future.

- **Aorangi Park Stadium:** I do not support the upgrade or rebuild of Aorangi Park Stadium, at this stage, certainly not to the extent previously discussed.

Council Priorities: should first and foremost be ensuring our district's water and sewerage systems are never compromised. Spending for maintenance and planned replacement should always be top of the list. Never deferred to finance other options.

Unforeseen/Emergency expenditure: A really significant amount should be available in the budget to cope with unforeseen and emergency events - climate issues, earthquakes, system failures, etc. These will only get worse. Patiti Point needs an immediate fix - stop delaying.

User pays charges: need to be significantly higher to reflect the actual costs for business/commercial/property matters. Why should ratepayers offset these costs when the users will be benefitting financially from their projects?

User pay charges for community facilities should remain much the same as present with only minimal increases to allow all people to access these regardless of income levels..

Aigantighe: The upgrade should be deferred. Far too much has already been spent on the upgrade of the Grant house. The top storey will still only be accessed by a staircase which many elderly citizens won't be able to use.

There is insufficient land available for a decent new Gallery to be built on this site - despite the fact that there is actually significant land there, as I understand it cannot be built on because of a caveat on it. The Council should have walked away and planned a new modern, fit for purpose Gallery elsewhere in Timaru that can cater for teaching areas, workshops, and a cafe in addition to extensive exhibition space.

Parks & Recreation: Timaru is now pretty well catered for in this area. Just maintain what we have - no upgrades or additions for the foreseeable.

Roading: Well, we are now putting up with years of a head in the sand, just throw more money at repairs, approach. Our roads are being wrecked at a faster rate because of the incredible and increasing number of gigantic trucks which constantly stream through our highway in and out of Timaru. This wasn't helped by an earlier Government edict allowing the weight of trucks to be about 50% more.

Couple that with the shocking damage to Evans St SH1 from the trucks involved with the construction of the Showgrounds development - are the developers paying for repair?

Our TDC and our community should be strongly lobbying for much much more rail carriage - and an upgraded rail line which doesn't fail with weather events. Plus the inter island ferry service must be upgraded as intended by the previous Government. Rail should be delivering the bulk of goods to several local rail hubs, with smaller trucks freighting to their local destinations.

Thanks you for considering this,
kind regards,
Lynley Simmons



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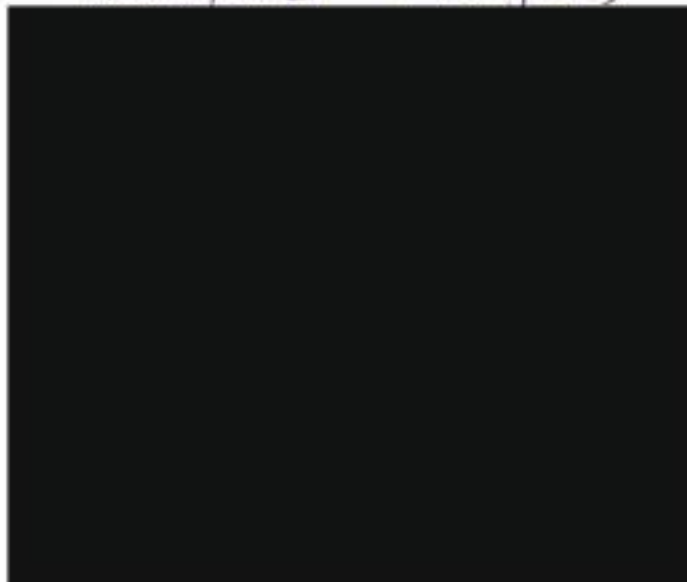
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Margaret Hughes



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*Mayor & Councillors,
Timaru District*



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Please find a solution that allows your senior citizens to retain the use of this facility as was promised when I submitted to the last challenge.

Regards

Margaret Dockrill

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Margaret Foley

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NAME

MARK G. LOWEN

ADDRESS

[REDACTED]

PHONE

[REDACTED]

EMAIL

[REDACTED]

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- * BY MEETING TOGETHER REGULARLY AT THE SAME CLASS WITH THE SAME PEOPLE, FRIENDSHIPS ARE FORMED. FOR SOME THIS ISN'T A FITNESS EXERCISE THIS IS A SOCIAL GATHERING WHERE KINSHIPS ARE FORMED, THIS MAYBE THEIR ONLY SOCIAL ACTIVITY FOR THE WEEK.
- * HERE WE HAVE NO PRETENTIOUS PEOPLE OUT TO MAKE A POINT, IT'S A NICE NON-THREATENING ENVIRONMENT WITH NO SHOW OFFS, LYCRA, AND VERY FEW MIRRORS.

Timaru District Council Long Term Plan

The future of a new performing arts facility

I have specialty called this submission a focus on a new performing arts facility rather than focusing solely on the future of the Theatre Royal. We have lost our way in providing a new facility of performing arts and other community facilities (in Timaru's case the museum)

I support a new facility and if the budget for a new facility is \$57 m then so be it. I support it BUT :

To spend \$57m on a refurbished Theatre Royal without a benchmark comparison to what else could be provided for this level of investment is negligent.

I do not support the present proposal.

To attempt to build a new facility on the slide of a hill is challenging and likely produce a "make it fit " outcome.

There are other options. Look at what Christchurch and Ashburton have achieved on new level green fields sites. Queenstown and Wanaka are right now planning new such facilities on fresh level sites that give scope for new exciting designs.

I understand we may receive some government funding for the present proposal. It should not result in a singular justification to keep pursuing the development. It is like going broke buying specials.

Timaru has options. I specifically refer to Caroline Bay which continues to attract investment as a community hub.(C Bay, C Play and the new expanded tennis facility). At the bay we have flat land and car parking plus supplementary facilities to support a new performing arts centre. At the bay there is huge scope that other communities would be envious of.

Consider a new Bay Hall as part of the development to provide professional conference facilities. How old is the Bay Hall? In my time the Hall has had two refurbishments to squeeze more life out of the hall. How long will it last as a "suitable venue" Is time up on the Hall?

Should a new facility which may incorporate a revision to an integrated Bay Hall. What ever we do it must have a multiuse purpose to ensure the operating costs are spread over many diverse users.

This is a one chance opportunity to showcase and offer multiple options for leisure, cultural education, entertainment and growth for the future of the district.

I realise that the adoption of this submission will delay a new centre but better to get it right than focus on a singular not fit for purpose " make it fit Theatre Royal

Mark Hervey

Submission to Long Term plan

Timaru District Council Principles of Governance

In addition to specific submissions on Long Term Plan financials I believe the Council should adopt the following principles of governance. There will be others, but the following are important

Support free speech

Considers climate change in financial decisions

English is the prime language of Council.

Decision making should be transparent, participative ,accountable and rule based

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Paul Henry



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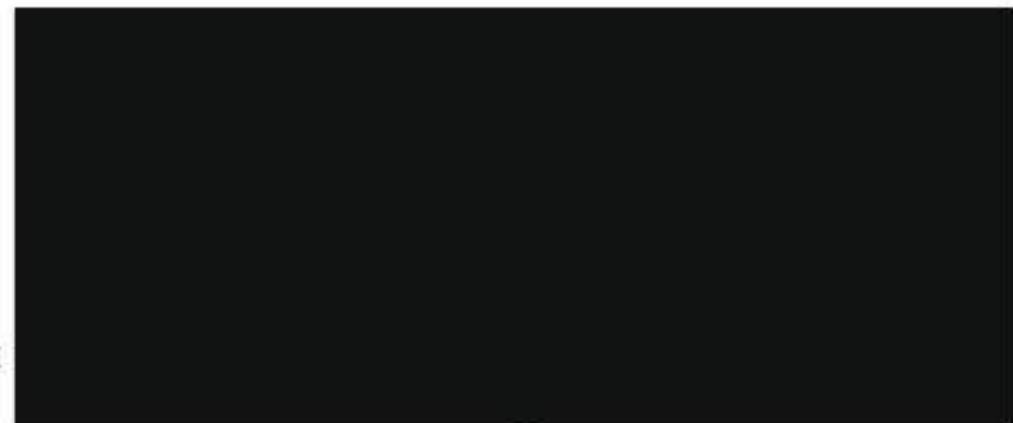
NAME

May Darling

ADDRESS



PHONE



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Mary Ellen Forrest



May 4, 2024

While it is important to be fiscally responsible, I can't see where the Council is undertaking its statutory responsibility under Section 10 of the Local Government Act (2002) with regard to appropriate housing for low income earners. I would like to see Council meet this responsibility by providing more housing in a way that builds community. Developers are not interested in this. Council should be about people, not projects. This includes make provision for those disproportionately affected by climate change eg the Rangitata Huts.

While it is important to reduce debt, the issue with a user-pays approach is that many current users of services will not be able to afford rises in service costs. In order to promote the social and cultural well-being of communities Council needs to make services accessible to those on no or low incomes such as children, teen-agers and retired people. The library is a an example of a Council service which is well used by many who could not access vital services if they had to pay. Already the cost of some things such as the pool is out of reach for many.

I do not like the way you have shaped the conversation in terms of information supplied for the Long Term plan. There are key issues for Council which do not emerge.

These include

1. Civil Defence. I can 't see where this is being led or supported by Council in the LTP. We are facing big issues with climate change, let alone the potential threat of AF8. It is my opinion that we need to see much more invested in this area. 2% of the current Council expenditure seems appropriate.
2. Environment. Protecting our biodiversity, which is under significant pressure from introduced plants and animals, is important. Council leadership in the area of controlling possums and wallabies is lacking. I would like to see the council contribute to this work, if nothing else, by helping in the areas of communication and networking.
3. Housing for low income earners. Local councils have always had a part to play as this impacts directly on health and well-being. It cannot be left to central government only.

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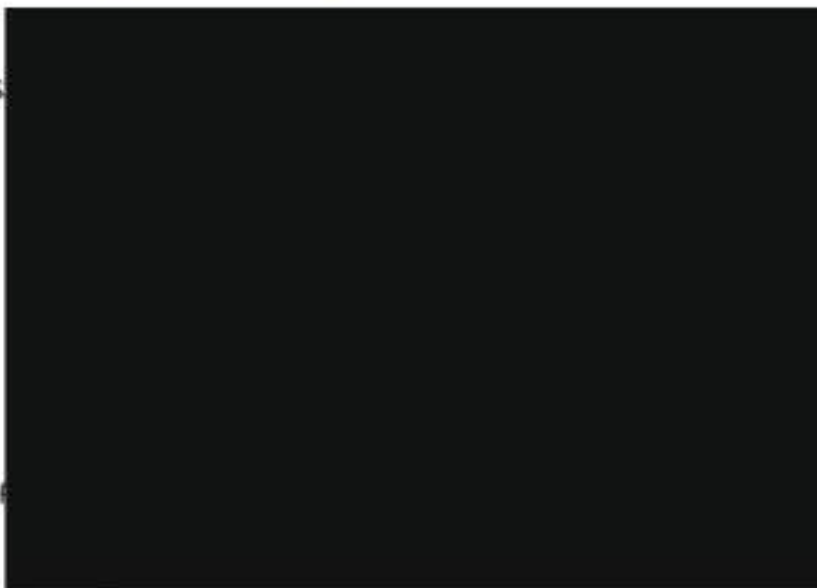
NAME *Maureen Carey*

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NAME *Maureen McKenzie*

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NAME *Maureen Skinner*

ADDRESS

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To: Timaru District Council

From: Association of Pleasant Point Sports

We request that the below is tabled for consideration by Timaru District Council

Decision sought:

Our Group seeks the following from the Timaru District Council

That the Timaru District Council include the following in their Long Term Plan 2024-34:

- (a) Funding for the irrigation of the Pleasant Point Domain in Year 1 of the Plan; and*
- (b) Support, including some financial provision, towards the design and redevelopment project for the Pleasant Point Domain in Years 2-5 of the Plan.*

Background and Reasons

The Pleasant Point Domain Irrigation and Improvement Group is a group of volunteers from each club associated with sports at the Pleasant Point Domain. The Group was formed to work with Timaru District Council on a plan to upgrade the irrigation of the playing surfaces at Pleasant Point Domain. To assist with capital raising, The Association of Pleasant Point Sports (APPS) have taken responsibility for this project. Members from Pleasant Point Rugby Club, Pleasant Point Cricket Club, Pleasant Point Football Club, Pleasant Point Netball Club, Pleasant Point Hockey Club, Pleasant Point Primary School, all have representation on the committee.

Aim

The aim of the Group is to:

Provide the best country club sports facilities in the South Island and be the Centre of Excellence for Festival Sports.

Background

Members of the Pleasant Point Domain Irrigation and Improvement Group and APPS have worked with staff from the Timaru District Council on a plan to upgrade the irrigation of the playing surfaces at Pleasant Point Domain. This is the ideal time to ensure the Pleasant Point Domain is fit for purpose for all users and is configured to make the most efficient use of spaces and playing surfaces.

APPS asks for Timaru District Council Long Term Plan support for the Domain Irrigation Project.

APPS asks for Timaru District Council to assist in developing a Pleasant Point Domain Improvement Strategy incorporating needs from all clubs and user groups.

This is seen as appropriate because a number of clubs and groups, as well as the Community Board itself, have provided funds for various projects in the Domain. More projects are also in the pipeline. The Group sees the development of a Domain Improvement Strategy as the next step in ensuring these projects, along with the Group's fund raising efforts and resources, are coordinated. This is further explained below.

Project Goals

(1) Automatic irrigation of all playing surfaces at Pleasant Point Domain.

This will:

- Reduce volunteer hours required to keep playing surfaces in the best possible shape:
 - Current water use is unsustainable.
 - The current manual process involves moving K-line around the domain. This means it is dependent on the availability of a volunteer, rather than when is most efficient/effective for the grounds.
- Ensure we are using water in the most efficient way possible:
 - Water rights have been obtained to sustain the proposed automatic system.
 - Water can be applied when and where it is actually needed, not just where we think we need it.
- Enable the grounds to be used more often for more sports:
 - Better care of our playing surfaces and better grass growth during shoulder seasons will mean less ground closures, and more usage.
 - A functioning irrigation system will allow for games to be moved to Pleasant Point Domain when other grounds are out of use due to conditions.

(2) Right sizing playing areas for all sports.

- Increasing the boundary sizes for 2 of the cricket ovals by re-shaping the bank:
 - This will enable higher level representative cricket matches to be played in Pleasant Point. We will be able to host Tournament or Festival Cricket events having up to 4 games being played at the same time, with teams utilizing club facilities and potentially on site accommodation at the Pleasant Point Domain Campground.
- Multi-Use surfaces:
 - Irrigation will allow for grounds to be used for multiple sports, with little time needed to convert from Cricket to Football or Rugby.
- Football and Rugby could play night games during the week:
 - This will help to reduce the drop in player numbers due to weekend work commitments, which is currently a trend across many sports.
- Space for all:
 - Pleasant Point Softball Club require some training space for a batting cage and practice diamond.
 - Growing sports like Pickleball and Half Court Basketball could be catered for at the old tennis courts.
 - Upgrade of the campground and having it used all year round could lead to a more permanent lease arrangement and would give Pleasant Point some other accommodation options, currently a few beds at the pub and one very small motel.

(3) Improve access to all users of the domain.

- Complete the walking and cycling trail around the domain Western boundary.
- Improve signage for easy navigation from Central South Cycle Trail Users
- Upgrade the entry gate at the Main Road Western Corner to make it easier for wheelchairs, prams and bikes to enter.
- Add a road crossing at the Main Road Western Corner from the Central Cycle Trail, for ease of access to cyclists wanting to branch off the main trail.
- Add training facilities for other sports such as a softball batting cage, half court basketball, pickle ball court.

Where is the project at now?

We understand that the Timaru District Council has put the irrigation project out for tender and received multiple submissions back. We are asking that this project is now implemented by being fully funded in Year 1 of the Long Term Plan. This will ensure the fields are able to be used to their full potential, and will also have immediate benefits such as efficiencies in water usage.

As described above, the aim is to take the project from one that is just for irrigation to one that involves the development of a Domain Improvement Strategy that aligns with the Pleasant Point, Cave & Surrounding Areas Strategic Plan recently adopted by the Community Board.

Members will be aware that as well as funding support provided by the Community Board itself, multiple contributions and investments have been made in the Domain by a number of clubs and groups. This illustrates the importance of the Domain and fields in the community and wider area, and shows the current collective momentum towards developing the Domain to its full potential.

Examples of this are:

- Pleasant Point Cricket & Rugby Clubs have raised funds to remove some old lighting on the northern end of the park (\$20,000).
- Pleasant Point Rugby Club have refreshed their Number 2 Rugby Ground, including new top soil, new grass etc.
- Pleasant Point Cricket have installed 2 new grass wicket blocks at a cost of approximately \$25,000 each.
- Pleasant Point Football Club are currently renovating their Clubrooms to improve facilities available to all teams. This will be an approximately \$150,000 investment.
- Pleasant Point Football have purchased new junior goals, at \$6,000 per set.
- Pleasant Point Football have had expressions of interest in using their upgraded facilities from Pleasant Point Netball Club, Pleasant Point Softball Club and Central South Island Cycle Trail.
- Pleasant Point Community Board have agreed to fund the western boundary Walking and Cycle trail extension, including signage (\$50,000).
- Pleasant Point Community Board have agreed to fund a feasibility study to installing a Dump Station at the camp ground (\$10,000).

A lot of the work in improving the Domain has already been done. As illustrated above, we estimate that \$200,000-\$300,000 has been spent by the clubs using the Domain over the last 2-3 years. This is a significant investment in the infrastructure at the Domain. We are aware the irrigation is expensive, but it is necessary to get this right from the ground up.

The Group intends to undertake fund-raising initiatives, and will seek funding such as grants for the ongoing development of the Domain. Coordination with sports clubs who fund their own needs will also assist in ensuring resources are not doubled up.

How does this align with the Pleasant Point Strategic Plan?

Key Objective 1 - *Ensure that local events and businesses are sustainable and well supported.*

Hosting large festival or tournaments will bring more people from outside the district to Pleasant Point. If we can host them on site the campground gets more use, the club facilities on site get more use, and the local businesses will benefit from more visitors.

Key Objective 2 - *Retain, Maintain and enhance infrastructure, facilities, amenities and attractions.*

Pleasant Point Domain is our jewel. Investment in the infrastructure to support it is imperative so we can provide the best experience for all users.

Branching smaller trails off from the Central Cycle Trail is exactly what the intention of the cycle trail designers had envisioned. These additions will add to the user experience.

Well maintained sporting and recreation facilities don't happen by chance and there is a reliance on volunteer hours to keep our facilities looking as good as they do. By removing some of the labour involved, those hours can go in to other projects or improvements within the clubs.

Key Objective 3 - *Retain or improve connection with wider district.*

Visiting clubs from the South Canterbury District will all love coming to our jewel.

Key Objective 4 - *Protect the pleasant residential character and rural landscapes.*

Proposed improvements will increase native planting areas within the Domain. Any trees removed for bank realignment will be replaced with more appropriate plantings.

Key Objective 5 - *Create a resilient safe and secure community.*

More usage of the campground, especially during winter will help improve safety, reduce crime, homelessness etc in the Domain.

Irrigation will mean surfaces are fit for purpose, not too hard or too soft.

Reshaping the bank will allow boundaries to be moved away from some immovable objects, drains and culverts.

Key Objective 6 - *Maintain and grow community participation and connection for all ages and generations.*

Apart from the big 4 (cricket, rugby, golf and football), softball, tennis, walking/cycling, Dog Trials, Fire Brigade events, athletics and cross-country/park run also hosted at the Domain. Netball, hockey and the Cycle Trail committee are all users of the facilities at the Domain. We cover lots of different parts of the community already and these improvements will only increase this.

Signage for weekly events at the Domain would increase awareness of events in the township.

Key Objective 7 - *Promote Local History and Identity.*

With an increase in visitors using the Domain there is the opportunity for the Railway to be opened up on more weekends or for private tours for the teams during their spare time.

Key Objective 8 - *Protect the rural and small town economy and ensure sustainability.*

If there was ever a project that required multiple groups to work together for the greater good then this would be that project. It requires all clubs to be aligned and prepared to do their bit for the cause.

Investment in the Domain from the Pleasant Point Community Board

The Pleasant Point Community Board has already helped this project, with a significant contribution to the improvements we would like to the Pleasant Point Domain. These improvements are the key links between clubs, whose focus is more on the playing surfaces for their code. The trails, signage and campground improvements are some of the key elements of this proposal.

APPS would like to thank the Pleasant Point Community Board for their investment to the Domain facilities to date.

To progress the irrigation phase of the plan, APPS are requesting the Timaru District Council support funding the Pleasant Point Domain irrigation project in Year 1 of the LTP.

We are happy to provide any further information if requested.

Thank you.

Mike Thomas
Chair
Association Of Pleasant Point Sports

Contact phone number: [REDACTED]

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NAME *Michael Scannell*

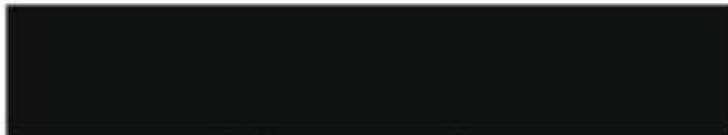
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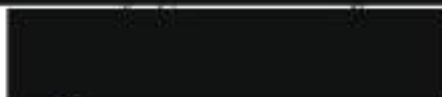
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[Redacted]

15 Williams

[Redacted]

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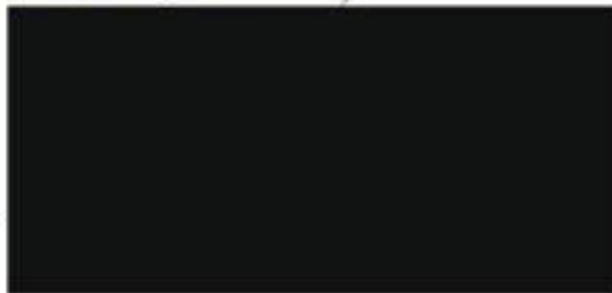
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Monica Ponsenby



Timaru District Council
PO Box 522
Timaru 7940

1 May 2024

Submission to Timaru District Council Long Term Plan 2023/2024 Consultation

INTRODUCTION

We are residents of Rolling Ridges/Cliffs Road, and would like to submit a request that the council consider sealing our unsealed section of road, which is approximately 2.2kms.

This submission is made of behalf of

1. Nadine and Leon Pirake
2. Mike and Juliana Sargent
3. Hannah Dunningham and Wiremu Shore
4. Rob and Juliette Peck
5. Julian and Trudy Turner
6. Les Dunn and Helen Clark
7. Heather Doudle
8. Barry and Heather Scott
9. Stu and Liz MacIntosh

ROAD SAFETY

The unsealed section of road is a serious safety hazard for motorists.

In the last six months we have had two serious accidents/incidents in the area. This included a high school student whose vehicle left the gravel road and landed in a ditch. The second, very serious incident on Sutherlands Road, resulted in a car that flipped and landed on its roof.

In the Annual Plan Submission in 2023, there had been eight car accidents/incidents on the road, including 2 serious near miss accidents that have been reported to Timaru District Council, and in some instances to the Police. There have been a similar number of accidents in previous years, however we (the residents) have recently started recording these centrally.

We note that although we have reported these events regularly to both the Police and TDC, when we have asked for a report on the incidents through the Police system, the system does not reconcile to what we have reported and therefore it does not show a full picture of the incidents that have been occurring on our roads.

Timaru District Council has identified that this road has a high volume of traffic, and during the Ag Season a significant portion of this traffic is Class 5 Heavy Truck and Trailers.

The accidents are generally caused by the lack of visibility due to significant dust generated by vehicles, particularly Class 5 vehicles. Excessive speeds on the shingle, and loss of control due to the condition of the shingle.

SCHOOL BUS

Our safety concerns regarding this road are intensified by the fact that there are two school buses that use this road twice a day, which we believe puts the safety of school children at risk.

There are at least four families that use our bus stop for the primary school aged children.

WATER SAFETY

At least four of the households in the area rely on roof water and do not have downlands. The dust generated by the unsealed road contaminates the roof water, which poses a health risk to the residents.

DUST

The unsealed road generates a significant amount of dust that affects the health of the residents. The dust causes respiratory problems, and the situation is especially challenging during the summer season when the dust is more prevalent, and the Class 5 volumes are high.

ROAD SEAL POLICY

We request the council consider sealing this road under special circumstances, and where possible apply for additional funding from Waka Kotahi due to the road safety issues.

I understand that following the Annual Plan Submission, a matrix has now been developed, but no data has been entered into the matrix, as there is no funding available under the Seal Extension Policy.

If we do not populate the matrix, how will we know what roads will have priority if there is additional funding the district may receive in future.

EXPORTS/ROADING

Timaru District Council previously noted that our district is 1.2% of the population of New Zealand, yet our exports account for 7.3% of New Zealand's food and fibre exports that year. This has a significant impact on our roads, and we are at the forefront those impacts.

DISTRICT INFRASTRUCTURE

In the last 10 years, less than 3 kilometers of unsealed roads in the district has been sealed. This Long Term Plan has no funding allocated to the sealing of roads for the next 10 years.

We understand that the sealing of our road will require financial resources, but we believe that the safety benefits will far outweigh the costs.

I would like to speak on behalf of this submission.

Our district roads matter. Our road matters.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Nadine Pirake

(On behalf of all the residents listed in the Introduction)

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We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

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Nancy Mangum



12 May 2024

Long-Term Plan 2024-34 Submission
Timaru District Council

- WAIMATE (Head Office)
- ASHBURTON
- TIMARU
- OAMARU

BY EMAIL ONLY: ltp@timdc.govt.nz

Long-Term Plan 2024-34 Submission

1. On behalf of the Rooney group of companies, including but not limited to Rooney Group Limited, Rooney Holdings Limited, Rooney Farms Limited and Rooney Earthmoving Limited (Rooney Group), the following submission is made on Timaru District Council's (Council) Draft Long-Term Plan (LTP) 2024-34.
2. Rooney Group would like to speak to its submission at the LTP hearings.

General

3. In 2023 Rooney Group made a submission on Council's proposed increases to its 2023/24 Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) fees and charges, citing concerns the changes would have to itself and the public. Unfortunately, the same concerns remain, and the points raised in our 2023 submission remain relevant today in relation to Council's proposed fee increases.
4. The resource consent lodgement fees (deposits) are fixed charges¹ under the RMA and as such are required to be set in accordance with the Special Consultative Procedure of the Local Government Act 2002² (LGA). A requirement of this process is to provide a Statement of Proposal. We are unable to find one for this proposal, with no information provided to support the proposed changes.
5. The RMA fees and charges appear to have been amalgamated into the broader fees and charges discussion as part of Big Issue 4 in Council's LTP Consultation Document, regarding balancing the users pays principle with common good. Yet the proposed increases in resource management fees vary from 15% to 20% with no specific explanation that would normally be required in relation to a Special Consultative Procedure process.
6. Rooney Group continues to have concerns regarding the transparency of how Council sets its RMA fees and charges, and the level of cost breakdown provided to applicants when additional charges are levied.

RMA Fees and Charges

7. For District Plan Administration³, the Draft Revenue and Financing Policy states that operating expenditure will be met by 80-90% user charges and 10-20% from the general rate. Council's 2023 decision on RMA fees and charges, indicated the preference was more 90% user charges.

¹ Section 36(3) Resource Management Act 1991

² Section 83 Local Government Act 2002

³ Page 20 Draft Revenue and Financing Policy

8. District Plan Administration within the policy is an amalgam of RMA functions relating to resource consent processing and monitoring, but also includes general RMA public enquiries, and land information memorandums (LIMs), a non-RMA function.⁴
9. District Plan Administration as described in the policy is too broad, enabling Council to set its RMA fees at 90% of the overall District Plan Administration cost centre cost. This is not consistent with recovering the actual and reasonable costs of resource consent processing and monitoring, which is the statutory requirement in the RMA.
10. Section 36AAA of the RMA clarifies that:

The sole purpose of a charge is to recover the reasonable costs incurred by the local authority in respect of the activity to which the charge relates.

11. The *activity to which the charge relates* is the activity the applicant is seeking resource consent for, or the activity being monitored. It is not the cost of the overall function of Council's District Plan Administration centre. Part of this statutory purpose, apart from providing accurately for the user pays principle, is to ensure the costs paid by applicants and consent holders is transparent and reasonable, and is not funding other Council activities that may be unrelated.
12. The increases proposed to the fixed RMA lodgement fees (deposits) vary from 15.4% to 18.5%. While Council reserves its discretion to refund part of this fee if the work required to process the application is *less than usual*⁵, this fee, or the accrual of work undertaken under this fee, is not able to be challenged by an applicant under section 357B of the RMA. An applicant has no right to object to the way in which Council has calculated its costs in relation to work it has undertaken after an applicant has paid the fee.
13. This is the opposite to a charge levied by Council over and above the initial lodgement fee. In this circumstance, an applicant has the full right of objection to such additional charges. Raising the lodgement fees reduces an applicant's right to objectively challenge the RMA fees being charged by Council. The likelihood of receiving a refund on a fixed lodgement fee is greatly reduced, as it is entirely at Council's discretion.
14. In the 2023/24 Annual Plan process the Council acknowledged that it was significantly increasing staff hourly rates to cover the cost of consultant costs processing resource consent applications on Council's behalf, due to a shortfall in staffing. Rooney Group's objection on this point was not accepted. The LTP is proposing to further increase staff charge rates between 15.2% and 18.5% which Rooney Group submits is unacceptable and unjustified.
15. Council has indicated it is reducing its reliance on consultants, having recruited more staff, which in turn should reduce the amount of smoothing effect Council has adopted to on-charge consultant costs into the staff charge rates. Due to the favourable change in staff/consultant ratio, at the very least the public should not expect an increase in staff charge out rates.
16. The percentage increase proposed illustrates that staff charge rates are being bolstered to increase net funding for the overall District Plan Administration, rather than the costs directly associated with processing resource consents or resource consent monitoring. This is not a direct cost that

⁴ Section 44A Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

⁵ Page 41 Draft Fees and Charges Schedule 2024-25

should be met by applicants or resource consent holders. Council is using too broad an approach in its Revenue and Financing Policy to justify illegitimately charging resource consent applicants and holders significantly more than section 36 of the RMA provides for.

17. Furthermore, Council setting its RMA fees and charges to recover as close to 90% of the cost of District Plan Administration on the basis that the applicant/resource consent holder benefits entirely from that consent is not correct. Resource consents, both subdivision and land use, almost always lead to further community benefit. Resource consents are often related to a development, building project, or business expansion that provides economic stimulus to the community. Council needs to recognise the broader benefit the community when setting its RMA fees and charges.
18. An example used in Rooney Group's 2023 RMA Fees and Charges submission that is again relevant, and a stark example of the broad fee increases proposed not being relevant to the actual costs of the activity, is an application for a Permitted Boundary Activity⁶.
19. An application for a permitted boundary consists of a simple prescribed application form. A further one-page prescribed form is used by Council to assess and issue the certificate. There is no requirement for any further written assessment; the activity either meets the definition of a Permitted Boundary Activity⁷ or not.
20. In 2019/20⁸, the average actual Timaru District Council cost for processing such applications was \$233.50 against a deposit of \$525. The latest Ministry for the Environment National Monitoring System dataset is for 2021/22⁹ but does not contain any Timaru District Council information for this activity. The most recent dataset available is from 2020/21¹⁰ when Timaru District Council processed 13 permitted boundary applications, took a deposit of \$525, and reported the actual cost of all those applications at \$525. This highlights the point raised in paragraph 13.
21. In 2023 Council increased the deposit fee from \$525 to \$640. Council is now proposing an increase of 17.2% to \$750. These are basic, straight forward applications for Council to receive and process, that usually relate to residential building project. This is an everyday example of the impact of Council's approach to broadly raising fees and charges across all activities, without any information being provided to justify the proposed increases.
22. Rooney Group strongly submits that Council does not increase any RMA fees and charges until such time as a Statement of Proposal has been prepared that provides detailed information to support the proposed increases in staff hourly charge out rates and corresponding lodgement fees. Further explanation and consultation is required prior to Council agreeing to the proposed increases.

Nathan Hole

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

⁶ Section 87BA Resource Management Act 1991

⁷ Section 87AAB Resource Management Act 1991

⁸ Ministry for the Environment National Monitoring System – Complete Dataset 2019-2020

⁹ Ministry for the Environment National Monitoring System – Complete Dataset 2021-2022

¹⁰ Ministry for the Environment National Monitoring System – Complete Dataset 2020-2021

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Neil Barton

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Submission to the Timaru District Council Long Term Plan (2024-2034)

Rangitata South Irrigation Ltd (RSIL) submits that TDC should support a collaborative project for enhanced flood protection at Arundel. The collaborative project to be led by Environment Canterbury (ECan), with participants contributing in proportion to the benefit they receive.

Background to submitter

- Rangitata South Irrigation Ltd (RSIL) is a farmer owned company that provides irrigation water to 70 farmer shareholders who farm 18,000ha between the Rangitata and Orari rivers
- RSIL captures only flood flows from the Rangitata river. RSIL stores water for delivery to shareholders in purpose-built storage ponds at Arundel for delivery during the irrigation season.

The need for enhanced flood protection at Arundel including protection of in-land Route 72

- The 2019 flooding of the Rangitata river resulted in significant disruption across the region, including:
 - Significant regionwide disruption with the lower South Island effectively being cut off.
 - TDC declaring a State of Emergency lasting 7 days.
 - Significant damage to infrastructure – including: private property (\$15m) power transmission (\$6m), river protection \$3.0m, rail and roading (\$2.3m).
- There has been significant investment since the flooding to repair damage caused by this flood event. However, the area is still vulnerable to a breakout upstream of the Arundel township. Enhanced flood protection at Arundel is vital to protect:
 - Local homes and property.
 - Significant lifeline roading (SH72).
 - Significant infrastructure (incl. irrigation for the district).

Proposed project to improve flood protection and resilience at Arundel

- Environment Canterbury (ECan) has included provision for improved flood protection at Arundel in its Long Term Plan for 2024-2034¹.
- There will be multiple beneficiaries from enhanced flood protection at Arundel. RSIL has submitted to ECan, that ECan leads a coalition of parties impacted by the 2019 flood event, to fund this vital work (including Government agencies and TDC). RSIL is willing to participate and contribute funding to this work.

¹ Proposed works are expected to include the construction of a new stop-bank and associated infrastructure (e.g. drainage and roading alignments etc)

- The Rangitata River Rating district is supportive of this project. RSIL notes that RSIL farmer shareholders comprise 80% of the river rating district and hence will be contributing financially to the project through their targeted rates, and as shareholders of RSIL.
- The construction of new flood protection infrastructure may impact on some individual landowners. As such, RSIL advocates that the design and construction of any new infrastructure needs to be undertaken in a manner that maintains the support and goodwill of any impacted landowners.

The rationale for TDC to support this work (in proportion to the benefit it receives)

Supporting enhanced flood protection directly aligns with TDC Strategic Priorities

- The TDC 30 year infrastructure strategy (pg21) includes the TDC Strategic Priority: “Resilient Infrastructure – Invest for the Future” - *We will invest in high quality infrastructure to meet the needs of our community. In order to deliver the community services and infrastructure residents expect and deserve”*

The project supports TDCs response to Climate Change and Natural Hazards

- The TDC 30 year infrastructure strategy recognises climate change to be a critical factor in its long term planning (pg 22). Further – with regards to roading, a key issue (pg 64) is that *Climate change is expected to increase extreme weather events, challenging infrastructure resilience and leading to potential damage to bridges, roads, and public utilities.*

RSIL submits that investing in infrastructure that directly addresses a known flood risk meets these strategic priorities.

RSIL would like the opportunity to speak to its submission in person

Contact

Nick Daniels – Rangitata South Irrigation GM

Mb: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Appendix:

Flooding at Arundel – December 2019



Roading damage at Arundel – December 2019





Christchurch Office
PO Box 2516, Christchurch 8014
18 April 2021
New Zealand

P: +64 3 9405522
www.forestandbird.org.nz

12 May 2024

Timaru District Council
2 King George Place
Timaru
Canterbury 79105

BY EMAIL: ltf@timdc.govt.nz

Feedback on Timaru District Draft Long Term Plan “Finding the Balance” Consultation Document 2024/34.

Forest & Bird wishes to be heard.

Introduction

Forest & Bird is New Zealand’s leading independent conservation organisation. Since 1923 Forest & Bird has played an important role in preserving Aotearoa New Zealand’s natural environment and native species. We are independently funded by private subscription, donations, and bequests. Our mission is to protect and preserve New Zealand’s unique ecological values, flora and fauna, and natural habitats.

Forest & Bird has 47 branches throughout Aotearoa New Zealand. Our South Canterbury Branch has a long history of conservation in the Timaru District. Forest & Bird have contributed significantly—and continue to contribute significantly—to conservation in the Canterbury region, as advocates for the environment through national, regional, and local planning processes; through our youth network; as an educator through our Kiwi Conservation Club; and in action through flax roots conservation work within our communities.

Forest & Bird is grateful for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Timaru District Draft Long Term Plan Finding the Balance 2024/34 (LTP). This feedback begins with some general comments followed by comments on specific issues of interest to Forest & Bird including indigenous biodiversity protection, maintenance and restoration, and nature-based solutions and climate change.

General Comments

1. Forest & Bird acknowledges the ongoing cost of living crisis and the challenge this creates for many households and subsequently for local authorities dependent upon rates to fund their activities. Forest & Bird also wishes to reinforce the need to address the dual climate and biodiversity crises, the council’s management of which has the potential to help or hinder community resilience.

2. Forest & Bird understands the council's desire to "balance the big issues". However it is unclear whether the council has identified the appropriate big issues to set the Timaru District up for a climate safe future, to protect public health and support wellbeing for its communities, its native species, and its economy.
3. Forest & Bird are pleased that council considers climate change as "business as usual" however it is unclear beyond routinely evaluating whether infrastructure assets are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, and planning renewals accordingly¹ how climate change is to be fully integrated into business as usual.
4. Council spending on Environmental services, appears disproportionately minimal to other aspects of council business.² Furthermore, Forest & Bird understand that funding for climate change initiatives is proposed to reduce and funding for the council's Significant Natural Areas (SNA) programme is proposed to halve over the life of this LTP. This seems at odds with the proposed approach the council has chosen to "balance the big issues". We urge the council to not reduce funding for climate change initiatives and indigenous biodiversity protection at a time when it is most needed.

Indigenous biodiversity protection and maintenance

5. Forest & Bird strongly supports the TDC Significant Natural Areas (SNA) programme. The programme is often held up as exemplary and a good example of what can be achieved between councils and communities. Forest & Bird urges the council to continue supporting and resourcing the SNA programme with at least the same funding and preferably to increase funding over the life of the LTP, to provide adequate support for land occupiers to protect maintain and restore their SNA.
6. However, we also remind council that the existing SNA programme is incomplete and there is still work to do to identify and list remaining SNA in the district plan. The National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (NPS-IB) was gazetted in August 2023 and it is the responsibility of territorial authorities to implement at the local level. Regardless of current central government directives regarding implementation of parts of the NPS-IB, we urge the council to continue SNA identification in the district for addition to the district plan.
7. The NPS-IB Policy 16 also requires that regional biodiversity strategies are developed and implemented to maintain and restore indigenous biodiversity at a landscape scale. In response to the NPS-IB Policy 16, the Canterbury Regional Council recently began a process with stakeholders to revitalise the Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy with stakeholder. As a signatory to the Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy, we urge TDC to resource participation in the strategy revitalisation process.
8. We also recommend continuing rates relief for land occupiers with SNA.
9. In the 2021-2031 LTP feedback, Forest & Bird recommended that the TDC engage the services of a full time inhouse biodiversity officer to help the council achieve its statutory obligations to protect and maintain indigenous biodiversity. We understand that this has not occurred, and we strongly recommend that the council follow through with this recommendation.
10. Forest & Bird also recommend resourcing the investigating the role of the SNA as nature-based solutions to better understand their efficacy in the district's 30-year infrastructure plan.

¹ Finding the Balance Consultation Document TDC LTP 2024-2034 Page 7

² Finding the Balance Consultation Document TDC LTP 2024-2034 Page 2

Nature-based solutions and climate change

11. The National Adaptation Plan (NAP) defines nature-based solutions as “*solutions to climate issues that are inspired and supported by nature and are cost effective and at the same time provide environmental, social and economic benefits and help build resilience.*”³
12. The NAP encourages the prioritisation of nature-based solutions in planning and regulatory systems to address the climate and biodiversity crises together. Nature-based solutions have a role to play in infrastructure planning and can also have efficacy when used in combination with hard engineering solutions.
13. The council has indicated that much of the district’s infrastructure is due for replacement over the next 30 years; and that climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as being in an area subject to natural hazards influences the infrastructure strategy.
14. Climate change and natural hazards are identified in the 30-Year infrastructure Strategy and the LTP as key issues however it is not clear in the 30-Year infrastructure what the council intends to do differently to address these issues. Forest & Bird suggests the TDC is in a strong position to investigate opportunities to integrate nature-based solutions into its 30-Year infrastructure strategy 2024-2054.
15. Nature-based solutions involves restoring and expanding and integrating existing natural features like wetlands, braided river flood plains, dune lands, coastal estuaries/hapua, native forests and other native ecosystems into planning and infrastructure projects, to produce better outcomes for climate and nature, and create greater climate resilience for communities.
16. Plant and animal pest control is also a useful nature-based solution to improve the health of native ecosystems and improve resilience against biosecurity risks. Forest & Bird urges the council to resource plant and pest animal control, particularly in the Timaru district’s critical drinking water source areas.
17. Considering council’s investment to date identifying and protecting SNA, combined with the district’s vulnerability to the impacts of climate change, Forest & Bird urges the TDC to appropriately resource investigation, integration and implementation of nature-based solutions into its planning and infrastructure projects identified in the 2024-2034 LTP and for its 30-Year infrastructure strategy.

Conclusion

Forest & Bird urges the TDC to at least maintain current levels of funding for climate and indigenous biodiversity initiatives, and not reduce it at a time when it is most needed.

Forest & Bird strongly recommends that the TDC collaborate with the Canterbury Regional Council on the revitalisation of the Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy, to guide its own work programme for NPS-IB implementation.

³ Ministry for the Environment. 2022. Aotearoa New Zealand’s first national adaptation plan. Wellington. Ministry for the Environment. Accessed 10 May 2024 at <https://environment.govt.nz/assets/publications/climate-change/MFE-AoG-20664-GF-National-Adaptation-Plan-2022-WEB.pdf> ; and <https://climateandnature.org.nz/solutions/new-zealand-ecosystems/estuaries/>

Forest & Bird strongly recommends that council engage the services of a suitably qualified in-house biodiversity officer to oversee the TDC SNA programme and to provide advice on nature-based solutions.

Forest & Bird support the council integrating climate change into its business-as-usual decision making and have offered some solutions on how this could be better achieved particularly with regard to integrating SNA and nature-based solutions into the 30-year infrastructure strategy.

We hope that our suggestions have been helpful and that they will be reflected in the final Long-Term Plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit.

Nicky Snoyink
Regional Manager Canterbury/West Coast
Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc.

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Venture Timaru
TO: Timaru District Council
SUBJECT: Long -Term Plan Submission
DATE: 6th May 2024

Background

Venture Timaru is a Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) - 100% owned by Timaru District Council. We operate as the Economic Development and Tourism Agency for the Timaru District.

For a District such as ours, with so much to offer, it is important we collectively look forward and be challenging and aspirational about what we can be. Venture Timaru have undertaken an initial piece of work that looked out to 2050 (see attached report) and asked the questions:

- Where will Timaru's economy be in 2050 if the **status quo** remains?
- How much larger could Timaru's economy be if there is an aspirational focus on **doing better** things?
- Which factors would achieving a **truly aspirational** economic future rely on?

The findings were confronting and can be best summarised as "if we do the same -we actually don't get the same –we go backwards!". Therefore, Venture Timaru's focus in coming years will be solidifying a path towards a better Timaru District in 2050 – a more diversified economy, one with more people, higher paid and more jobs, increased productivity, and prosperity and at the heart of it all – an enviable quality of life for all that live here.

If Timaru District can be aspirational in terms of how many jobs we create, the people we attract, and how productive these jobs are, then Timaru's economy could potentially triple in size by 2050, bringing with it significant economic, social and cultural benefits.

We are excited about the next 1-2 years as we develop and then implement an aspirational pathway for our District and our people. We look forward to enhancing our engagement with all local stakeholders, as now more than ever is the time to be bold, innovative, and aspirational about the future of this great District of ours.

Submission

We readily acknowledge the challenges facing Council in "Finding the Balance" by continuing to provide a high level of service, infrastructure enhancements and facility development in a fiscally responsible way - in what continues to be demanding economic times.

Having reviewed various LTP documents (financial strategies and forecasts, etc....), we have collated the following high-level data, which we believe further supports the need for our District to be truly aspirational and attract more people:

	2023/24	2033/34		Source
Population	48,600	49,700	2.3%	Forecasting Assumptions - Population & Growth - page 3
Est Rates	\$70,228,000	\$ 139,078,000	98.0%	Draft Financial Information - Statement of Comprehensive Revenue & Expenses - page 4
Rating base	23,167	24,352	5.1%	Draft Financial Information - Rating Base page 27
Rates per ratepayer	\$ 3,031	\$ 5,711	88.4%	Calculation - Est Rates/Rating Base

In summary the above table evidences a very small projected population increase with a slightly larger projected increase in rating base. Yet a 98% increase in rates income effectively meaning existing ratepayers paying significantly more (88% more over the next ten-year period).

We have serious concerns regarding the ability of our community to meet such proposed increases without significant step-changes to the Districts overall demographics:

- We consider an increase in household incomes to match projected rate increases of 88% over the next 10 years is very unlikely:
 - o *Timaru District Mean Household Income comparison:*
 - 2013 \$ 71,124
 - 2023 \$100,533
- The substantially ageing population of the Timaru District will see many of our ageing workforce transition into retirement on fixed incomes, e.g. pension etc, with restricted ability to meet rate increases.
 - o *Timaru District population aged >65 years*
 - 2023 22.9% (11,150/48,900)
 - Est 2033 28.3% (14,100/49,700)
 - Est 2040 30% +
- Referencing below data previously submitted to Council comparing key housing statistics. If we are to attract more people, increasing our population and rating base - we need to establish an elevated enabling environment that encourages new housing investment and development. This investment and development should include a focus on diverse types of housing, encompassing inner/near city living, apartments, townhouses, in-fill and medium to large residential subdivisions, to meet the changing preferences of our existing and new to district residents:
 - o Population Growth 1996-2022: Ashburton 41.2% v Timaru 11.2%
 - o Residential Section Sales (1500m23) for the period 2018-2022 saw
 - Timaru sales nearly **50% less** than Ashburton (Timaru 541 v Ashburton 1016)
 - but Timaru sections **sold 35% faster** than Ashburton (Timaru 107 days v Ashburton 165 days) – evidencing demand.
 - o New Residential Dwelling Consents per 1,000 residents between 1997-2023: Ashburton averaged **57% more than Timaru** –(Ashburton 6.26 v Timaru 3.98)

Data sources Infometrics/Figure.nz/REINZ/MBIE

Summary

Our submission is positioned to support Council progress priorities associated within the Long Term Plan and your vision *“where people, place and business prosper within a healthy, adaptable, and regenerative environment”*.

Our prioritised Towards 2050 programme of work aims to:

- Encapsulate and align existing, and to be developed, key strategies and plans for our Districts key economic enablers across workforce, power, water, infrastructure, and housing,
- Excite and involve our whole community in a plan they can relate to and advocate for - and importantly commit to and do their bit towards achieving.
- Ultimately attract more people to enhance the vibrancy and potential of our District and helpfully share the cost and lessen the burden on existing residents

We cannot afford to “do the same and effectively go backwards”.

We would welcome the opportunity to talk to our submission and look forward to working with Council and our community on an aspirational path “Towards 2050”.



Nigel Davenport
Chief Executive



Scenarios of an aspirational economic future for Timaru District



Report commissioned by Venture Timaru

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2. Executive summary

This report has been commissioned by Venture Timaru. Its purpose is to highlight what an aspirational economic future could look like for Timaru, and what achieving such an outlook would rely on.

At its heart, this report helps show:

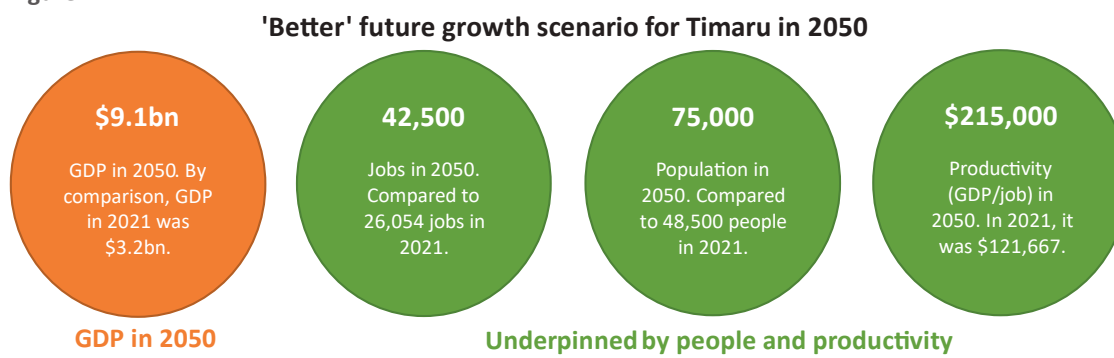
- Where will Timaru's economy be in 2050 if the status quo remains?
- How much larger could Timaru's economy be if there is an aspirational focus on doing better things?
- Which factors would achieving an aspirational economic future rely on?

2.1. Key findings

The potential 'size of the prize' for Timaru's economy from being ambitious is large:

- Timaru currently generates \$3.2 billion of GDP (2021).
- If Timaru does no better than just muddle along, with its status quo level of employment and current productivity trajectory then the economy would be worth \$4.2 billion in 2050.
- If, instead, there is transformational growth into high productivity employment, then Timaru's economy could be worth \$9.1 billion by 2050, which is almost three times its current size.

Figure 1

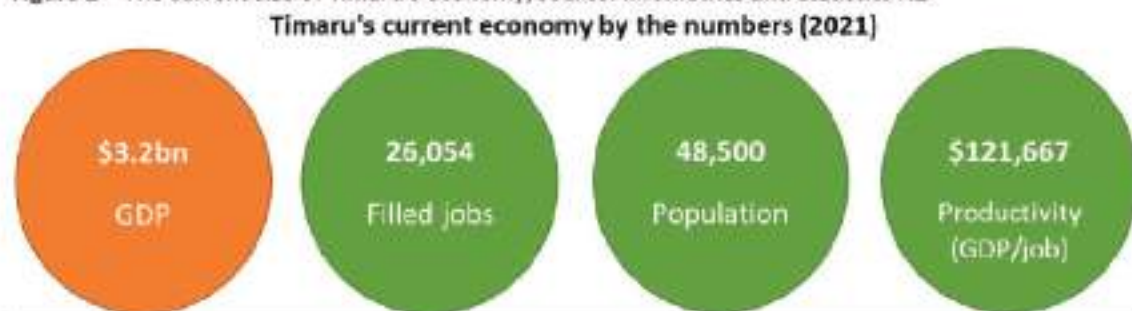


- The outcomes needed to achieve the 'better' future growth scenario are ambitious – both in terms of how many people Timaru would need to attract to fill jobs and how productive industries would need to be:
 - Timaru would need to attract average net migration gains of just over 1,000 people each year to reach a population of 75,000 by 2050.
 - The aspirational productivity outcome in the 'better' scenario would require transformation towards at least one third of Timaru businesses doing things that were at least twice as productive as opportunities under the status quo by 2050.
- Ambitious industry transformation won't happen overnight. Initially many of Timaru's productivity wins will be found working with existing businesses in existing industries. But through time, Timaru can progressively step out from this base and become more transformational in what it does, including breaking into new industries.
- Regardless of which industries help Timaru achieve an aspirational economic future, there will be many factors which are necessary foundations. For example, an additional 9,000 homes, 200-300 classrooms, and 1,500 more health and social assistance workers would be needed by 2050 to support the population growth needed under the aspirational 'better' future growth scenario.

3. Timaru’s current economic context

There were 48,500 residents in Timaru in 2021 and employment sat at 26,054 jobs. Each job produced \$121,667 of GDP (compared to \$124,980 nationally), meaning Timaru generated total GDP of \$3.2 billion.

Figure 2 – The current size of Timaru’s economy, source: Infometrics and Statistics NZ

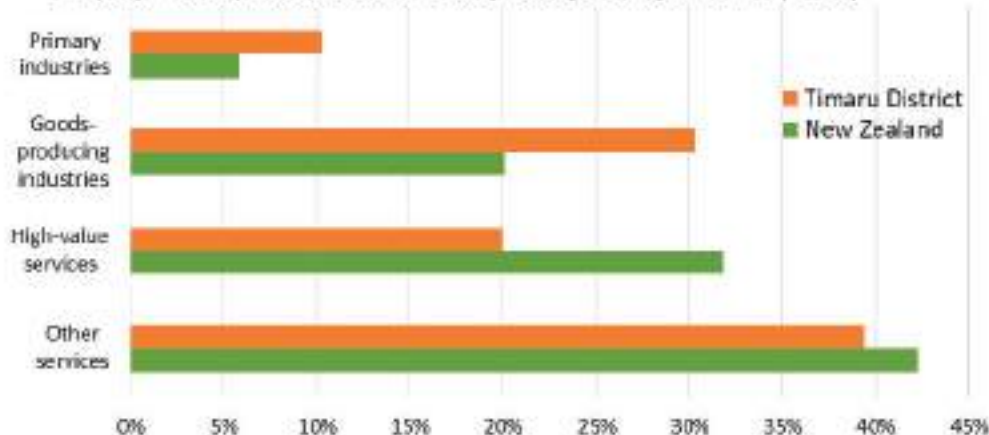


Employment in Timaru is more heavily concentrated on primary and goods-producing industries than nationally. Primary industries centre on dairy farming, sheep and beef farming, arable farming, and fishing. Goods-producing industries tend to be concentrated on processing of food and fibre products, although there is some machinery and equipment manufacturing to support the primary sector. High-value professional services are less represented in Timaru than the rest of New Zealand, but Timaru is a service centre for South Canterbury so has relatively high health, education, and retail employment.

Figure 3

Contribution to employment by broad sector

Employment by broad sector as % of total jobs, Infometrics (2021)



Over the past 10 years, growth in Timaru has lagged the New Zealand average for GDP, jobs, and population. But productivity growth in Timaru was slightly above the national average.

Table 1

Comparing growth in Timaru against New Zealand over the past decade		
Annual average percentage change, 2011-2021, calculations from Infometrics and Statistics NZ data		
	Timaru	NZ
GDP (\$ billion)	2.2%	2.6%
Jobs	1.2%	1.9%
Population	0.8%	1.6%
Productivity (GDP/job)	1.0%	0.8%

4. Aspirational future scenarios for 2050

This section introduces three scenarios for where Timaru's economy could be in 2050. The scenarios range from conservative to aspirational – and are designed to highlight the 'size of the prize' from being ambitious.

4.2. Overview of future scenarios for the Timaru economy

The three hypothetical scenarios modelled in this report for Timaru's economy in 2050 are:

- **The 'status quo' (low) scenario.** This scenario highlights what will happen to Timaru's economy if it can only maintain the status quo level of employment and its industries merely muddle along their current productivity trajectories.
- **The 'more' (medium) scenario.** This scenario highlights what will happen to Timaru's economy if it can gradually expand its underlying level of employment, but only in industries based around the district's current productivity trajectory, rather than in anything transformational.
- **The 'better' (high/transformational) scenario.** This scenario is the most ambitious and is based on doing more of things that are better. It highlights what would happen if Timaru can evolve its economy and grow employment into an industry footprint with transformationally higher productivity.

The rest of this section outlines the potential economic impacts for Timaru of each scenario. The detailed assumptions underpinning each scenario and their practicalities are also examined, with a focus on how many people and what productivity levels would be needed to support them.

4.3. 'Size of the prize' for Timaru's economy in each scenario

The potential 'size of the prize' for Timaru's economy from being ambitious is large. Calculations under the three future scenarios show that:

- If Timaru does no better than just muddle along, with its status quo level of employment and current productivity trajectory then the economy would be worth \$4.2 billion in 2050, which is one third larger than its current level (\$3.2 billion in 2021).
- If instead there is transformational growth into high productivity employment, then Timaru's economy could be worth \$9.1 billion by 2050, which is almost three times its current size.

Figure 4 – Timaru's future economic activity (GDP) under conservative through to ambitious scenarios



4.4. Assumptions for achieving future scenarios

Each scenario of future economic activity is driven by assumptions based on jobs and productivity growth. The rest of section 4.4 unpacks the practicalities of each scenario’s assumptions.

4.4.1. Assumptions for achieving the ‘status quo’ future scenario

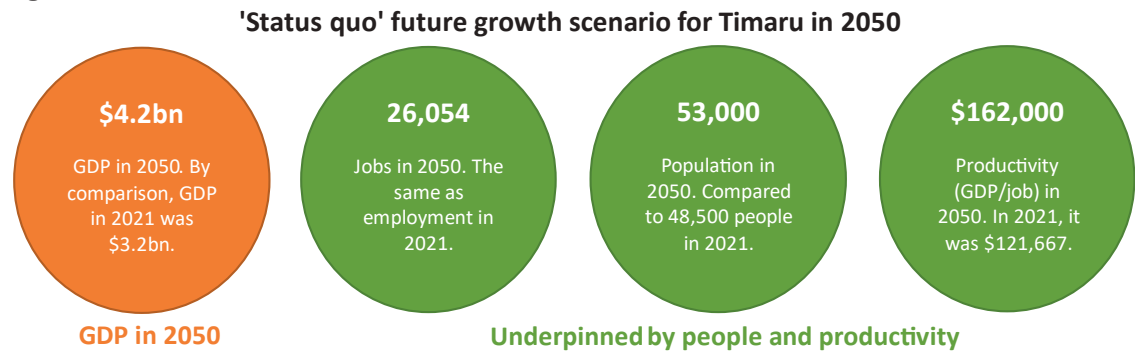
The ‘status quo’ scenario has the lowest level of ambition for 2050. It simply assumes that:

- Employment in Timaru remains at its current level (26,054 in 2021)
- Productivity growth muddles along at its current trajectory (1.0%pa growth).

In practical terms, achieving the ‘status quo’ scenario’s two assumptions would imply that by 2050:

- Timaru would need a population of 53,000 people, up from its current population of 48,500
- Productivity (GDP per job) would reach \$162,000, compared to \$121,667 at present.

Figure 5



It might seem counterintuitive that Timaru would have to expand its population just to maintain its status quo employment levels. But the reason is simple, Timaru’s population is rapidly aging and 30% of residents are expected to be aged over 65 by 2050¹, compared to just over 20% aged 65+ at present.

Timaru would need to grow its population from 48,500 in 2021 to 53,000 by 2050 just to ensure there were sufficient people of working age to maintain Timaru’s current level of employment and counteract increasing retirements.

The productivity growth assumption in the ‘status quo’ scenario is relatively unambitious. It only requires GDP per job in 2050 (\$162,000) to sit approximately one third higher than it does currently (\$121,667). Several places in New Zealand already have productivity at or approaching this level².

4.4.2. Assumptions for achieving the ‘more’ future growth scenario

The ‘more’ scenario is based around a slightly more ambitious growth scenario to 2050, where Timaru expands its underlying level of employment. It simply assumes that:

- Employment in Timaru grows at its current trajectory (1.2%pa growth)
- Productivity growth muddles along at its current trajectory (1.0%pa growth).

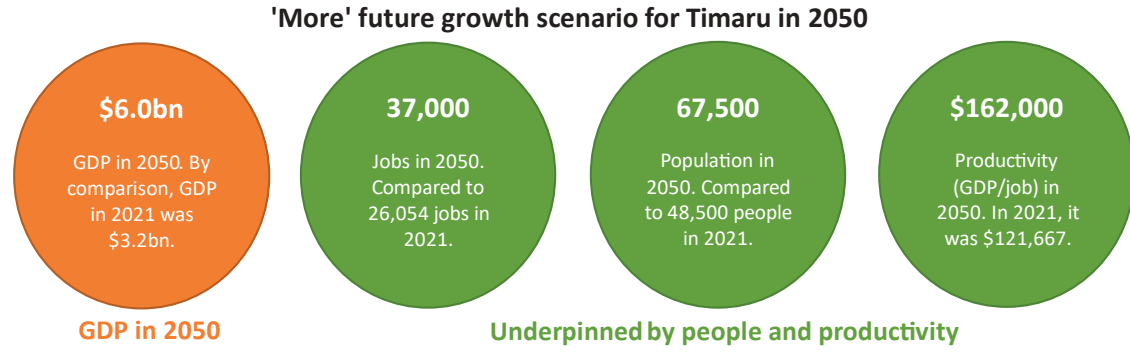
¹ Statistics NZ, subnational population projections (medium scenario), published 31/03/21.

² For example, Infometrics Regional Economic Profile shows that productivity (GDP per job) in Waitomo, Waitaki, South Taranaki, Wellington, New Plymouth, and Buller already exceeded \$150,000 in 2021.

In practical terms, achieving the ‘more’ scenario’s assumptions would imply that by 2050:

- Employment in Timaru would sit 11,000 jobs higher than currently
- To fill these jobs, Timaru’s population would need to rise from 48,500 people to 67,500 people
- Productivity (GDP per job) would reach \$162,000, compared to \$121,667 at present.

Figure 6



Timaru’s aging population³ means that lifting the population from 48,500 to 67,500 would need to increasingly be driven by migration from around New Zealand and overseas rather than natural increase.

Timaru would need to attract a net 800 people each year to lift the population to 67,500 by 2050. This level of migration would be twice as high as Timaru’s average migration gains in recent history⁴.

4.4.3. Assumptions for achieving the ‘better’ future growth scenario

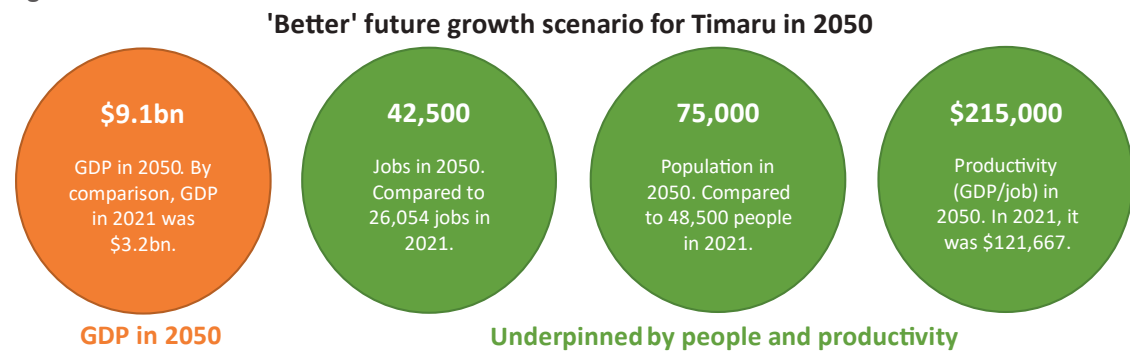
The ‘better’ scenario is the most ambitious and transformational scenario. It assumes that up to 2050:

- Employment will grow by 0.5%pa above its current trajectory (1.7%pa growth instead of 1.2%pa)
- Productivity will grow at 1%pa above its current rate (2.0%pa growth instead of 1.0%pa).

In practical terms, achieving the ‘better’ scenario’s assumptions would imply that by 2050:

- Employment in Timaru would sit 16,500 jobs higher than it does currently
- To fill these jobs, Timaru’s population would need to rise from 48,500 people to 75,000 people
- Productivity (GDP per job) would need to reach \$215,000, compared to \$121,667 at present.

Figure 7



³ A rising death rate, relative to births, is projected to reduce Timaru’s population by an average of 175 people a year from 2023 to 2048. Source: Statistics NZ subnational population projections (published 31/03/21).

⁴ Between 2013 and 2018, net migration to Timaru averaged 400 people per annum. Source: Statistics NZ subnational population projections (published 31/03/21) which drew on censuses for historical perspectives.

The outcomes needed to achieve the 'better' future scenario are ambitious – both in terms of how many people Timaru would need to attract to fill jobs and how productive industries would need to be.

Timaru would need to attract average net migration gains of just over 1,000 people each year to reach a population of 75,000 by 2050. This level of migration is ambitious – even during the high growth years of 2013 to 2018 Timaru only attracted an average of 400 people a year.

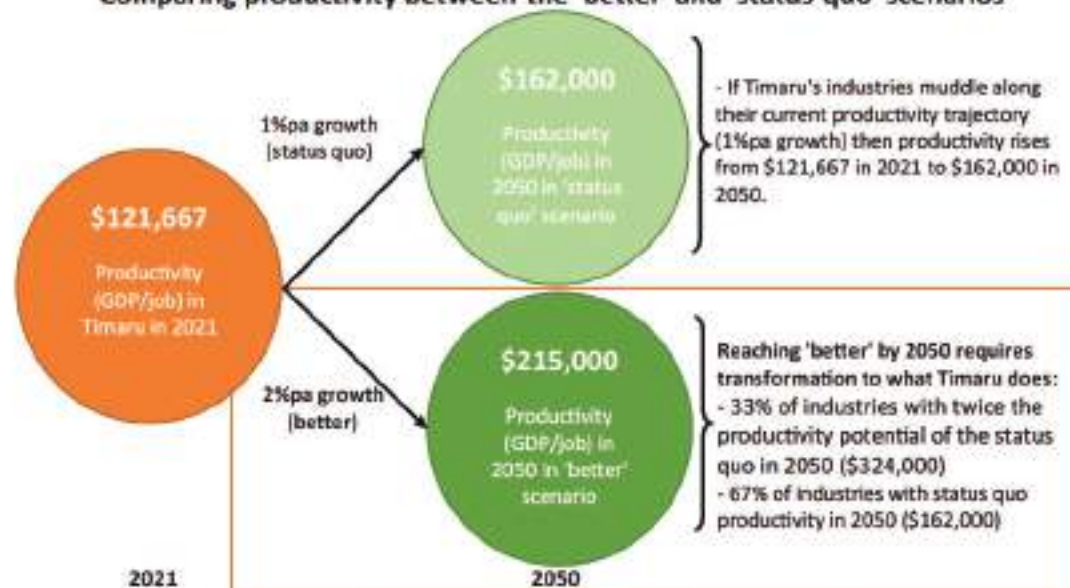
The 'better' scenario's assumption that the long-term rate of productivity growth in Timaru increases from 1.0%pa to 2.0%pa might not sound too ambitious at first brush, but only one district in New Zealand has achieved sustained productivity growth of at least 2.0%pa over the past decade⁵.

Only fundamentally shifting the productivity dial into better ways of doing business would allow Timaru to achieve such a sustained high level of productivity growth over a 30-year period to 2050.

The aspirational productivity outcome in the 'better' scenario would require transformation towards at least one third of Timaru businesses doing things that were at least twice as productive as opportunities under the status quo.

Figure 8

Comparing productivity between the 'better' and 'status quo' scenarios



Achieving transformational change in Timaru's productivity would be a powerful thing, particularly given that attracting new workers to Timaru will be difficult against a context of heightened national and global competition for people. After all, productivity is about working smarter, not harder.

To put things in perspective, even in the extreme situation that Timaru can't attract enough new residents to lift employment, then a transformative shift in productivity alone would be enough to almost double the size of Timaru's economy (from \$3.2 billion of GDP in 2021 to \$5.6 billion of GDP in 2050).

⁵ Infometrics Regional Profile shows only Taranua (2.0%pa) had productivity (GDP/job) growth of at least 2.0%pa over the past decade. New Zealand's average productivity growth over the past decade was 0.7%pa.

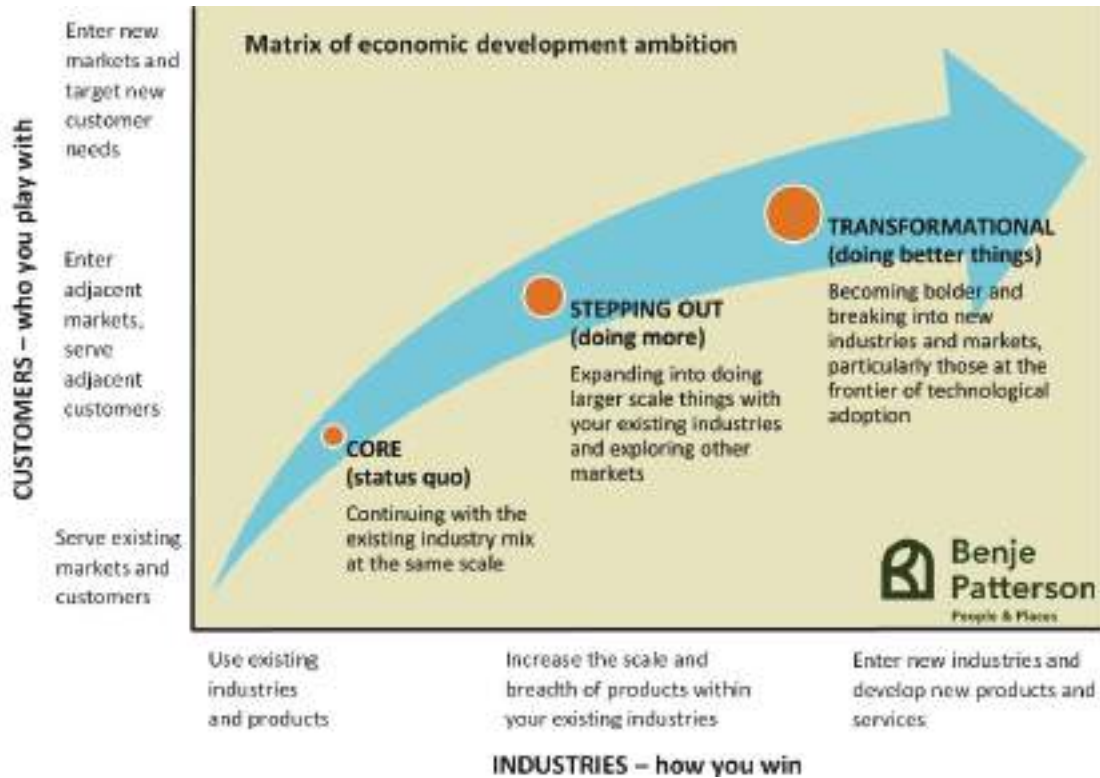
4.5. Stepping towards ambitious industry transformation

The previous sub-section highlighted that under the most aspirational scenario Timaru’s economy could expand three-fold over the thirty years to 2050. This aspiration relies on growing and transforming the economy to at least one third of jobs having twice the productivity opportunities to the status quo.

The precise composition of what these industry transitions will be is uncertain and beyond the scope of this report. Nevertheless, this sub-section makes general comments about the decision-making context.

Transformations that build on existing strengths are easier to conceptualise, but ‘blue sky’ opportunities in new industries are harder to map out and many are reliant on yet-to-be-developed technologies.

Figure 9- Matrix of economic development ambition



What is known is that achieving ambitious industry transformation won’t happen overnight. Initially many of Timaru’s productivity wins will be found working with existing businesses in existing industries to streamline processes, explore adjacent products, and invest in proven technologies.

This approach is consistent with the Productivity Commission’s recent inquiry into New Zealand’s ‘frontier firms’ (businesses in the top 10% of those with the highest productivity)⁶. The inquiry researched how the economic contribution of frontier firms can be maximised to lift productivity across the economy. In its findings, the Commission said that we need to identify our frontier firms, learn about the characteristics of these businesses, implement focused innovation policy to strengthen the ecosystems that support them, and encourage the diffusion of their knowledge into non-frontier firms.

The 2021 Timaru District Economic Development Strategy (EDS) highlighted that the sectors in which Timaru has a competitive advantage are related to:

⁶ Available here: <https://www.productivity.govt.nz/assets/Documents/benchmarking-new-zealands-frontier-firms/2d6a4cd0ea/Benchmarking-New-Zealands-frontier-firms.pdf>.

- Food and fibre (particularly dairy, meat, seafood, and food manufacturing)
- Logistics
- Professional, scientific and technical services.

These three sectors are a logical starting point for shifting Timaru’s productivity dial. Furthermore, these sectors are also well-aligned to central government strategies and funding mechanisms. For example, all three are embedded directly and indirectly across the government’s various Industry Transformation Plans⁷, while optimising logistics is the focus of the New Zealand freight and supply chain strategy⁸.

Through time, Timaru can progressively step out from this base and become more transformational in what it does, including breaking into new industries with at least twice the productivity potential to the status quo. Exactly what new industries will succeed is uncertain, but in exploring high productivity opportunities, Timaru must be cognisant of broader megatrends. These megatrends are long-term forces that can structurally change the industries in which Timaru might be competitive. Some megatrends to take note of when considering potential new high productivity opportunities include:

- **An increased focus on inclusive growth.** Higher GDP isn’t the only goal, instead there must be a balance with the wellbeing of people, communities, and the environment. Investment in productivity can be a vehicle to inclusive growth, as high productivity, technologically driven industries can achieve prosperity and higher wages without unduly pressuring resources.
- **COVID-19’s legacy will endure long after the pandemic is over.** Consumer demand patterns have evolved, and businesses may permanently adjust their practices, logistics, and supply chains to minimise future risks of disruptions. The changes create opportunities for localism and for regional locations with good transport connections to major metropolitan areas.
- **The nature of work is changing.** Younger workers have different expectations of work and are more likely to prioritise lifestyle with shorter working weeks and remote working. With good digital and transport connections there are opportunities for Timaru to capitalise on remote working trends and in other jobs that can deliver services ‘weightlessly’ to customers.
- **Automation will have widespread effects,** particularly in sectors with a lot of routine tasks. Automation brings productivity benefits, but new opportunities will likely focus on workers needing to develop different skills. There may be scope for Timaru to develop and pilot automation on local industries, for example agritech and drone-based agricultural solutions.
- **Adapting to emissions and other environmental factors will have direct and indirect effects.** Government regulations will directly create costs and constraints, particularly within agriculture for those with intensive pastoral farming models. Changing consumer preferences will also create indirect effects, which will likely favour more sustainably managed and lower impact business models. These changes will bring opportunities, for example to research and test how Timaru’s food and fibre sector can pilot world-leading productive and sustainable transitions.

The above list should only be taken as a starting point when considering potential ‘blue sky’ industry opportunities that could help transformationally lift Timaru’s productivity. Megatrends by their very nature are uncertain – it is important to regularly consider other emerging forces. As stated in the Timaru EDS: “Timaru District, its people and businesses, need to embrace and respond to these changes, realising new opportunities and responding to disruptions”.

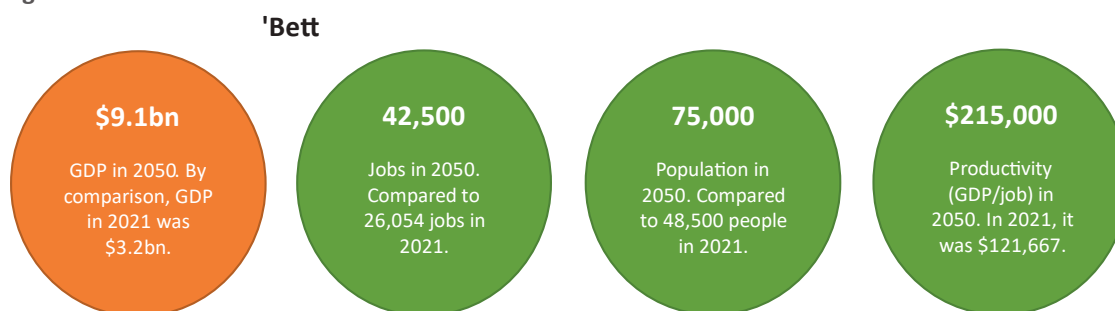
⁷ Industry Transformation Plans (ITPs) are a mechanism for implementing the Government’s industry policy. ITPs have actions focused on long-term transformation. More here: <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/business-and-employment/economic-development/industry-policy/industry-transformation-plans/>

⁸ The New Zealand freight and supply chain strategy takes a 30+ year view and will inform government and private sector investment. Productivity is key to the strategy. More here: <https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/freight-and-logistics/new-zealand-freight-and-supply-chain-strategy/>

5. Which enabling factors does ambition rely on?

Regardless of which industries help Timaru achieve an aspirational economic future, there will be many factors which are necessary enablers. Productivity, employment, and population growth are key drivers of economic prosperity (see Figure 10), but these can't happen in isolation and in turn rely on underlying foundations related to skills, natural resources, housing, infrastructure, and social and cultural capital.

Figure 10



Enabling factors needed to support achieving the 'better' future growth scenario for 2050 include:

- **Sufficient business land and the right infrastructure.** For businesses to do better things, they will need suitable premises. Even at the lower end of land needed per worker, 16,500 additional jobs would demand a minimum of 30 extra hectares of adequately serviced business land by 2050⁹.
- **Access to capital.** Transformational changes in productivity are inherently capital intensive. Accessing investment capital for small to medium businesses is especially difficult in the regions.
- **Digital and transport connections.** Digital and transport connectivity are crucial for businesses' productivity. Remaining connected to friends and family is also important for new residents.
- **People with the right skills.** The 16,500 new jobs would be in much higher productivity roles, with different skills demands to the status quo. Ongoing training to build capability of existing workers to use new technologies will be as important as attracting people with the right skills.
- **Housing.** Population growth of 26,500 people could equate to 9,000 more households by 2050. This number of new households is equivalent to 300 extra houses per year for the next 30 years.
- **Schools.** Within the population expansion of 26,500 people, there would be around 6,000 children of early childhood and school age. Depending on average classroom sizes this could mean an additional 200 to 300 classrooms would be needed in Timaru District by 2050.
- **Health.** An increasing population will place higher demand on health services. In order to maintain similar health service levels¹⁰, Timaru would need at least 1,500 more health and social assistance workers by 2050¹¹ to account for population growth from 48,500 to 75,000 people.
- **Social and recreational infrastructure.** Community infrastructure and services play an important role in supporting wellbeing, as well as helping to integrate and retain new residents. Investment should scale as populations increase. The 2019/20 Timaru Resident Opinion Survey showed 87% of residents visited a park or reserve in the past year, while 91% used a community facility.

⁹ A BERL study showed businesses require 17 to 100 sqm per employee depending on if they are service-based or heavy industry (see page 14: <https://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/assets/WRC/Services/regional-services/BERL-Report-UNISA-Industrial-Land-Demand-Study.pdf>).

¹⁰ There were 2,837 employed in health and social assistance in Timaru in 2021 against a population of 48,500.

¹¹ This estimate is conservative as there would also be additional health demands from an aging population.

6. Concluding remarks

This report has highlighted the power of being ambitious and transformational.

If Timaru can do no better than maintain its current level of employment and muddle along its status quo productivity trajectory then it will only be one third larger by 2050 than it is today.

However, if Timaru can be aspirational in terms of how many jobs it creates, people it attracts, and how productive these jobs are then Timaru's economy could triple in size over the same period. Such a goal would require a transformational shift into at least one third of Timaru's businesses doing things that were at least twice as productive as opportunities under the status quo.

Getting there won't be easy. Transformations that build on existing strengths are easier to conceptualise, but 'blue sky' opportunities in new industries are harder to map out and many are reliant on yet-to-be-developed technologies.

Furthermore, regardless of which industries help Timaru achieve an aspirational economic future, there will be many factors which are necessary enablers. Productivity, employment, and population growth are key drivers of economic prosperity, but these can't happen in isolation and in turn rely on investments in underlying foundations related to skills, natural resources, housing, infrastructure, and social and cultural capital.

SUBMISSION

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To: Timaru District Council
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Submission on: **Consultation Document “Finding the Balance” for the Long-Term Plan 2024-34**

Date: 12 May 2024

Submission by: Federated Farmers of New Zealand

Address for service: **Nigel Billings**
 Senior Local Government Specialist
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1. Introduction

In our submission to Timaru District Council’s (TDC) 2021 Long-Term Plan we expressed strong concerns at what we felt were alarming increases in spending in areas other than necessary infrastructure. It is good to see an emphasis, here in 2024, on finding a sustainable financial balance, and getting basic infrastructure right.

Across New Zealand many local authorities are finding themselves in financial peril, as overall inflation, and huge increases in the cost of such things as insurance, road construction, and three waters have caught up with their balance sheets.

Many claim that the system of local government funding is broken, while doing little to curtail their spending plans. Average rate increases are everywhere in the double digits. There are a few councils, however, that are looking closely at budgets to strip out unnecessary costs – taking the view that if the system is broken, the best that can be done for ratepayers is to reduce costs.

We fully support the latter approach. Given that farm properties pay so much in rates we have always advocated for a low spending local government; we hope that with this 2024 Long-Term Plan TDC can embark upon a path toward financial sustainability.

This submission briefly comments on the major topics put up for discussion in the Consultation Document.

We acknowledge other submissions from members of the farming community.

2. Summary of Submissions

- **Federated Farmers supports TDC's Preferred Option 2 to raise the self-imposed debt cap 2.5.**
- **Federated Farmers supports TDC's preferred option, Option 2, for balancing the budget. We urge the council to abide by its commitment to reduce costs and focus on basic infrastructure requirements to achieve this goal.**
- **Federated Farmers supports TDC adopting Option 1, a 90/10 split in favor of infrastructure over community facilities.**
- **Federated Farmers supports TDC adopting Option 2: Higher User Pays.**
- **Federated Farmers supports the use of differentials on the general rate, fully funded targeted rates for water and wastewater, and a high UAGC. It is good to see the rating system, with these aspects, maintained in this LTP.**

3. Balancing the Approach to Debt

We appreciate the transparency on this topic and the clearly delineated pros and cons and cost impacts.

It is particularly valuable that the council identifies projects to be deferred under the Preferred Option, indicating that TDC has made some sound decisions. Now is not the time for new cycleways or a new library building. It does seem odd however that road seal extensions – surely part of basic infrastructure – are deferred as part of this proposed arrangement.

On principle we support the use of debt to achieve intergenerational equity and to smooth impacts on ratepayers over time. In these extraordinary times increasing the net debt to total income threshold seems reasonable, however even at 2.5 the council will run this limit close within the life of this Long-Term Plan.

We support the increase to 2.5 – the council's preferred option. It is not excessive in that it is within the limit required by the LGFA and is therefore self-imposed and keeps interest costs at a manageable level.

We urge the council to stay within it.

Submission: Federated Farmers supports TDC's Preferred Option 2 to raise the self-imposed debt cap 2.5.

4. **Balancing Income and Costs**

It is very good to see that TDC staff are “... *undertaking a major project to cut operational spending by reducing waste, bringing more work in-house instead of contracting it out, and cutting out non-priority projects.*”

We trust that this is genuinely successful. As the council notes on page 4 of the Consultation Document reducing the amount spent on services – i.e. focusing on necessities – is a genuine path to handling increasing costs.

It is not optimal that TDC sees the need to run a deficit budget for the first three – the three effective years – of this LTP. Raising the debt limit allows some headroom, but this suggests all is not well at a fundamental level. Perhaps this is indeed reflective of a spending problem that we identified in our submission, developing within the 2021 LTP – rather than something arising out of the Timaru’s lower rates relative to other jurisdictions.

We support the council’s preferred option, Option 2, to proceed as planned toward a balanced budget. This produces a forecast surplus over the ten years of this LTP, maintains service levels, and avoids a rates blowout. It seems there is little other option.

Submission: Federated Farmers supports TDC’s preferred option, Option 2, for balancing the budget. We urge the council to abide by its commitment to reduce costs and focus on basic infrastructure requirements to achieve this goal.

5. **“Balancing the things you use with the things you enjoy.”**

We are unsure about the distinction made here between essential infrastructure and other community facilities. Farmers, for example, enjoy a safe a reliable road network.

That said it is valuable that the council raises this question of the balance between “need-to-haves” and “nice-to-haves” and publishes an actual percentage split between the two.

Given the financial circumstances described in this Consultation Document – the need to raise the debt cap and the running of three consecutive deficit budgets – we believe the prudent thing to do here is to change the split to 90/10 as described in Option 1.

This option offers the greatest amount of core capital spending at \$585m, with an additional \$66m for projects including road renewals. It would ensure that the council is best placed for future adversity, and in a better place to restore the budget to balance.

While the 80/20 shown in the pie chart has been reasonably consistent over the years, it has led the council down a path to budget deficit and increased borrowing and should be changed.

Submission: Federated Farmers supports TDC adopting Option 1, a 90/10 split in favor of infrastructure over community facilities.

6. **Balancing User Pays with Common Good**

Again, this is a valuable discussion.

Federated Farmers generally favors an emphasis on user pays - particularly given that the alternative source of revenue is property value rates.

Under Option 2 there appears to be room for relatively high (compared to previous years) increases in fees and charges, something not unusual in the present high inflation economic environment.

None of the options appear to materially impact the 15% rate increase, however Option 2 – in maintaining the existing balance between fees and charges and ratepayer support – appears most suitable.

Submission: Federated Farmers supports TDC adopting Option 2: Higher User Pays.

7. Rates

Federated Farmers is very supportive of the use of differentials to smooth the relative rates contribution between property sectors. It is good to see this system maintained.

We are also very supportive of extensive use of the Uniform Annual General Charge, by our calculations a tick over 26% of rate revenue in 2023/24 according to the required calculation in the Local Government (Rating) Act.

We also note that the rural property in the rates examples does not pay for water and waste connections - the 12% increase shown is primarily derived from the general rate. No improvement to roading services appears to be contemplated in this LTP, and we should say therefore that 12% is a lot.

Submission: Federated Farmers supports the use of differentials on the general rate, fully funded targeted rates for water and wastewater, and a high UAGC. It is good to see the rating system, with these aspects, maintained in this LTP.

8. Business Improvement District (BID) Targeted Rate

We support this initiative, and its funding with a targeted rate. The targeted rate ensures accountability and transparency for the relevant business owners paying it.

THANK YOU



Hospitality New Zealand

TO TIMARU COUNCIL

SUBMISSION ON
LONG TERM PLANS 2024-34

10 May 2024

CONTACT DETAILS: Hospitality New Zealand
Contact: Nikki Rogers
Regional Manager – Central South Island
Phone: 0800 500 503
Email: [REDACTED]
www.hospitality.org.nz

About Hospitality New Zealand:

1. Hospitality New Zealand (“Hospitality NZ”) is a member-led, not-for-profit organisation representing approximately 2,500 businesses, including cafés, restaurants, bars, nightclubs, commercial accommodation, country hotels and off-licences. We have a 122-year history of advocating on behalf of the hospitality and tourism sector.
2. This submission relates to the Long-Term Plan 2024-34 (“the Plan”).
3. Enquiries relating to this submission should be referred to Nikki Rogers, Regional Manager – Central South Island, at [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

General Comments:

4. Hospitality New Zealand welcomes the opportunity to comment on Timaru Council’s Long-Term Plan 2024-34. We have a number of general concerns on issues that we believe will rear their head in the next ten years. These include commercial rate differential, infrastructure funding, local alcohol policies, and short-term rental accommodation.

Rates

1. Hospitality NZ urges caution around rates increases. We do not think businesses should carry an unfair proportion of the rates bill, given that a large proportion of rates cover council operations and amenities that often offer more value to residents than they do to businesses.
2. Businesses in general, and our members specifically, are facing rising costs and an increasingly challenging operating environment. For hospitality and accommodation providers, thin margins are being stretched even further when councils look to impose large rates increases. We don’t have the luxury of a customer base that has no option but to pay us – average increases of 14.5% per year over the next two years are not easily passed on to consumers, particularly in the current environment.
3. Rating differentials for commercial properties are inequitable and the consultation document masks the true increase of rates for business given Timaru’s differential of 4.35. Because they are collected as general rates, businesses are unable to identify where the additional funds raised by differentials are spent, and councils can use differentials to offset residential rates increases. This leads to significant concerns regarding a lack of transparency.

Targeted rate for Business Improvement District (BID)

5. With regards to the new targeted rate being established for the Business Improvement District (BID) we need to see the following points considered.
6. That the BID parameters are totally defined, including streets and businesses.

7. Promotional initiatives need to be fair to all in the Central Business District. Consultation with current businesses paying commercial rates and now this targeted rate needs to happen to ensure their business is not negatively affected by the initiatives. For example, road closures for events need to be balanced between creating vibrancy in the town versus reducing businesses accessibility or opportunity; Events that showcase mobile stall holders within the CBD, who are not paying these targeted rates, need to have sensitivity when considering placement of these stallholders and timing of the event. Businesses paying the targeted BID rate will be aiming to increase the vibrancy of the CBD throughout the whole year and should be consulted on initiatives that will impact their ability to provide this.

Tourism Infrastructure Funding

8. We recognise that tourism and hospitality use and benefit from a wide variety of mixed-use infrastructure. Despite some Government funding, tourism areas are still experiencing a large funding shortfall, primarily for infrastructure heavily relied on by tourists in towns and regions with a small ratepayer base. This has led to councils considering rates rises or bed taxes to fund infrastructure and tourism promotion.
9. We do not support the current ad-hoc way some councils are looking to impose levies and rates (and taxes if they are allowed to). This can significantly increase the cost to visitors in some areas, shift pressures of visitor numbers and infrastructure to neighbouring councils, and carry an impact for particular businesses.
10. Instead, a national strategy for tourism value capture and distribution of those funds is needed, allowing a source of funding for local government to use on relevant infrastructure and tourism activities, and avoiding the piecemeal region by region approach. Along with a number of parties, we are working at a national level to address tourism funding – in the meantime we do not see a council-by-council approach as conducive to a national, equitable approach.

Local Alcohol Policies (LAPs)

11. Alcohol laws in New Zealand aim to reduce the harm caused by the excessive or inappropriate consumption of alcohol. We believe that well run on-licensed environments are the safest place for people to consume alcohol in NZ. Hospitality New Zealand is committed to delivering training and skill development across the industry to further enhance host responsibility in this sector.
12. Prior to the implementation of the Sale of Liquor Act in 1989 there were about 3000 licenses in NZ and since then the number of licenses has increased to just over 11,000. Conversely, liquor consumption in New Zealand has decreased 22% since 1986. Therefore, increased access (more licenses and more places to purchase alcohol) has not translated into higher consumption.
13. We believe a holistic approach needs to be taken to support safer drinking in New Zealand. We believe councils have many options available to address alcohol harm while maintaining the community and economic benefit of hospitality. Some of these tools include:
 - National settings under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act.

- District Licensing Committees and their discretion around approving licenses, and the ability to issue infringement notices and license suspensions for noncompliance.
 - Accords and stakeholder agreements to drive inner city safety improvements.
 - Host responsibility training: e.g. Responsible Service of Alcohol (HNZ), ServeWise (HPA).
14. Hospitality NZ will work with you to ensure regulatory agencies enforce the Act as it was written and intended, not attempting to use functions of the Act such as appeals to meet their own policy preferences.
15. We will also consider appropriate amendments to the LAP system, cutting down on the time and financial cost of implementation, and/or deferring to DLCs to administer appropriate restrictions, and mitigate further unnecessary expense being incurred by local councils, associations and individual businesses in the establishment/renewals of LAPs.

Short-term Rental Accommodation (STRA)

16. The STRA sector has grown rapidly and it is now a key part of the tourism industry in New Zealand. Rapid visitor growth and a lack of commercial accommodation development in many of the busiest tourist regions have also created increased demand for STRA. While competition in any sector is healthy, the unregulated nature of STRA presents an uneven playing field vis a vis traditional commercial accommodation providers.
17. Commercial accommodation operators are seeking a fairer playing field around rates and regulations, particularly targeted at STRA properties that are whole-of-house rentals operating more than 90 days a year. The STRA sector operates mainly in residential areas, only pays residential rates, operates with less regulation, and often escapes appropriate taxation.
18. In some parts of the country, the preference for rental property owners to convert to Airbnb or similar, is resulting in a lack of available long-term rental accommodation for workers and families, and impacting on the community feel of suburbs.
19. Some Councils such as Rotorua and Queenstown have made moves to define STRA accommodation in their District Plans, so these providers – when occupied above a certain number of visitor nights – are deemed to be commercial operators and would be subject to commercial rates and regulations. Nelson and Christchurch have made similar moves – however, enforcement remains the issue.
20. At a Central Government level, we are advocating for the creation of a national register of short-term rental accommodation properties, and ensuring appropriate health and safety and compliance requirements on peer-to-peer house letting is set at a national level, removing the need for local councils to come up with the rules and moving towards fair regulation of STRA operators.
21. Hospitality NZ will work with you to define commercial accommodation in your area in a way that captures whole-of-house STRA listings and ensure rates are appropriately collected from these businesses.

Other areas of opportunity

Late nighttime Strategy

22. As 24-hour economies gain traction around the world, Hospitality New Zealand believes there's an opportunity for Aotearoa to follow suit. Following the infamous Sydney lockouts, New South Wales Government has developed a 24-hour Economy Strategy aimed at building a vibrant and strong 24-hour economy where the principal activity is not about the consumption of alcohol. The strategy covers things like integrated planning to encourage collaboration, diversification of night-time activities, enhancing mobility and connectivity around the clock, and changing the narrative around being open at night. The long-term 24-Hour Economy Strategy also envisages "playbooks" and support services to help businesses navigate grants and licences, more affordable spaces for the arts sector, simpler liquor licencing and a review of live music and noise regulations.
23. Hospitality NZ believes this type of strategy holds some opportunities for New Zealand communities, and would welcome the opportunity to work with your council to explore how this could look in your area.
24. Whilst the Timaru area may not look towards a 24-hour economy, a late nighttime strategy holds opportunity for growth.

Event Strategies

25. We also actively encourage the ongoing development of events programmes in the region. Events promoting the area and encouraging visitation contribute significantly to the local economy and encourage spend in our venues and accommodation providers.

Conclusion:

26. We thank Timaru Council for the opportunity to provide input into the consultation.
27. We would be happy to discuss any parts of this submission in more detail, and to provide any assistance that may be required.

I am writing to express my sincere appreciation for the exceptional efforts of the Community Development Team in fostering collaborative relationships between our organisation and the Timaru District Council.

Over the past few years, the Community Development Team has played a pivotal role in bridging the gap between various sectors, thereby enhancing connectivity and cooperation within our community. Prior to the establishment of this team, securing Council representation at our community meetings proved challenging. However, thanks to the proactive efforts of the Community Development Team, we have witnessed a significant improvement in the Council's engagement and participation in key gatherings.

The facilitation and organisation provided by the Community Development Team for meetings such as Safer Communities, Welcoming Communities, and Settling In meetings have not only ensured consistency but have also fostered a shared understanding of our community's priorities and challenges. By aligning our efforts and working collaboratively towards common goals, we have been able to identify areas for improvement and celebrate our collective achievements more effectively.

It is worth noting that the sectors involved often face time constraints, making the Community Development Team's leadership even more invaluable. Their dedication has ensured the continuity of these vital meetings, providing a platform for meaningful dialogue and action. As someone deeply committed to the well-being of our community, I firmly believe that our strength lies in supporting and uplifting our most vulnerable members. Discontinuing or reducing the support provided by the Community Development Team would undoubtedly have adverse effects, leading to a greater disconnect between sectors and hindering our collective progress.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the Community Development Team for their dedication and contributions to fostering intersectoral collaboration. Their work is instrumental in creating a more cohesive and resilient community.

Katy Housoun



Our Services



Katy Housoun | Project Manager | Presbyterian Support South Canterbury

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Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



We are writing to you as a group with a significant stake in the outcome of the current deliberations on the future of the stadium complex who do not feel recognized as "stakeholders" in the process.

Aorangi Stadium includes a gymnasium with a wide range of equipment for weight training and other exercises typically used for "fitness circuit" classes. This area can accommodate up to 50 people in a single class.

Whilst many of the services provided by this facility are now catered for by the C Bay complex near Caroline Bay, Aorangi Stadium remains the preferred venue for Timaru senior citizens formal exercise classes. Around 7 one hour classes are run during the Monday to Friday working week throughout the year. These classes are attended by Timaru seniors equating to in excess of 200 "man hours" per week making this group of individuals collectively a principal user of this facility during the working week throughout the entire year.

Most of us pay \$5.50 per 1hour session for these classes. Some individuals are funded to attend by 3rd parties.

Why don't we use C Bay?

C Bay does not have the space to accommodate a group of our size.

Seniors generally prefer to exercise in a non-competitive environment catering to their diverse needs dictated by the typical issues experienced by our cohort. (A cohort which is predicted to continue growing as a proportion of the Timaru population)

During weekdays Aorangi is easily accessed by foot, bicycle and car by the majority of users.

A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

You are currently deliberating over the option of building a new facility at Aorangi or upgrading the current facility. We acknowledge that either way we will lose the use of Aorangi Stadium for a period of time. Obviously our preference would be for a solution that minimizes disruption to our use of the gym.

We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

Noeline Scully





12 May 2024

Attention: LTP 2024-34 Submission
Timaru District Council,
PO Box 522
Timaru 7940

**KĀINGA ORA – HOMES AND COMMUNITIES FEEDBACK ON THE DRAFT LONG TERM
PLAN 2024 – 2034**

Submission emailed to ltp@timdc.govt.nz

1. Kāinga Ora - Homes and Communities ('Kāinga Ora') provides the below submission on the Draft Long Term Plan 2024 – 2034 ('LTP') for consideration by the Timaru District Council ('TDC').
2. Kāinga Ora would like to indicate broad support for the draft Long Term Plan 2024-2034 including prioritising investment in asset renewals and would like to see the draft Long Term Plan 2024-34 adopted.
3. Kāinga Ora is a significant property owner in the Timaru district area and as at the 31 March 2024, Kāinga Ora owns 417 properties. Each year Kāinga Ora pays rates on the properties it owns.
4. Kāinga Ora recognises that these rates enable TDC to deliver essential and important services and amenities to the customers who live in Kāinga Ora homes and this in turn enables them to live well within their communities. Kāinga Ora will continue to work with TDC to ensure our customers have easy access to these services.
5. Kāinga Ora will continue to work collaboratively with TDC on our planned redevelopment programme and continue to, where possible, co-ordinate our

redevelopments with the Council's planned infrastructure renewals and upgrade work programme.

- 6. As indicated above Kāinga Ora supports the TDC's Draft Long Term Plan 2024-2034. If there are any questions, please contact us at the address for service below.
- 7. Kāinga Ora does not wish to be heard in support of its submission.



Paul Commons
Deputy Chief Executive – South Island
Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities

ADDRESS FOR SERVICE:

Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities
PO Box 1074
Sydenham, Christchurch 8140 d d d
Attention: Rob Steel
Email: [REDACTED] d

Kia ora councillors, thank you for reading my submission. I appreciate the difficult situation you are in to balance the needs of our community with the debt forecast. I appreciate you holding public meetings where the public could chat about the issues that are important to them. I am fine with the Option 2, preferred option being the go to; but I do not support the retrofit theatre. These are the points important to me:

1. **Climate Change Action:** Climate change poses a significant threat to our planet, affecting ecosystems, weather patterns, and sea levels. Taking action now is crucial to mitigate its impact. I have talked to farmers who are facing changes in the weather already and it will impact heavily on many core services council delivers. After the excellent work Phil Driver did looking around climate change, I implore you to have this forefront of your mind when making policy and planning decisions. Victory not without toil; Palma non sine pulvere.

In particular, I think TDC can better support the installation of rainwater tanks. Currently new builds are required to have a rain/stormwater tank with a minimum of 1,000L storage.

As the infrastructure strategy stated on p23:

“A key risk to water supply is the quality and availability of source water. Droughts are becoming more common, leading to an increase in the odds of severe restrictions occurring in any given year over 5%.” Water is expensive to abstract, treat, store and distribute. Anything to increase resilience during dry periods should be encouraged. This also improves resilience in the face of natural disasters.

Reasons in favour of installing Rainwater Tanks:

- **Water Conservation:** Rainwater tanks collect and store rainwater, reducing reliance on municipal water supplies. This helps conserve water, especially during dry seasons.
- **Reduced Utility Bills:** Individuals who install rainwater tanks can use this water for non-potable purposes (e.g., gardening, washing cars), leading to lower water bills.
- **Resilience:** During water shortages or emergencies, having stored rainwater provides a backup supply.
- **Environmental Impact:** Using rainwater reduces the strain on natural water sources and minimises energy-intensive water treatment processes.

Some examples from other UA:

Auckland Council: Auckland Council encourages rainwater collection for households. They highlight several benefits, including:

Increasing Water Resilience: Rainwater tanks allow residents to collect and store rainwater, reducing strain on Auckland's water reserves during dry spells or emergencies. **Environmental Impact:** Rainwater tanks help manage stormwater runoff, reducing pressure on pipe networks and waterways¹. This would assist Timaru managing this too as the infrastructure strategy notes the storm/ wastewater system is vulnerable to the greater intensity storms from more energy in the atmosphere due to climate change.

<https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/environment/looking-after-aucklands-water/rainwater-tanks/Documents/collecting-rainwater-your-household.pdf>

Masterton council offer a 200L tank for \$110, with accompanying media campaigns

<https://www.mstn.govt.nz/roads-water-and-rubbish/water/rainwater-tanks>

Gore DC: New residential builds are required to have a 3,000L rainwater tank as part of the GDC Subdivision and land development bylaw 2019. 3000!

Greater Wellington: The Wellington Region Emergency Management Office (WREMO) has partnered with an Aotearoa New Zealand water tank manufacturer, The Tank Guy, to make a 200-litre water tank and kit available for \$115 (RRP \$265).

Further reading:

[Sky harvest – turning the tide on rainwater tanks | Stuff](#)

[Emergency rainwater tanks - Kāpiti Coast District Council \(kapiticoast.govt.nz\)](#)

2. Removing Dog Access to Caroline Bay in Winter:

There are many responsible dog owners, but the few truly ruin it for the many. My issue with dogs on the beach is that there are very few people that can recall their dog. I don't feel comfortable going down to the bay in winter and there are still some lovely days in Autumn where this would be pleasant. I

have had friends say similar things, including one who doesn't like to take their child as last week they were playing and some dogs kept coming up to them and weren't able to be recalled by their owner. Not everyone likes dogs. I have had another friend who literally had their intestines ripped out during a dog attack as a child. Extreme example i know, but dog bites can also have long lasting impacts. I believe they should be able to go to the beach in winter.

I am for a total year round ban of dogs on the beach. Second option is having a dog free zone on the wharf end (good for people like me who don't like dogs jumping on them that aren't recallable and also the penguins. Mainly me though as the penguins seem pretty resilient). I would love to take my toddler to the bay over autumn. Below are some posts from the last few months to support that I am not alone in my feelings.

From the facebook page: COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD TIMARU

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/358243004363486/search/?q=bay%20dog>



 **Janine Murray** Top contributor
Hate walking down on CBay now, all thanks to the amount of disrespectful dog owners, not cleaning up after their beloved family member. Such a shame, it's beautiful down there normally. ...

1 w Like Reply Share   11

 **Martin Diehl**
25 April at 09:57 · 🌐 ...

Caroline Beach is becoming a toilet bowl for dogs. Did you run out of bags? Please toss the excrement's in bins provided, or take it home with you would be appreciated. Perhaps a vote on whether dogs are allowed, but for dog lovers this would be good news. So lets please respect the Caroline Beach, don't leave behind these dumplings, not nice for the kids that play and swim at the beach. Cheers



 **William Gibbs**
Was pretty bad Thursday I think. Should just ban dogs on that beach if it's a health risk

1 w Like Reply Share    24

3. Support the work of the Parks team. I broke my ankle last year entering the scenic. I would not like to see the level of service drop under any potential budget alterations. I am perturbed to learn the SNA budget has been halved in this LTP. SNAs are like little gems in our rohe.

4. Utilise volunteer resource for maintaining assets like the bike trail, or track maintenance. I feel there are many people in our community that want to give back and could be pointed in the direction of some of these clubs that explicitly benefit our community assets. Unsure how to action this, but my feeling is there could be more support to foster a culture of asset stewardship. I am a co leader of a brilliant team of volunteers committed to reducing pest numbers at Claremont Bush but sometimes wonder how much I can get volunteers not in our core group involved with enhancing our small taonga. Also dovetailing into this is I would love there to be more fruit trees everywhere in Timaru. I love going to Christchurch and using the CCC fruit map to hunt down trees that have edible food. It's brilliant fun. How can I get involved and sponsor trees? I love the redruth dog park ones and feel there could be little pockets all around the district.

5. Theatre - start from new for a major complex involving the library, museum and a theatre. It will be a sinkhole of money if it has already quadrupled in cost. I appreciate this has been a long time coming, but with the massive cost estimate increase I am dubious. What happens when the \$57m price tag grows midway through construction? I am sceptical of retrofitting as I've heard serious work has be done on the following buildings (though this is hearsay and articles over the years so I would love to stand corrected):

Farmers Carpark

Museum

Library

Stadium

Thanks for your work.

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A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

You are currently deliberating over the option of building a new facility at Aorangi or upgrading the current facility. We acknowledge that either way we will lose the use of Aorangi Stadium for a period of time. Obviously our preference would be for a solution that minimizes disruption to our use of the gym.

We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

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NAME *Pauline + Errol O'heary*

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

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We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

I am 79 years old and have been a member of this gym for 20 years. Previous to joining Aorangi Stadium gym I have been a member of three other gyms. Alternate gyms do not now suit me for the reasons set out in this letter.

The Aorangi Stadium gym is an essential part of my social life and well-being.

To close it without providing an equivalent facility would be socially unjust to a large number of senior citizens

I fully support the thrust of this open letter

Peter Brown

Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



We are writing to you as a group with a significant stake in the outcome of the current deliberations on the future of the stadium complex who do not feel recognized as “stakeholders” in the process.

Aorangi Stadium includes a gymnasium with a wide range of equipment for weight training and other exercises typically used for “fitness circuit” classes. This area can accommodate up to 50 people in a single class.

Whilst many of the services provided by this facility are now catered for by the C Bay complex near Caroline Bay, Aorangi Stadium remains the preferred venue for Timaru senior citizens formal exercise classes. Around 7 one hour classes are run during the Monday to Friday working week throughout the year. These classes are attended by Timaru seniors equating to in excess of 200 “man hours” per week making this group of individuals collectively a principal user of this facility during the working week throughout the entire year.

Most of us pay \$5.50 per 1 hour session for these classes. Some individuals are funded to attend by 3rd parties.

Why don't we use C Bay?

C Bay does not have the space to accommodate a group of our size.

Seniors generally prefer to exercise in a non-competitive environment catering to their diverse needs dictated by the typical issues experienced by our cohort. (A cohort which is predicted to continue growing as a proportion of the Timaru population)

During weekdays Aorangi is easily accessed by foot, bicycle and car by the majority of users.

A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

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NAME

Peter Wagh

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

I fully support this submission, and wish to be able to continue classes at Aorangi stadium.

At 67 years old a former St John Ambulance volunteer, I'm conscious of the benefits of physical activity to assist in reducing the pressure on our already stretched local health care providers. Please consider our needs.



EP Mc
428
6-5-24

Submission to the long term plan 2024 - 2034

I thought the long term plan document (Finding The Balance) was well laid out and easy to follow

In favour of the Theatre Royal upgrade and Heritage Hub which will be the centre piece of CBD development especially the south end. It will be spacious and accessible with good parking to allow bus loads of school children to view displays at the Heritage Hub and various shows at the Theatre Royal. Jump Jam competitions as an example There is a very active and well supported Drama League in Timaru patiently waiting for the Theatre Royal to open plus travelling shows so the facility will be well used and bring people back to the CBD. Even critics of CBay and there were a lot of them would have to admit it was a huge step up from the old Century pool

A lot of empty shops and buildings in the CBD a worry but a lot of positives eg Mitre 10 expansion, Guthrie Bowron in ex St Johns building, Shoe shop in ex Bed Bath and Beyond building, Art gallery in Tekapo buildings, Vet clinic on the old Timaru Bowling club green, New office building Latter Street Pet shop in the ex Warehouse stationary building

Parking meters removed from angle parking in Banks St opposite Library good move. Cars parked there makes the CBD look busy. I often use the council car park building opposite library it's a small charge and it's manned by people

In favour of a targeted rate (BID) for the CBD group, I wish the group well and hope they are successful in attracting new businesses to the CBD. There used to be 5 bakerys Mays, Herrons, Jenkins, Bread Basket and Garrys, now there are none

In favour of demolishing old buildings that are too expensive to earthquake strengthen just to sit there empty- green spaces and car parks? a New Zealand wide problem so does government make the decision and help with finance?

In favour of demolishing Majestic Theatre and landscaping the site. TDHL tried without success to get a business started there. Nothing from the CBD group.

TDHL and the council finance team doing a very good job.

Inner city living good policy. Town houses on The Terrace very good as are the old buildings on Cains Terrace converted to living space and there are lots of other examples in the CBD

I enjoyed a discussion with Councillors Scott and Jackson at the Farmers Market (20th April) and we agreed inner city living is good for the CBD I mentioned it would

be good if the Cantac building could be converted to apartments, Stacey said something may be in the pipeline.

We also discussed Alpine Energy at length including the dividend they pay to councils and the SC Lines Trust. Tracey said the dividend is spread so thinly. I agree with what she said. Nobody gains. Occasionally power consumers get a small amount off there power account but with the government winter power payment to low income earners this payment is becoming more and more irrelevant and would be better as a lump sum for the councils so there is a case to wind up SC Lines Trust and pay the dividend to the 3 councils Timaru District, Waimate and MacKenzie. I would like to see the overcharging by Alpine Energy written off because the last thing we need is a financially stressed Lines Company

The Theatre Royal Heritage Hub is looking more and more like the jewel in the crown of the CBD but it needs to get over the finish line and started. It's unfortunate about cost blowouts but it's happened to everyone and everything it's beyond our control especially earthquake strengthening

The Theatre Royal cannot stay as it is devoid of seats and unloved and if it is just given a cheap makeover then all those years of waiting are for nothing. Landscaping the "bomb site " round it would be kicking the can down the road

Evans St is often criticised for all the traffic lights. I enjoy travelling in heavy traffic through the lights it's only a short wait and you get a sense of living in a busy bustling city and if Timaru was voted top provincial city of New Zealand then you expect traffic lights and lots of traffic

Perhaps more land rezoned residential for future Timaru subdivision(s) and Washdyke for industrial expansion. There was talk of bore(s) at Washdyke as alternate water supply which would ease the pressure on the Pareora supply

I believe it is going to cost more to earthquake strengthen Aorangi stadium than build a basic stadium over the existing netball courts and use existing office building agree with this and think council should pay as existing stadium was financed through fund raising

Council is doing a good job replacing ageing water, sewer and stormwater pipes and resurfacing streets and footpaths The sewerage treatment plant at Washdyke is a big improvement on pumping raw sewerage into the sea and Alpine Energy updating there power network.

In favour of the proposed rubbish to electricity complex at Glenavy and I am sure all sorts of rules will be in place and it will be monitored to protect the environment.

Burning combustible material means less rubbish going in to landfills and would prolong the life of our landfill at Redruth

The Crows Nest is doing an amazing job. I have been a frequent customer since it started and am surprised at how busy they are. Some days it's a struggle to find a car park and the range and quality of stuff has improved

Summary

There is nothing wrong with debt it means things get done and each generation pays their way and if councils have too little governments tends to load more stuff on to them to pay and if councils have too much they bale them out??

The CBD group need to be doing more than just criticising everything the Timaru District Council is doing

The Theatre Royal Heritage needs to go ahead otherwise the CBD will slowly die

Shows advertised on TV go past us, Ashburton have their Events Centre Oamaru their Opera House.



Incorporated Society
PO Box 571
Timaru 7940

Phone: [REDACTED]

office@hockeysc.org.nz

www.hockeysouthcanterbury.co.nz

HSC / SCHTT – TDC LTP Submission (May 2024)

DRAFT

Hockey South Canterbury (HSC) and the South Canterbury Hockey Turf Trust (SCHTT) are making a joint submission in relation to the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan, specifically how it relates to the proposed redevelopment of Aorangi Stadium/Park.

While HSC & SCHTT is not directly involved with the Stadium redevelopment and are now independently undertaking our Turf Conversion (sand to water turf) project, HSC utilise the lounge, kitchen, bathroom and office space facility on the western side of the Stadium. This facility is next to the sand turf which we are planning to convert into an international grade water turf. The new water turf will become HSC's "number one" turf and having the Stadium facility is a very important part of that development because it provides a full complex for players and spectators.

SCHTT and HSC would not want to see the Stadium or the annexure to the Stadium demolished otherwise we would need to build a replacement. We do not have bathroom or changing facilities on the current water turf (next to Morgans Road) and players and spectators need to use the Stadium facilities next to the sand turf.

We also recognise the importance of this Aorangi Stadium/Park project to the wider South Canterbury community. In particular, the benefit very large number of children and families who regularly use the main stadium for sports and recreation. The Stadium/park redevelopment will enhance the facilities available for all sports based at Aorangi Park and the families and general public who attend and support these players and teams.

Timaru is uniquely positioned to host regional, national, and even international Hockey events. The SCHTT turf development and planned Stadium redevelopment will significantly improve the level of facilities offered and enhance HSC's ability to submit for and win tournaments and events.

HSC and SCHTT strongly support this project and urge the Council to undertake this redevelopment as soon as possible as it will provide a significant positive impact for thousands of members of the South Canterbury community who use the facility.

Peter Stayt

Hockey South Canterbury President

Anne-Marie McRae

SCHTT Chairperson

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NAME

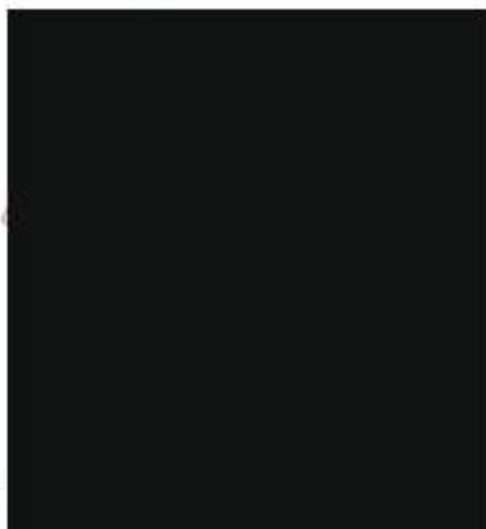


ADDRESS

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SIGNATURE



**Submission on the Timaru District Council's
Long Term Plan 2024-2033
From Dr Phil Driver
10th May 2024**

This Long Term Plan (LTP) submission consists primarily of the following report:

"Building Timaru District's resilience to climate change and the rupture of the alpine fault".

This is a large submission, consistent with the large size of the LTP.

I request that elected members put in the time and effort required to *fully understand* the major threats and risks to the Timaru District from climate change and the rupture of the alpine fault. Given the complexity of climate change and the rupture of the alpine fault, this is a huge ask.

However, understanding and then making wise decisions on these issues is a legislative requirement of councillors under Section 10 of the Local Government Act.

Councillors appear to have three options:

1. Put in the time and effort to understand and then make wise decisions on the impacts of climate change and the rupture of the alpine fault
2. Establish a group of respected experts who can advise councillors to make wise decisions on the impacts of climate change and the rupture of the alpine fault
3. Resign so as to permit Timaru District voters to elect councillors who are prepared to do either 1 or 2 above.

Dr Phil Driver

phildriver@openstrategies.com

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Building Timaru District's resilience to climate change and the rupture of the Alpine Fault

**By Dr Phil Driver
April 30th 2024**

I request that Timaru District Council allocate at least 2% of its budget to helping our communities, farmers, businesses, organisations and individuals build resilience to climate change and the anticipated rupture of the Alpine Fault

As a nation we should be taking our resilience and preparedness much more seriously.

Lord Toby Harris, Chair of UK's National Preparedness Commission, President of the Institute of Strategic Risk Management, Visiting Professor of Resilience at Cranfield University.

TDC's LTP Consultation Document seeks to be 'Finding The Balance'.

It fails to do so.

In the draft LTP, TDC councillors appear to have allocated nothing to help Timaru District's communities, farmers, businesses, organisations and individuals address the existential threats of climate change and the rupture of the alpine fault with their potential impacts costing Timaru District ratepayers and citizens hundreds of millions of dollars.

Several hundred Timaru District citizens and ratepayers including our mayor and chair of the environmental services committee contributed over 1,500 hours of their time to 10 x 3 hour public workshops and 6 Advisory Group workshops on climate change and in all cases, asked TDC to take a lead on climate action.

Despite making numerous fine-sounding commitments to address climate change, TDC has taken no detectable actions on the many recommendations in the April 2023 First Report on the Timaru District Climate Change Strategy. For TDC to now allocate no LTP funding over 10 years to continue Action on Climate Change is disrespectful to our citizens and ratepayers who contributed so much time and wisdom to the Action on Climate Change project.

But councillors have allocated a further eye-watering \$57 million to restoring a piece of European heritage.

This is not 'Finding the Balance'.

Please allocate a minimum of 2% of TDC's annual expenditure to helping our communities, farmers, businesses, organisations and individuals to build resilience to climate change and the anticipated rupture of the Alpine Fault. A core use of this funding will be to operate a Trust or similar entity of knowledgeable and respected citizens to advise elected members and our communities on the decisions required to effectively address the impacts of climate change and the rupture of the alpine fault.

I request to present my submission in person at the appropriate TDC council meeting.

This report is in 5 parts which summarise key information to support your submission on the Long Term Plan.

1. Part 1: Timaru District Council's written commitments on climate change
2. Part 2: General threats and risks of accelerating Climate Change and the rupture of the alpine fault
3. Part 3: The nature and magnitude of specific climate change impacts in the Timaru District as *identified by our citizens* through the *Action on Climate Change* project
4. Part 4: *Action on Climate Change* proposals as submitted to TDC for the November 2023 meeting of the Environmental Services Committee and mostly rejected by councillors
5. Part 5: How to fund climate change and AF8 resilience building in the Timaru District including a more meaningful re-presentation of information relating to Timaru District Council's draft Long Term Plan

Part 1: Timaru District Council's Written Commitments on Climate Change

1. 2017: Timaru District Council signed the Local Government Leader's declaration on climate change:

"In 2015, Mayors and Chairs of New Zealand declared an urgent need for responsive leadership and a holistic approach to climate change. We, the Mayors and Chairs of 2017, wholeheartedly support that call for action."

"Council Commitments: For our part we commit to:

1. Develop and implement ambitious action plans that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support resilience within our own councils and for our local communities. These plans will: a. promote walking, cycling, public transport and other low carbon transport options; b. work to improve the resource efficiency and health of homes, businesses and infrastructure in our district; and c. support the use of renewable energy and uptake of electric vehicles.
 2. **Work with our communities to understand, prepare for and respond to the physical impacts of climate change.**
 3. Work with central government to deliver on national emission reduction targets and support resilience in our communities.
2. 2019: The Mayor of Timaru District Council declared a climate emergency
 3. June 2022: Timaru District Council adopted and signed the following statements on climate change

The Timaru District Council will:

1. *Be a climate-friendly council. We will adapt to Climate Change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Council's operations wherever feasible.*
2. *Lead and facilitate mitigation and adaptation projects with others. **We will enable, empower and inspire substantial climate change actions by many stakeholders in the district, including collaborations with our Tiriti partners.***
3. *Encourage others to learn and adapt. **We will guide and support communities that are most vulnerable to climate change, i.e., those who are***
 1. *most exposed to climate change*
 2. *badly impacted by climate change*
 3. *least resilient*

4. 5th November 2023: Timaru District Council endorsed the Principles of the Timaru District Climate Change Strategy as follows

Principle #1: Equity/Justice/Fairness

Principle #2: Understanding/knowledge/MĀTAURANGA/Education/skills

Principle #3: Future proofing/resilience/urgency/long term thinking

Principle #4: Support/sharing/collaboration/weaving

Principle #5: Whanau/family, Whanui/community

Principle #6: Precaution

Principle #7: Transparency

Principle #8: Work with the power of nature

Principle #9: Realistic Action

Principle #10: Determine actions first, then who does them

The following Principles were supported by Timaru District stakeholders and are consistent with principles from related documents. These Principles are taken as 'givens' for all those engaged in climate change deliberations, decisions and actions in the Timaru District, without the need for any further explanations.

Honour Te Tiriti

Honesty

Integrity

Kindness

Creativity

Boldness

Trust

Positivity

Clarity

TDC's councillors' and mayor's worthy documented commitments to taking action on climate change and the rupture of the alpine fault are long overdue for action.

Part 2: General threats and risks of accelerating Climate Change and the rupture of the alpine fault

Lloyds of London reports that NZ is the second highest risk country for natural disasters.

Climate change and global heating are accelerating beyond most scientific predictions.

1. Every month since April 2023 has been the hottest on record for each month.
2. In the 12 months to January 2024 the average temperature on earth was 1.54 degrees above the pre-industrial average. Most climate models forecast this to not happen until after 2030.
3. In February 2024 there were 4 consecutive days in which the average global temperature was 2 degrees above the pre-industrial average.
4. The average global temperature in March 2024 was 1.68 degrees above the pre-industrial average
5. 2023 warmed by 0.2 degrees (*a rate of 1 degree per 5 years!!*). This rate of heating is beyond almost all climate models and has not yet been explained by any known phenomenon. It is hoped that it is a one-off anomaly but *instead it could indicate that the earth has passed a global heating tipping point. This is seriously alarming.*
6. The last decade was the hottest on record.
7. Numerous scientific papers indicate that the current average temperatures on earth are definitely hotter than at any time in the last 120,000 years and are probably hotter than ever experienced in the approximately 3 million years humans have been on earth.
8. Ocean temperatures in 2023/24 are well above any previous global sea temperatures or major predictions.
9. ***Cyclone Gabrielle cost Timaru District ratepayers millions of dollars in increased costs of fresh fruit and vegetables*** that were brought to the District from the North Island. Many of these fruit and vegetables could be grown in the Timaru District and so increased food resilience in the district.
10. Ice cover in the Arctic and Antarctic is the lowest it has ever been.
11. Significant parts of the Arctic have already warmed by 6 degrees.
12. Oxfam found that Kenya, Ethiopia, Somalia and South Sudan lost more than \$7.4bn in livestock as a result of climate change since 2021
13. In 2023 an unprecedented leap of 38.5C in the coldest place on Earth is a harbinger of a disaster for humans and the local ecosystem. Thousands of emperor penguin chicks drowned last year when the sea-ice broke up before they could fully fledge
14. The 17th April 2024 report from the prestigious Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research confidently predicts that the “World economy (is) already committed to income reduction of 19 % due to climate change” (i.e. due to greenhouse gases that are already in the atmosphere) and that this amounts to “38 trillion dollars in damages each year”. “Costs due to unavoidable climate change damages over the next 25 years far outweigh the cost of trying to mitigate it”. Note that Oceania including NZ is forecast to have a 16% reduction in annual GDP. **This equates to an *annual \$640million GDP reduction in South Canterbury***

The threats and risks posed by the rupture of the alpine fault are enormous

1. The Alpine Fault is predicted to rupture with 75% certainty within 50 years. There is an 80+% probability that the rupture will be at least a magnitude 8 (100 times larger than the February Christchurch quake)
2. It is expected that a large earthquake in the Southern Alps will lead to a “cascade” of impacts including aftershocks, landslides, landslide tsunamis, landslide dams, landslide dam break outburst floods, debris flows, river aggradation, river avulsion and exacerbated river flooding. www.af8.org.nz
3. These impacts are likely to cause:
 - a. Likely deaths and injuries
 - b. Damage to the main electricity system (failed transmission towers; damaged turbines) *likely resulting in no power for days or weeks* (no power to pump water or waste water or irrigation water, no cooking on stove-tops and ovens or in microwaves, no kettles, no toasters, no hot water, no power to pump fuel including for generators, no power for dialysis and other medical machines, no power to charge cell-phones, laptops and eVs, no power for domestic and commercial fridges and freezers and hence loss of food, no power to run milking machines and vat chillers, no power to shops and businesses, no power for industrial food processing and chilling/freezing etc)
 - c. Potential massive dam-break-floods in the alpine rivers wiping out rail and road bridges and threatening Timaru District’s mere 3 days’ supply of food in our supermarkets
 - d. Shattered buildings, especially those with concrete facades and parapets and older brick buildings
 - e. Roads closed
 - f. Subsidence and localised flooding
4. These impacts are forecast to cost Timaru District ratepayers hundreds of millions of dollars
5. ***The costs of these impacts could be greatly reduced by building more resilience into every aspect of life in the Timaru District.***

I find it challenging to accept that any leader in the Timaru District could fail to support the building of district-wide resilience in the face of climate change and Alpine Fault threats

Part 3: The nature and magnitude of specific climate change impacts in the Timaru District as identified by our citizens through the Action on Climate Change project

The hundreds of Timaru District ratepayers who contributed to the First Report on the Timaru District Climate Change Strategy (April 2023) (“the First Report”) identified numerous climate related issues that will impact the Timaru District to the tune of many \$100s of millions of dollars.

These were summarised and roughly quantified in Table 2.1 in the report. None of these impacts has been publicly or formally challenged. Subsequently more major issues have been identified.

The First Report is consistent with the 17th April 2024 report from the prestigious Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research which confidently predicts that the

“World economy (is) already committed to income reduction of 19 % due to climate change” (i.e. due to greenhouse gases that are already in the atmosphere) and that this amounts to “38 trillion dollars in damages each year”. “Costs due to unavoidable climate change damages over the next 25 years far outweigh (6 times higher) the cost of trying to mitigate it”.

Note that Oceania including NZ is forecast to have a 16% reduction in annual GDP. This equates to an *annual \$640million GDP food and fibre reduction in South Canterbury. This confirms the hundreds of millions of estimated impacts in table 2.1 in the First Report.*

The following table identifies some key climate-related issues. In almost all cases the following questions urgently need answers:

- ***When will this happen?***
- ***How fast will our lives and environment be affected?***
- ***How fast can we address this?***
- ***What options do we have? (Live-with-it? Defend? Adapt? Retreat? Take advantage of it? Other?)***
- ***Who pays?***

Given the predicted enormous magnitude of these impacts, it is imperative that Timaru District stakeholders evaluate and validate (or not) the nature and magnitude of these impacts so that collectively we know which ones are real, significant and threatening to our overall wellbeing

and to then take *action* to mitigate and adapt.

Issue	Potential Magnitude (listed her as financial costs – need to add environmental, social and cultural costs)
<p>1. Climate refugees. Potentially by far the biggest impact in the Timaru District. There is no credible climate change model that does not predict huge numbers of climate refugees with some estimates that the world already has at least 200million climate refugees (many trying to get into the USA, Europe, the UK, NZ etc)</p>	<p>Recent forecasts predict 3 billion climate refugees by 2070 with 10-20million from Australia alone. <i>This could result in a doubling, trebling or more of Timaru District's population over 50 years – starting now.</i> This is a massive issue requiring totally different forms of planning (self-contained micro-villages? Permaculture food production? Much more labour available with much less fossil fuel?) Most of the population will by then be acutely aware of climate change and its impacts. Potential for huge social disruption/anarchy/populist anti-migrant governments, invasion by sovereign countries etc. Who do we want to come here?</p>
<p>2. Inundation and erosion of rural land between Washdyke and the Rangitata River</p>	<p>\$300 million at \$30,000/Ha</p>
<p>3. Inundation and erosion of Milford huts and other residential properties in the same area</p>	<p>Something like 140 huts x \$350,000 = \$50million at least</p>
<p>4. Damage to the rail line, roading, power and water supplies from Washdyke to the Rangitata</p>	<p>Speculatively \$100s of millions of dollars, especially if the rail line needs relocating (and if that means that the Redruth landfill also needs relocating)</p>
<p>5. Inundation of industrial land at Washdyke including Timaru's waste-water plant</p>	<p>Probably \$100s of millions</p>
<p>6. Inundation of industrial storage land south of the Port</p>	<p>Probably \$10s of millions</p>
<p>7. Coastal erosion e.g. at Patiti Point and St Andrews and elsewhere (beach erosion reported to be 2m/year in some parts of the South Canterbury coastline)</p>	<p>Unknown but probably \$10s of millions</p>
<p>8. Longer and more severe droughts impacting on town and rural water supplies. Note recent very dry spell in Opuha is likely to be more frequent and more intense in future</p>	<p>To date, climate change has cost urban areas \$120million and rural areas \$720million (<i>Adapt and Thrive Consultation Document from Central Government April 2022</i>) Is there potential to revegetate higher land to provide ecosystem services?</p>

9. More intense floods in both the foothills rivers like the Pareora and the alpine Rangitata affecting local land and infrastructure	Unquantified but likely \$100s of millions. The TDC infrastructure team, Waka Kotahi, NZ rail, ECan, Alpine Energy, Transpower and others will probably have some oversight of their specific areas of responsibility. However the complex interactions of issues are unlikely to have been fully evaluated, especially in the event of AF8 rupturing
10. Other increases in weather variability causing such things as: pest outbreaks (e.g., fungal infections due to higher humidities; new pest species due to higher average temperatures) wet soils restricting access for harvesting machinery; high winds flattening crops; winds and droughts increasing rural fire hazards)	A single short hailstorm in December 2023 caused \$6million in arable crop damage, a late frost in 2020 wiped out most fruit immediately west of Timaru, 2022 was the 'harvest from hell' for the arable sector (due to fungal infections, slugs and wet soil that made harvesting very difficult), The Ohau fire cost many \$millions. Climate change is already costing Timaru District ratepayers.
11. Higher food prices which disproportionately impact on vulnerable communities in Timaru district (Domestic Food Resilience)	Cyclone Gabriele exposed South Canterbury's huge exposure to food being brought in from outside the district resulting in big price rises in fresh produce costing Timaru District ratepayers an estimated many millions of dollars. It's has been stated that 90% of food consumed in South Canterbury comes from outside the district and that Timaru supermarkets hold just 3 days' supplies. If true, this is alarming, especially in the event of AF8 potentially taking out major bridges and cutting off power for weeks if not months. Yet there is huge potential for more local, domestic food production.
12. Uninsurability of more and more properties and businesses (cf Australia https://www.bbc.com/news/world-australia-61432462)	Uncertain impacts in South Canterbury but likely to make bank borrowing impossible for some home and land owners
13. Higher temperatures leading to heat stress on plants and animals. Potential to grow different crops. (Commercial Food Resilience)	Uncertain nature and magnitude of issues. However, note that the world's largest olive growing region in Spain is in its 2 nd year of drought (average temperature increase so far = 6 degrees) and farmers in the world's largest almond growing area in California are pulling out their trees due to lack of water. Over 4000 schools in the Philippines are currently closed (April 2024) due to extreme heat and humidity. These indicate the magnitude of what's <i>already</i> happening globally (and potentially here?) as well as identifying potential opportunities. But creating a new olive/almond industry would take 10 years.
And much more	

Part 4: Action on Climate Change: Proposals as submitted to TDC for the November 2023 meeting of the Environmental Services Committee and mostly rejected by councillors

The following Climate Issues and requests for action were included in The Second Report on the Timaru District Climate Change Strategy submitted to TDC in mid-2023.

All requested actions were based on the First Report on the Timaru District Climate Change Strategy which in turn was **based on collaborative contributions from 100s of ratepayers and citizens** through 10 public workshops and 6 Advisory Group workshops on climate change.

All but one of these requests for action were supported by TDC staff who wrote a covering note which together with the Second Report were presented to TDC's Environmental Services Committee in November 2023.

No-one from our businesses, communities, farming sector, organisations and individuals were permitted to speak at that ESC committee meeting.

Despite valiant efforts by the ESC chair to encourage informed discussion by ESC members, all our wider communities' action requests except the first request (to endorse the Principles of the Climate Change strategy) were rejected by the ESC committee. Committee discussions were perfunctory and included completely wrong statements which were not corrected by TDC staff and management.

These requests for action therefore still stand as valid and important actions *as defined and requested by our wider communities*.

Our communities ask that all these action requests be reconsidered by TDC, but this time with community representatives permitted to engage in the ESC or councillor discussions to provide clarification.

Details of these requests are included in the Second Report on the Timaru District Climate Change strategy.

The following are *brief extracts* of the 10 climate change issues that Timaru communities requested Timaru District Council to support. More details are included in the Second Report on the Timaru District Climate Change strategy.

Climate Issue #1

Support the Principles of the Timaru District Climate Change Strategy

Suggested TDC or Climate Trust action

As a key stakeholder and sponsor of the Timaru District Climate Change Strategy, that TDC acknowledge and confirm their support for the Principles of the TDCCS

Agreed by TDC councillors

Climate Issue #2

Update hut holders on managed retreat from Milford and Rangitata Hut settlements (from SubStrategy #1)

Suggested TDC or Climate Trust action

Write a letter to hut residents jointly from the Mayor of TDC and the Chair of ECan confirming that TDC and ECan are aware of the issues and acknowledge that managed retreat is inevitable at some as-yet uncertain date. The letter to further advise that both organisations are awaiting clarification on compensation for climate events and that this is being worked through by central government, with an initial focus on compensation for managed retreat due to cyclone Gabrielle. Confirm that TDC/ECan will take further action when national adaptation compensation rules have been agreed.

Rejected by TDC councillors

Climate Issue #3

Triage managed retreat options with hut owners at the Milford and Rangitata Hut settlements (from SubStrategy #1)

Suggested TDC or Climate Trust action

TDC work with other agencies *and with the affected communities* to identify and triage/assess locations and land-use suitability for managed retreat of coastal settlements. This work can either be done directly by the relevant agencies or contracted to the proposed Climate Change entity (e.g. a South Canterbury Climate Change Trust or similar). Some steps have already been taken by some agencies.

Rejected by TDC councillors

Climate Issue #4

Collate robust information on the economic, social, environmental and cultural risks and impacts of climate change in and on the Timaru District (from the overall Timaru District Climate Change Strategy)

Suggested TDC or Climate Trust action

Produce a robust report to guide decision making and prioritisation of climate-related action by re-assessing the scale of climate change impacts in the Timaru District (as *estimated* in table 2.1 in the *1st Report on the TDCCS* and appearing to amount to many \$100s of millions of dollars) and the many as-yet unspecified impacts on cultural, social and environmental well-beings

Rejected by TDC councillors

Climate Issue #5

Ensure resilient domestic food supplies in the event of extreme weather events or the Alpine Fault rupturing (from SubStrategy #2: Domestic Food Resilience)

Suggested TDC or Climate Trust action

Establish mechanisms for rapidly distributing locally available food following a disaster-level event such as an extreme weather event or the rupturing of the Alpine Fault (AF8 scenario) by identifying and characterising all *local* commercial and domestic food sources that could quickly be made available to our citizens. Evaluate the potential for increasing stored food supplies in the Timaru District up to 10 days.

Rejected by TDC councillors

Climate Issue #6

Enable food production and foraging on public land (from SubStrategy #2: Domestic Food Resilience)

Suggested TDC or Climate Trust action

Identify and document the scope for enabling free food foraging through establishing and basic maintenance of food producing trees, bushes and crops on public land. It is expected that many communities would volunteer to help. Subsequently adapt local planning rules to both enable and encourage food production on suitable public land.

Rejected by TDC councillors

Climate Issue #7

Reduce non-commercial transport emissions (from SubStrategy #3: Low Emission Resilient Transport)

Suggested TDC or Climate Trust action

Lead a campaign to promote climate friendly transport options that do not need new infrastructure, for example, to encourage people to halve the number of their trips for buying consumables.

Rejected by TDC councillors

Climate Issue #8

Enable property-based water management (from SubStrategy #4: Domestic water resilience)

Suggested TDC or Climate Trust action

Through planning, regulation and campaigns, TDC to enable and encourage Timaru District stakeholders to increasingly manage water on their properties through a mix of reduced in-house consumption, rainwater tanks, lower-irrigation-demand plants and increased on-site absorption of rainwater.

Rejected by TDC councillors

Climate Issue #9

Enable and inspire (or compel) Personal Actions on Climate Change (From SubStrategy #5: Personal Climate Actions)

Suggested TDC or Climate Trust action

Lead a community-level Personal Climate Action project in the theme of *“Double the good, halve the bad”* by:

1. Identifying those Personal Climate Actions that are *already* enabled plus compelled or inspired, and
2. Identifying which sectors of our communities are immediately amenable to taking personal climate actions (innovators and early adopters)
3. Identifying what further information or inspiration/compulsion will prompt each sector to act
4. Securing funding and then implementing the steps necessary to enable plus inspire or compel Personal Climate Actions, at least in the most amenable sectors (innovators and early adopters)

Rejected by TDC councillors although some minor in-house activity has started on this topic

Climate Issue #10

Resilient commercial food production options (from SubStrategy #6: Commercial Food Resilience)

Suggested TDC or Climate Trust actions

1. Market demands: Evaluate and document *the full spectrum* of recent and emerging global climate-related market demands for South Canterbury's food and fibre industries
2. Risks: Quantify the direct and indirect climate-related risks to South Canterbury's (largely? tbc) monoculture food and fibre production sectors
3. Existing products Quantify options for meeting rapidly evolving and very demanding international customer standards for low carbon footprints for our *existing* export products
4. New products Assess (and physically evaluate?) *new* food and fibre production options

Rejected by TDC councillors

Our communities' request for an independent Climate Change Trust or similar legal entity

In 2023 the New Zealand Ombudsman wrote a report:

"INSIGHTS AND OBSERVATIONS The Chief Ombudsman's report on extreme weather events 2023". In a key paragraph he stated the following in relation to local and central government responses to cyclone Gabrielle:

Making fast decisions was difficult when individuals did not have the authority to do so, or information from government had not been received. Agencies I talked to recognised that the centrally coordinated/locally-led model needs improvement, and some suggested a one-stop-shop for accurate information and advice is needed.

Consistent with the Ombudsman's view and acting through the *Action on Climate Change* strategy project, Timaru's wider communities requested that council support the establishment of an independent, well qualified Climate Change Trust (a "one-stop-shop") or similar legal entity.

Although this concept was on the meeting agenda for the November 2023 Environmental Services Committee meeting, Mayor Bowen shut down discussion because he said the concept of a Climate Change Trust needed to be considered as part of TDC's Long Term Plan. *But this concept of an independent Climate Change Trust or similar legal entity does not appear in TDC's Long Term Plan.*

It is therefore reasonable to conclude that our Timaru communities' request for such a Trust has been rejected by TDC councillors.

I request that Timaru District Council contribute 2% of its annual budget to support the establishment and operation of a Timaru District (or South Canterbury) Climate Change Trust or similar entity to understand and provide advice on building resilience to the threats of climate change and the rupture of the alpine fault.

Part 5: How to fund climate change and AF8 resilience building in the Timaru District including a more meaningful re-presentation of information relating to Timaru District Council's draft Long Term Plan

Climate Change and AF8 resilience building can be funded by:

1. Option 1: Further increasing rates – not an attractive option
2. Option 2: Terminating the eye-wateringly expensive theatre project and simultaneously:
 - a. *funding* climate change and AF8 resilience building
 - b. *reducing* the proposed rate increase
 - c. *investing* in water meters to reduce demand and so increase the resilience of both our water supply and wastewater system
 - d. *repaying* a significant amount of our debt
3. Option 3: Redirecting *just 4% of the proposed theatre budget* to climate change and AF8 resilience building

Option 2 is the preferred option.

The current LTP consultation document white-washes the huge planned expenditure on the theatre/museum project (referred to below as 'the theatre project');

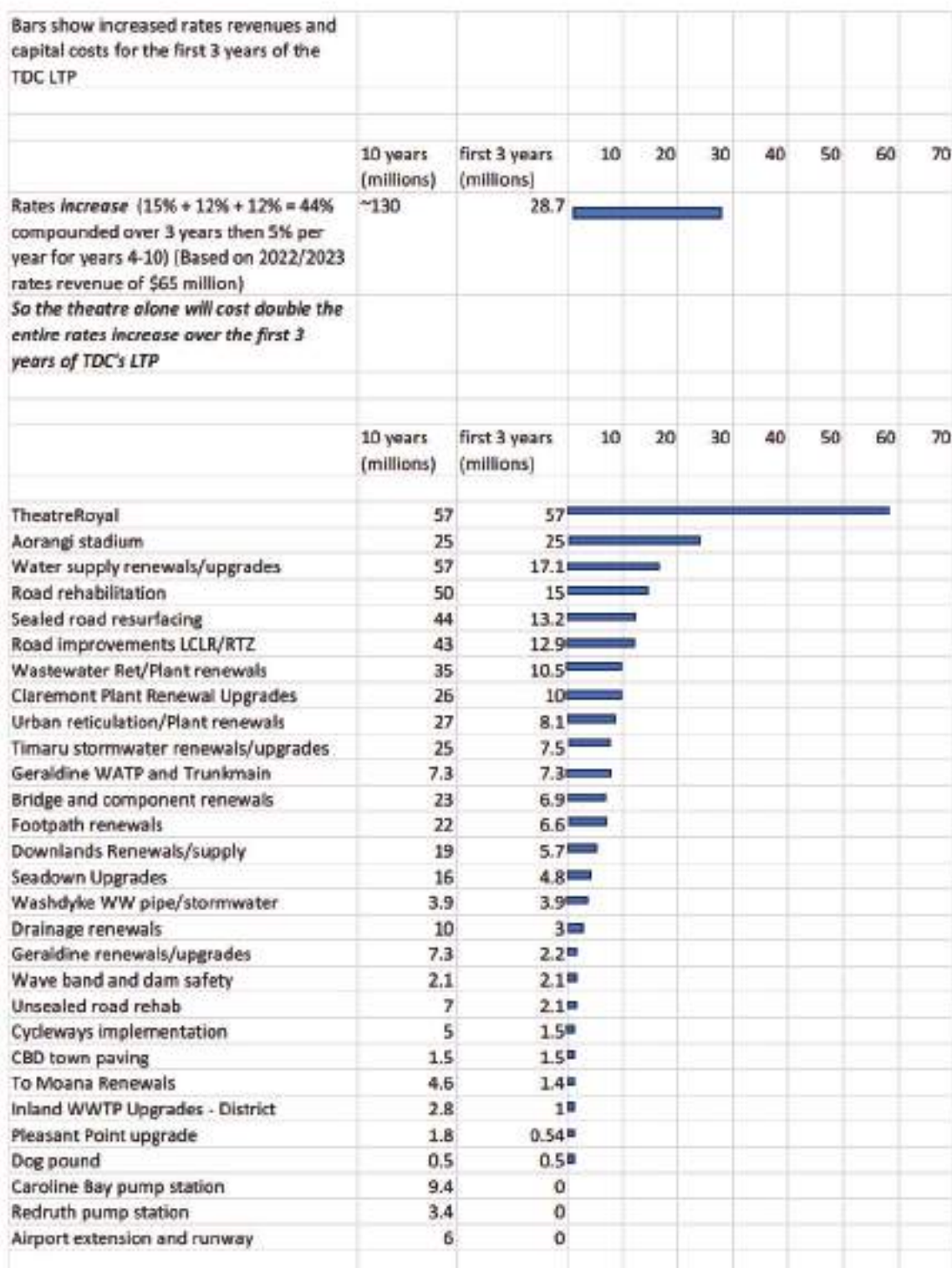
- The theatre project forecast expenditure of another \$57million as per the LTP Consultation Document amounts to almost half the council's entire annual budget albeit spread over a couple of years. It's an enormous amount of money for a small council with a small ratepayer base
- The forecast cost of the theatre project *appears* to have increased from about \$14million net from ratepayers in 2021 to ~ \$53million net from ratepayers (total at least \$64million including the government subsidy) through the life of the project with no guarantee that this amount won't continue to grow as the theatre project continues
- The theatre project uses up the entire 10 year budget for Council's culture and heritage investments on a piece of European heritage, leaving no funding for 10 years for projects that represent our culturally diverse communities
- The theatre project is pushing up debt on an unnecessary, discretionary, nice-to-have project and dumping the debt repayments on to future councils to pay it back, thereby seriously constraining future councils ability to address serious infrastructure issues
- The theatre project will seriously increase the financial burden on our farming communities that are already struggling with falling commodity prices and increasing operating costs plus big increases in rates due to both increases in land values and increases in rates themselves.
- The theatre project will, on average, increase the council debt (ie ratepayer debt/our debt) of every Timaru District ratepayer by over \$2,000 on top of the \$10,000 of ratepayer debt we, as ratepayers, are already liable for paying back. This is not made clear in the LTP consultation document but if it were then **I believe it is highly unlikely that ratepayers would support this increase in our debt to fund the theatre project**
- The theatre project is presented in a misleading manner in the LTP consultation document. Throughout the consultation document, when lower cost options are put forward they are couched in terms of delaying infrastructure projects when in fact the most straightforward way to reduce costs is to delay or terminate the theatre project

- The theatre project is delaying necessary expenditure on Timaru District's aging infrastructure such the important investments in water meters which will reduce water demand, extend the life of existing water infrastructure and reduce water restrictions
- The theatre project appears to have no business case or robust evidence that clarifies what revenues the theatre will generate and how its operating costs will be funded (in contrast C-Bay generates revenues to help cover its operating costs)
- The theatre project pushes up council (i.e. ratepayers') debt to a point where there is seriously insufficient remaining borrowing capacity to cover the costs of big one-off events like a major, climate-change-triggered storm. Cyclone Gabrielle alone cost over \$11billion and South Canterbury is forecast to have more frequent and more intense extreme weather events. Similarly the rupture of the Alpine Fault could cut of power for weeks and cost the district 100s of millions of dollars. To be prepared to address these inevitable issues (AF8 could rupture in the next 5 minutes), council needs a much larger borrowing reserve than is forecast in the draft LTP.
- In a cost of living crisis, such a huge, non-essential project like the theatre project cannot be justified irrespective of the fact that many people in the district would *like* a nicely done-up theatre (wouldn't we all?) – but not at the eye watering cost of \$64million *so far* (\$57million forecast on top of \$7million already spent) and in a way that soaks up huge amounts of money then could be better spent on infrastructure and resilience building in our wider Timaru District communities, businesses, organisations, individuals and farmers.
- If TDC were a company then the scale of the expenditure on the theatre would justify directly asking shareholders for their specific approval of such an enormous one-off expense, especially given the council's/ratepayers' growing debt level. Such an approach to shareholders would be a stand-alone shareholder consultation and not be buried in a long term plan.
- The theatre project will use up 5-6 years of proposed rates increases and the stadium project will use up another 2-3 years of rates increases. So if the theatre and stadium projects were postponed there would be no need for any rates rises for 8-9 years.
- The LTP Consultation Document was written so as to convey messages preferred by councillors and did not make it clear to readers what the true issues are. For example:
 1. 15%+12%+12% compounding rates increases (as per LTP) = **44% increase over 3 years!!**
 2. 7.4% compounding rates increases (as per LTP) = **100% increase over 10 years** i.e. rates double
 3. Claiming that rates will increase less than 5% from year 4 onwards (LTP) is meaningless because before year 4 a new LTP will be drafted in which there is **no guarantee of any particular level of future rates.**
 4. Current TDC rates income = \$65million. With rates increases as per the draft LTP, over 3 years the rates increases amount to \$28million = half the cost of the theatre project (not clear in the LTP). So it will take 5-6 years of rates increases to pay for the theatre (Not clear in the LTP). Or put another way, **if the theatre project is stopped then there will be no need for rates increases for 5-6 years (not clear in the LTP). If the stadium project is also stopped then there will be no need for rates increases for 8-9 years (not clear in the LTP)** (or the rates increases could be spent on infrastructure).
 5. **46,000 Timaru District citizens will be impacted by the rupture of the Alpine Fault (AF8)** many of them seriously so, with total costs likely to be in the hundreds of millions of dollars. (not clear in the LTP) Similarly **46,000 Timaru District citizens will be impacted by climate**

change, also with total costs in the hundreds of millions of dollars. (not clear in the LTP) But council's **draft LTP proposes to provide no support to our citizens to build resilience to these threats**. In contrast, maybe 10(?) thousand Timaru District citizens will use the theatre and stadium. (not clear in the LTP) But council is spending \$57million on a theatre and \$25 million on a stadium. So assuming 10,000 people use the theatre, the \$57million dollar cost amounts to \$5,700 subsidy per theatre user. Even if this is spread over 30 years this still amounts to **\$190 annual ratepayer subsidy per theatre user**. (not clear in the LTP) Do citizens agree with these council's spending priorities?

6. The graph (see below) of **capital expenditure over 3 years shows the huge expenditure on the theatre and stadium projects relative to all other capital expenditure** (not clear in the LTP)
7. The LTP consultation documents states: "Council staff are also undertaking a major project to cut operational spending by reducing waste, bringing more work in-house instead of contracting it out and cutting out non-priority projects". **This is misleading and insulting to staff. Staff are cutting departmental budgets and delaying expenditure on important infrastructure so that huge, discretionary non-priority projects like the theatre and stadium can be funded**. (not clear in the LTP). As shown in the graph below, cutting back on capital projects other than the theatre and stadium will have relatively small impact on the overall budget. **The big savings are to be made by stopping the theatre project**.
8. **Contracting out is often the least expensive option so it's misleading to imply that this saves money**. The true cost of each *productive* hour of a TDC employee earning \$100,000/year is around \$200, which is more than many consultants and engineering specialists charge. (not clear in the LTP)
9. We have 46,000 people in the Timaru District. Investment in community facilities needs to focus on facilities that will be enjoyed by as many people as possible (not clear in the LTP). As noted earlier, expenditure also need to consider the cost/user of each investment. So a \$1million investment that will be used by 100,000 people over its 30 year lifetime costs \$10/person. A \$57million dollar investment that will be used by 10,000 people per year for 30 years costs \$190/person. (not clear in the LTP) **TDC must invest in community facilities with low cost/person**.
10. **Investments in community facilities also need to reflect our demographic diversity** and not be focused on facilities that will be used by just some segments of our society.
11. I understand that the theatre revamp is currently designed and costed to an existing building code re earthquakes. However a new draft code that is likely to be adopted by 2026 (i.e. during the theatre rebuild) requires designers to use a 50% greater PGA (Peak Ground Acceleration). **If the theatre is not built to this new code then it would seem to me to be unsafe. If it's redesigned to the new code it's likely to be much more expensive**.
12. Buildings can be designed to protect occupants in the event of a quake even if the building becomes a write-off (the minimum required) or they can be designed to a higher standard so the building itself also survives. I'm awaiting a reply from TDC as to which design standards they are using. If they are designing the theatre revamp to solely protect people but not the building then **the entire 'investment' in the building will be lost when AF8 ruptures**.

The entire LTP consultation document misleadingly downplays the huge cost of the theatre project and the stadium. At the same time, in most places where lower cost options are offered the Consultation document states that lower cost options will impact primarily on infrastructure and services without fully acknowledging that the overwhelmingly biggest impacts on rates and debt increases are the theatre project and stadium. (not clear in the LTP)



The above graph demonstrates that in the first three years of the LTP, which are the most relevant years, the 2 discretionary theatre and stadium projects are hugely costly compared to the capital costs of 24 other mostly non-discretionary projects. **There would be no need for any rates increases for 5-6 years if the theatre project were stopped and no need for any rates increases for 8-9 years if the stadium project were also stopped.**

TDC's LTP Consultation Document seeks to be 'Finding The Balance'.

It fails to do so.

In the draft LTP, TDC councillors appear to have allocated nothing to help Timaru District's communities, farmers, businesses, organisations and individuals address the existential threats of climate change and the rupture of the alpine fault with their potential impacts costing Timaru District ratepayers and citizens hundreds of millions of dollars.

Several hundred Timaru District citizens and ratepayers including our mayor and chair of the environmental services committee contributed over 1,500 hours of their time to 10 x 3 hour public workshops and 6 Advisory Group workshops on climate change and in all cases, asked TDC to take a lead on climate action.

Despite making numerous fine-sounding commitments to address climate change, TDC has taken no detectable actions on the many recommendations in the April 2023 First Report on the Timaru District Climate Change Strategy. For TDC to now allocate no LTP funding over 10 years to continue Action on Climate Change is disrespectful to our citizens and ratepayers who contributed so much time and wisdom to the Action on Climate Change project.

But councillors have allocated a further eye-watering \$57 million to restoring a piece of European heritage.

This is not 'Finding the Balance'.

Please allocate a minimum of 2% of TDC's annual expenditure to helping our communities, farmers, businesses, organisations and individuals to build resilience to climate change and the anticipated rupture of the Alpine Fault. A core use of this funding will be to operate a Trust or similar entity of knowledgeable and respected citizens to advise elected members and our communities on the decisions required to effectively address the impacts of climate change and the rupture of the alpine fault.

I request to present my submission in person at the appropriate TDC council meeting.

Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



We are writing to you as a group with a significant stake in the outcome of the current deliberations on the future of the stadium complex who do not feel recognized as "stakeholders" in the process.

Aorangi Stadium includes a gymnasium with a wide range of equipment for weight training and other exercises typically used for "fitness circuit" classes. This area can accommodate up to 50 people in a single class.

Whilst many of the services provided by this facility are now catered for by the C Bay complex near Caroline Bay, Aorangi Stadium remains the preferred venue for Timaru senior citizens formal exercise classes. Around 7 one hour classes are run during the Monday to Friday working week throughout the year. These classes are attended by Timaru seniors equating to in excess of 200 "man hours" per week making this group of individuals collectively a principal user of this facility during the working week throughout the entire year.

Most of us pay \$5.50 per 1 hour session for these classes. Some individuals are funded to attend by 3rd parties.

Why don't we use C Bay?

C Bay does not have the space to accommodate a group of our size.

Seniors generally prefer to exercise in a non-competitive environment catering to their diverse needs dictated by the typical issues experienced by our cohort. (A cohort which is predicted to continue growing as a proportion of the Timaru population)

During weekdays Aorangi is easily accessed by foot, bicycle and car by the majority of users.

A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

You are currently deliberating over the option of building a new facility at Aorangi or upgrading the current facility. We acknowledge that either way we will lose the use of Aorangi Stadium for a period of time. Obviously our preference would be for a solution that minimizes disruption to our use of the gym.

We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

NAME Rachel Goodall

ADDRESS

[REDACTED]

PHONE

[REDACTED]

EMAIL

[REDACTED]

SIGNATURE

[REDACTED]

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NAME

Rae Winkelman

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

To: Timaru District Council

From: Pleasant Point Community Board
Raewyn Hessel (Chairperson)
Ross Munro (Deputy Chairperson)
Michael Thomas
Anna Lyon
Kathy Wilkins

We request that the below is tabled for consideration by Timaru District Council

Decision sought:

The Pleasant Point Community Board seeks the following from the Timaru District Council

That the Timaru District Council include the following in their Long Term Plan 2024-34:

The Timaru District Council continue to fund or reinstate funding for Pleasant Point Community Board projects related to The Pleasant Point, Cave, and Surrounding Area Strategic Plan 2023-2033.

Background

Development of The Pleasant Point Cave and Surrounding Area Strategic Plan 2023-2033 has been a large piece of work between Timaru District Council, Pleasant Point Community Board and all members of the communities within our district. We have heard from many different groups, clubs, and people about what they think the strategic plan for our community should look like and they have told us the things that matter most. We know community groups and clubs have been using the Strategic Plan to assist with funding other projects outside of the projects funded by the Pleasant Point Community Board. The strategic plan has given us a clear direction for the future of our town.

These 8 key objectives are now the guiding light for many decisions we make for our community.

- 1: Ensure that local events and businesses are sustainable and well supported.
- 2: Retain, Maintain and enhance local infrastructure, facilities and amenities.
- 3: Retain and improve connection with the wider district.
- 4: Protect the pleasant character and rural landscapes.
- 5: Create a resilient, safe and secure community.
- 6: Maintain and grow community participation and connections for all ages & generations.
- 7: Promote local history and identity.
- 8: protect the rural and small town economy & ensure sustainability.

Current Projects Funded by Strategic Plan Funding

We have 3 Community Board led projects underway with the first round of funding provided by Timaru District Council.

- 1: Completing the shared pathway around Pleasant Point Domain.
- 2: Additional Halstead Road Playground upgrades.
- 3: Large scale mural on the Pleasant Point Pool wall depicting the history of Pleasant Point and the Surrounding area.

All 3 of these projects meet multiple strategic plan objectives and are delivering very targeted improvements to our community with long term benefits for all.

Potential Projects to be funded by Strategic Plan Funding in the Future

We have many ideas and suggestions from people in the community, to list a few:

- 1: Continue filling the gaps in the shared pathways through the township, creating interesting links to the Central Cycle Trail.
- 2: Improvements to the Pleasant Point Campground. – Dump Stations, more powered sites/cabins. Getting the Campground open 12 months of the year.
- 3: Support the Pleasant Point Pool by providing better facilities or more things to do at the pool
- 4: Support large scale events, Get to the Point, Pleasant Point Christmas Parade, (A New Event...Food Trucks in the Park?) Pleasant Point Farmers Market.

Summary

The Pleasant Point Community Board requests the Timaru District Council to continue to fund or reinstate funding to the Pleasant Point Community Board projects that arise from the Pleasant Point, Cave and Surrounds Strategic Plan 2023-2033.

This targeted funding is critical to the successful implementation of the strategic plan and the Pleasant Point Community Board believe we are the best way to deliver real value to all stakeholders. We understand our community, their needs and their vision for the future of Pleasant Point. We also understand and hear their expectations of Timaru District Council. We have the plan in place, we have got the support of the community, we need the support of Timaru District Council.

The Pleasant Point Community Board would like to thank Timaru District Council for your support of the Pleasant Point, Cave and Surrounds Strategic Plan 2023-2033 to date and look forward to your continued support in the future.

Raewyn Hessel – Chairperson, on behalf of the Pleasant Point Community Board.

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A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

You are currently deliberating over the option of building a new facility at Aorangi or upgrading the current facility. We acknowledge that either way we will lose the use of Aorangi Stadium for a period of time. Obviously our preference would be for a solution that minimizes disruption to our use of the gym.

We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

NAME

RAEWYN RENNIE

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

Submission



Background

Community Foundations are local, independent, and not-for-profit. They run a well-proven model of place-based philanthropy which has been growing across the world for over 100 years, and they are now established in 18 regions in New Zealand.

Community Foundations focus on a place and its people, strengthening communities from within and enabling locals' aspirations for their community to take shape. They are governed by passionate and skilled local volunteer boards which often give more than just their time.

A Community Foundation exists to inspire and facilitate giving within their local region. The use of an endowment model ensures gifts are maximised and enduring. This "smarter giving" model is simple but extremely effective.

The Aoraki Foundation is South Canterbury's Community Foundation supporting the Timaru, Waimate, and Mackenzie districts. We are a registered charity governed by a group of experienced volunteer trustees. The Aoraki Foundation, was born in 2009 to support the Timaru District Council's aquatic centre (CBay). The hugely successful MRI Scanner campaign followed and in 2013 we settled into our core role of growing a perpetual funding stream for South Canterbury.

Over the last ten years, our funds under management have grown to more than \$4.7 million and we have given over \$1.8 million to local charities, projects, and community groups. We have been involved in raising over \$10 million for community projects such as CBay, Lions Bike Skills Park, Centennial Park Pump Track, and CPlay. Through the generosity of our donors, endowment funds have been established for the environment, health, financial literacy, transplant care, nursing, swimming, women, education, sports, and more.



Our Beliefs

The Aoraki Foundation has three core beliefs that underpin all that we do:

1. We believe in a better South Canterbury.

We love where we live and we want South Canterbury to be the very best it can be. Every day we see passionate and generous locals who share that same belief.

2. We believe that with partnerships and collaboration, we can achieve better outcomes.

We know we cannot do this alone. The key to uplifting our community is working together. This includes our donors, community partners like councils, businesses, funders, mana whenua, and all the charities doing the mahi in South Canterbury.

3. We believe that one person can make a difference.

We still believe in the power of one. Change and progress at its very heart always comes down to the actions of an individual. This might be a donor, one of our trustees, an advisor, or a community leader.

Our Vision

We are dreaming big with a bold vision for the Aoraki Foundation. It is a vision we can aspire to, something that will challenge and elevate our community. Our vision is simple:

To distribute \$1 million per year to the community by 2030

To find out more about the Aoraki Foundation please see our attached 2023 Impact Report or head to our website: www.aorakifoundation.org.nz



Submission

Premise

It can not be easy being in central, regional, and local government at the moment. Despite the best efforts, and intentions there is simply not enough money to go around. The tax and rate increases required to get ahead of issues like infrastructure replacement, housing, cost of living, and climate change are daunting if not unpalatable.

Our district councils just like regional councils need assistance, and we believe that can come in the form of philanthropy. A strong and well-thought-out philanthropic strategy can supplement efforts made by councils to enhance their community for now and forever.

Current Situation

The Aoraki Foundation has been involved in some wonderful achievements since 2009. However, it has fallen into the trap that many charities do: under-investing in itself. In the effort to distribute as much as it can to the community, the Foundation existed on a slim budget of less than \$70,000 per annum for years. During this time growth in funds was minimal. In thirteen years the Foundation accumulated just three million dollars in funds.

A change of strategy in 2022 to accelerate growth is working. In just two years we have added nine new funds worth \$1.7million (56% growth), with another \$4 million in the pipeline. Projected gifts in wills (bequests) have increased from \$1 million to \$15 million. This success is largely due to additional resources with a full-time gifting and community advisor now in place. This role has been partially funded by new commercial partnerships with the shortfall (\$40k) coming from our limited reserves. Reserves which are already less than six months of our operating expenses.

Opportunity

Funding our community

We know there is a huge potential for philanthropy to make a difference. The model of Community Foundations has been successful around the globe and in other parts of Aotearoa. An example is the Acorn Foundation in Tauranga. They have more than \$100 million of invested assets and will distribute \$4 million to their community next year. More impressive, they are on target to have over \$1 billion of community funds by 2050.

South Canterbury is a generous community, we know that. Right now, we are in the midst of the largest wealth transfer the world has ever seen, this is at the same time our charities are facing a funding crisis. The time to act is now, if we can not accelerate the trajectory we are on the missed opportunity for South Canterbury will be measured in tens, if not hundreds, of millions.



Community-Led, Council-Enabled Projects

The success of the Centennial Pump Track project has demonstrated how effective a community-led council-enabled project can be. The Council contributed only 40% of the \$250k required to complete the project. The build was completed in less than six weeks, and the total time from launch to completion was under eight months.

Projects delivered by the community can be faster, more cost-efficient, and are less likely to get pushback from the public. Community facilities that can be partially funded by the Council will reduce the burden on already stretched internal budgets. It would allow money to be redeployed from community facilities to infrastructure where it is needed.

A strong and well-resourced Aoraki Foundation could be the glue in many of these potential projects, connecting individuals, businesses, funders and council together. Working closely alongside the Council, the Aoraki Foundation could identify suitable projects from work streams such as the Play, Recreation, and Sports strategy.

Council-Led, Community-Enabled Projects

Some projects are simply going to be too big to be led by a community group or volunteers, examples of this are CBay or Aorangi Stadium. In these situations, a well-resourced and connected Aoraki Foundation can play a role in fundraising, as it has done successfully before.

Request

Last year we established a Community Partnership with the Timaru District Council. A copy of the current MoU is attached. To sustain our trajectory of growth and impact, we seek increased operational support from our council partners. We are requesting an increase in operational support, from \$7,500 p.a to \$30,000 p.a to drive positive change in South Canterbury. This investment is not merely a financial transaction but a commitment to the enduring prosperity of our community.

Please note: This support is not a one-off request but an ongoing commitment to grow philanthropy in the Timaru District. As our funds under management grow, we anticipate a path to self-sustainability within the next six years.

Thank you for your consideration.

Partnership Agreement & MoU



Community Partner



1. Parties

- 1.1 AORAKI FOUNDATION, a registered charitable trust (CC42601) under the Charities Act 2005 ("the Foundation").
- 1.2 Timaru District Council ("the Partner").

2. Agreement

- 2.1 The purpose of this agreement is to record the basis upon which the Partner agrees to assist the Foundation by way of a donation toward its operating costs. It also outlines the expectations of both the Foundation & the Partner
- 2.2 In recognition of the contribution/s by the Partner, the Foundation will provide:

Partnership Benefits	Community Partner
Use of the Foundation logo/partner status	Yes
Website Listing	Partners Page
Acknowledge the Partner in Foundation (e)newsletters.	Quarterly
Social Media promotion	Throughout the year
Tickets to Foundation events	Premium
Acknowledge the partner at events	Verbally + Signage
Speaking role at a Foundation event	Optional
Employee engagement programme	Optional

Partnership Agreement



3. Partner's Contribution

- 3.1 The Partner agrees to a Community level partnership with a \$7,500 donation per annum. This amount is a donation and exempt of GST
- 3.2 The donation will be made in one annual instalment to be paid in arrears before 20th June each year.
- 3.3 The Foundation will issue an invoice for the contribution and a charitable receipt if required.
- 3.4 The donation amount will be reviewed on an annual basis no later than 60 days before the anniversary date. If the amount requested increases the Partner will have the option to terminate the agreement.

4. Term

- 4.1 The Term of the agreement will be for 1 year from 1st July 2023
- 4.2 Unless advised by the Partner prior to the anniversary date, this agreement will automatically renew each year for up to a maximum total of five years.

5. Expectations

- 5.1 The Partner expects the Foundation to:
 - i. Promote, encourage and facilitate philanthropy within the Timaru District.
 - ii. Actively grow endowment funds that will provide sustainable funding for local charities and community organisations.
 - iii. Provide a safe pair of hands for local charitable funds to be resettled, thereby keeping funds locally instead of going to national offices.
 - iv. Support (where applicable & practical) Council projects as the lead fundraiser.*
 - v. Consult with the Partner on community needs and aspirations.
 - vi. Assist the Partner (if required) with grant making and distributions of funds.*
 - vii. Prepare an Emergency Relief fund that can be activated to collect donations in the event of a local emergency/disaster.
- 5.2 The Foundation expects the Partner to:
 - i. Promote the Foundation as the philanthropic infrastructure for the community.
 - ii. Use the Foundation as the preferred fundraiser for Council projects.
 - iii. Consult with the Foundation on community needs and aspirations.
 - iv. Promote the Aoraki Foundation Emergency Relief fund as the only preferred that can be activated to collect donations in the event of a local emergency/disaster.

* The Foundation may charge an administration or consultation fee for these services

Partnership Agreement



6. Communication and Reporting

- 6.1 The Foundation and the Partner key contacts will aim to have at least three meetings per year to update each other on recent activity and progress.
- 6.2 In addition the Foundation will deliver a presentation to the Partner once a year (between August and October) outlining their performance for the financial year.

7. Intellectual Property

- 7.1 Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, neither party (nor their associated or related bodies) shall have any right to use the name, business logo or intellectual property of the other party in any manner.
- 7.2 The Partner retains all right, title and interest in its intellectual property (which for the avoidance of doubt includes its company logos). The exception to this is the Foundation meeting its obligations to recognise the Partner in newsletters, publications, events, web, etc

8. Partnership Definition

- 8.1 Nothing in this Agreement constitutes the parties as formal partners or as agents for each other. No party has any authority to bind the other or act on its behalf or to make any public statement on behalf of the other party.

9. Confidentiality

- 9.1 Except to the extent required by law, the parties agree to keep the terms of this Agreement and all related negotiations and discussions between the parties strictly confidential.
- 9.2 Confidential information does not include information which is already public knowledge or which would be considered obvious or trivial.

Partnership Agreement



10. Termination

- 10.1 The Partner may terminate the Agreement immediately in written notice to the Foundation if:
- i. The Foundation commits a material breach of this Agreement where such breach is not capable of remedy, or if capable of remedy is not remedied within 10 working days of notice from the Partner;
 - ii. The Foundation goes in to receivership, or has a receiver, trustee and/or manager appointed in respect of any or all of its property, or is the subject of liquidation or winding up proceedings (whether voluntary or involuntary), or makes an assignment for the benefit of, or enters in to or makes any arrangement or composition with, its creditors or any analogous event occurs;
 - iii. The Foundation engages in any conduct which is in the reasonable opinion of the Partner is prejudicial to or brings the Partner's brand into disrepute; or
 - iv. There is a substantial change in the purpose, nature, operation or management of the Foundation such that it is no longer consistent with the parties involved;
 - v. Should the Agreement be terminated, the partnership monies shall be refunded on a pro rata basis unless the partnership monies have been committed to partnership related costs and expenses reasonably incurred by the Foundation.
 - vi. In addition to the clauses above the Partner may opt out of the automatic renewal by giving written notice to the Foundation prior to the anniversary date. The effect of this will be termination of the agreement on the anniversary date.
- 10.2 The Foundation may terminate the Agreement immediately in written notice to the Partner if:
- i. The Partner commits a material breach of this Agreement where such breach is not capable of remedy, or if capable of remedy is not remedied within 10 working days of notice from the Foundation;
 - ii. The Partner goes into receivership, or has a receiver, trustee and/or manager appointed in respect of any or all of its property, or is the subject of liquidation or winding up proceedings (whether voluntary or involuntary), or makes an assignment for the benefit of, or enters in to or makes any arrangement or composition with, its creditors or any analogous event occurs;
 - iii. The Partner engages in any conduct which is in the reasonable opinion of the Foundation is prejudicial to or brings the Foundation's brand into disrepute; or
 - iv. Should the Agreement be terminated by the Foundation, there will be no partnership monies refunded.

Partnership Agreement



11. Key Contact Details

11.1 Please provide details for the Partners designated contact person

Name:	Timaru District Council - Alesia Cahill
Email:	alesia.cahill@timdc.govt.nz
Mobile:	[REDACTED]

Signing and Approval of the Agreement:

On behalf of the Partner

Name:	Nigel Foyen
Signature:	
Date:	18/9/23.

On behalf of the Aoraki Foundation

Name:	Richard Spackman
Position:	Chief Executive
Signature:	
Date:	19/9/23



**Aoraki
Foundation**

IMPACT REPORT 2023



Whāia te iti kahurangi, ki te tuohu koe, me he maunga teitei.

Seek the treasure that you value most dearly, if you bow your head, let it be to a lofty mountain.



2022/23

Highlights

\$4.28M

of community
funds under
management



20

Endowment
Funds



\$444,075



Distributed to the
community from
endowment funds

36

Grants and
scholarships
awarded



\$154,510

in donations received
for CPlay and Lions
Bike Skills Park



129

individual
donors



Our Team

Board of Trustees

The Aoraki Foundation is governed by an experienced group of volunteer trustees. They proudly donate their time and expertise for the betterment of the South Canterbury community. Many of these trustees also contribute to the operational costs of the Foundation and/or donate to our funds.



Greg Anderson
Chairperson



Tony Alden
Deputy Chair



Jenny Carter-Bolitho
Trustee



Georgina Hamilton
Trustee



Lili Delwaide
Trustee



Claire Barlow
Trustee



Dale Walden
Trustee



Andrew McRae
Trustee



Jo Goodhew
Trustee

Our Team



Staff

The day to day operations of the Aoraki Foundation are handled by a small yet capable team. Kirsty Burnett has joined Richard & Nicola recently and has brought with her considerable skills and experience.



Richard Spackman
Chief Executive



Kirsty Burnett
Donor & Community
Engagement Manager



Nicola Buckingham
Administrator

Committees

We have a number of generous South Cantabrians that donate their time and expertise to make up our committees. These committees fill specialist roles at the Aoraki Foundation from investing to understanding community needs.

Distributions

Jo Goodhew
Andrew McRae
Claire Barlow
Raewyn Francis
Raeleen de Joux
Richard Brown

SC Health Fund

Jo Goodhew
Dale Walden
Anna Wheeler
Gavin Wilton
John Begg
Dominique Enright

HR/Personnel

Greg Anderson
Tony Alden
Lili Delwaide
Brittney Bowie

Investment and Finance

Tony Alden
Dale Walden
Nick Noone
Justin Riley



Volunteers

We are also very grateful to the following wonderful people that volunteer their time to assist the Aoraki Foundation and keep our operational costs down. Ngā mihi nui.

Photographers

Richard Brown
Stu Jackson

Partnerships

Anna Bolland

Events

Ginny Bolderston



From the Team

2022/23 Report

It has been said, one must first face adversity before achieving success. Well that sure sums up the last two years for us. A year on from a challenging and turbulent 2022 the Aoraki Foundation has recorded one of the most successful results in our history.

This year we signed a record seven new endowment funds adding another record of \$1.4 million of new funds for the community. Thanks in large part to one generous donor we also set a new record of \$444,075 given out in grants, distributions and scholarships. On an operational front we have turned around a deficit last year into a healthy surplus in 2023. These are impressive results given where we were positioned on the start line. We are delighted but certainly not carried away.

Last year we shared our vision of distributing \$1 Million per year in to the South Canterbury community by 2030. Despite the large gifts to the community this year, we are still only 15% of our way to this target. To do the unthinkable we will need to be steadfast in our commitment and we will still need the help of others.

This is an appropriate time to thank the many partners, supporters and volunteers that have been instrumental in our growth this year.

The financial assistance we have received from the business community and local councils, has enabled us to grow our awareness in the community, and importantly with potential donors. This will only increase further with the appointment of Kirsty Burnett in a new role of donor and community engagement manager.

Having a stable, robust, and committed Board of Trustees is critical to the success of a community foundation and this year we have seen that come to the fore. The new trustees put in place in 2022 are adding value both at the board table and in the community. Gresson Dorman Partner, Georgina Hamilton joined the board in June to replace Andrew McRae as he steps down after almost five years with the Aoraki Foundation.

Finally to our donors, thank you for your kindness and compassion. Hearing your dreams for our beautiful region is inspiring. We love that we have a strategic part to play in your philanthropic desires and we cherish the responsibility of upholding your legacy. By combining your generosity with our smarter giving model we can achieve a better South Canterbury, for now and forever.

Greg Anderson
Board Chairperson

Richard Spackman
Chief Executive

Aoraki Foundation

What you need to know

Community Foundations are local, independent, and not-for-profit. They run a well-proven model of place-based philanthropy which has been growing across the world for over 100 years, and they are now established in 17 regions in New Zealand.

Community Foundations focus on a place and its people, strengthening communities from within and enabling locals' aspirations for their community to take shape. They are governed by passionate and skilled local volunteer boards which often give more than just their time.

Acorn Foundation in Tauranga was one of the initial Community Foundations starting in 2003. The community got behind Acorn Foundation early on. This year Acorn gave out over \$3 million in community funding.

A Community Foundation exists to inspire and facilitate giving within their local region. The use of an endowment model ensures gifts are maximised and enduring. This "smarter giving" model is simple but extremely effective.

We are South Canterbury's Community Foundation supporting the Mackenzie, Waimate, and Timaru districts. We are a registered charity governed by a group of experienced volunteer trustees.

Some passionate locals - Ken McKenzie, Nigel Davenport, Nick Noone, Damon Odey and Sid McAuley started the Aoraki Foundation in 2009.

Initially the Foundation was project based, involved in major fundraising campaigns including the CBay Aquatic Centre and the MRI Scanner. It quickly established some large endowments, such as the South Canterbury Health Endowment and Miller Estate.

Over the last ten years the Aoraki Foundation has grown its funds under management to more than \$4.2 million and given out almost \$1.8 million to local charities, projects and community groups. Through the generosity of its donors, endowment funds have been established for the environment, health, financial literacy, transplant care, nursing, swimming, women, education, sports and more.



YOUR GIFT



IS INVESTED AND GROWN



AND THE ONGOING INCOME EARNED



GOES TO THE LOCAL CAUSES YOU LOVE.

“A society grows great when people plant trees in whose shade they shall never sit.”

Greek Proverb



What matters to us

It is important we share with you our beliefs, as they underpin all that we do.

1. We believe in a better South Canterbury.

We love where we live and we want South Canterbury to be the very best it can be. Everyday we see passionate and generous locals who share that same belief.

2. We believe that with partnerships and collaboration we can achieve better outcomes.

We know we cannot do this alone. The key to uplifting our community is working together. This includes our donors, community partners like councils, funders, mana whenua and all the charities doing the mahi in South Canterbury.

3. We believe that one person can make difference.

We still believe in the power of one. Change and progress at its very heart always comes down to the actions of an individual. This might be a donor, one of our trustees, an advisor, or a recipient. It might even be you!

Our Vision

We are dreaming big with a bold vision for the Aoraki Foundation. It is a vision we can aspire to, something that will challenge and elevate our community. Our vision is simple:

To distribute \$1 million dollars per year to the community by 2030

Given our current funds, this goal is ambitious, in fact it is as lofty as the mountain we take our name from. However, we owe it to our community and all those that have come before us to be brave. To get there we will need support, we will need some luck, but most of all we will need a steadfast commitment from those closely involved with the Aoraki Foundation.

If you would like to be part of this journey please let us know, we would love to hear from you.



“This is not about me, I am one of many who care greatly about the environment .”

Fraser Ross, Donor

Fraser Ross

Environmental Fund

Nowadays, environmental protection is a mainstream concept. It's everywhere — in our news headlines, in our classrooms, and in our consumer habits. But 50 years ago, it was reserved for those on the fringes of society. And that's where the Fraser Ross story begins.

Fraser balanced his career as a pharmacist with his love of nature, dedicating hours to ecological field volunteering and environmental advocacy. In Fraser's first project of national significance the "Save Manapouri" campaign, he mobilised the South Canterbury community to collect over 7,000 signatures to stop the lake being raised, which would have destroyed the wildlife habitat including large areas of native forests along the lake foreshore.

For years Fraser spent his weekends removing weeds, eradicating pests, replanting trees, and protecting native bushland. Fraser was an early member of Forest & Bird South Canterbury, and names the regeneration of Conways Bush, Kakahu Bush, and Arowhenua Bush as his standout projects. He was a founding member of the South Canterbury Conservation Trust, a member of the black stilt/kaki recovery project, and more recently, has become a 'minder' for the little blue penguins around Timaru's shores.

Now that Fraser is in his late 80's, he cannot physically do the work he loves so much, so he came to us at the Aoraki Foundation. In 2016 he established a significant environmental fund for the South Canterbury community. This aims to provide financial assistance to carry on the conservation work Fraser started. With five years of growth under the Aoraki Foundation, it is now in a position to make its first grant.

Fraser has been involved with the regeneration of Arowhenua Bush since 1975, when a massive storm almost wiped it out. Forest & Bird have recently acquired this land, and The Fraser Ross Environmental Fund's first grant will go towards a research project to aid in the propagation of this precious lowland native bush. It is wonderful that Fraser's gift can impact a project so close to his heart, and we know it gives him great peace of mind to know the work he started will continue into the future because of his partnership with the Aoraki Foundation.

With an enduring commitment come rain, hail, or shine one could call Fraser a long time advocate for the protection of the natural environment - but to us he is simply a legend!

"Arowhenua Bush is the last remnant of lowland Canterbury indigenous forest outside of Riccarton Bush, and Fraser along with his compatriots saved this in 1975."

Jo Goodhew, Aoraki Foundation Trustee





“Our dream is to grow this fund to a level that will sustain our operating expenses.”

Robyn Baldwin, SC Multiple Sclerosis

Multiple Sclerosis Society

A Community Group Fund

This year we established our first Community Group Fund and the catalyst was South Canterbury Multiple Sclerosis Society (MS) selling a long-held property in King St, Timaru. The property was vacant and required a lot of maintenance so the decision was made to sell up, but then they had the problem of what to do with the money?

“The problem when you have a lump-sum of money sitting there is the concern that over time it will whittle down and trickle away and you’ll have none left. We’d love to see it grow instead.”

– Barry Taylor

Their solicitor, David Forman, suggested speaking with the Aoraki Foundation. Having been impressed with the Foundation’s work with C-Bay and the MRI scanner, Barry and Chairperson Robyn Baldwin arranged a presentation from Aoraki Foundation Chief Executive, Richard Spackman, to the South Canterbury MS Board.

Bolstered by the news that Aoraki Foundation could set up a dedicated fund for the MS Society, the decision was simple. The South Canterbury MS Fund was set up through Aoraki Foundation with an initial investment of \$300,000. This will continue to be invested and added to until, Robyn hopes, the fund is self-supporting of their services.

The move will not only grow the MS Fund so the society can continue to support people with MS, it will also grow awareness of MS in South Canterbury under the Aoraki Foundation umbrella.

“A person’s life can change in an instant with a diagnosis of MS, and we are here to support that person and their whānau at this time of need. A self-supporting fund would allow us to focus on service delivery rather than fundraising” – Robyn Baldwin

The endowment fund’s intended aim is to help run the organisation, to grow community awareness, and to build up their finances. “In perpetuity,” Barry says. “The fund is an ongoing vehicle that our supporters can contribute to, via donations or a gift in their will. The professional management of the Aoraki Foundation provides them with peace of mind that their gift will continue to support Multiple Sclerosis within South Canterbury for years to come.”

What is a Community Group Fund?

A Community Group Fund is a special type of endowment fund established solely for the benefit of one community organisation. The Aoraki Foundation and the organisation share the responsibility of growing the fund.

New Funds

Mackenzie Charitable Fund

The Aoraki Foundation and the Mackenzie Area Community Services Charitable Trust have combined to start a new fund for the people of Fairlie and Tekapo. The Mackenzie Charitable Fund is a collaborative effort between the two charities for the promotion of health, welfare, well-being and the alleviation of hardship.

The Mackenzie Area Community Trust has been working in behind the scenes to support the local community for over twenty years. As Chairperson, Stuart Barwood describes, "We go about helping people when they are in a time of need, we don't make a big deal about it, we are just here to support our community."

A presentation by Aoraki Foundation Chief Executive Richard Spackman, sparked a conversation about resettling the Trust's assets into a new Fund within the Aoraki Foundation. As Richard explains, "The Aoraki Foundation is an infrastructure for greater giving, and we are honoured to be custodians of these community funds. This is a wonderful story about the people of Fairlie supporting the community and it is a privilege to be part of this moving forward."

Hubbard Churcher Scholarship

The late Allan & Margaret Hubbard started a tertiary scholarship for local school leavers back in 2006. Many South Canterbury learners have had their study costs reduced thanks to this three-year scholarship.

The funds have grown over the years under the stewardship of accounting firm HC Partners, however, spokesman Craig Copland said those involved had decided to transfer the funds to the Aoraki Foundation.

"The Foundation has the expertise and history, and it gives certainty and continuity going forward." Mr Copland said the Foundation had a higher profile, which could increase the chances of people adding to it, and ensure local high schools were aware of the scholarships.



Stewart Young (St. Andrews Golf), Tom Wilson (Aorangi Golf), & Graham Cadigan (St. Andrews Golf)

St. Andrews Golf Fund

The former St. Andrews Golf Club has started its second named endowment fund with the Aoraki Foundation.

In 2020 they established a scholarship for the young people of St. Andrews with a gift of \$100,000. Having seen this be successfully managed and promoted, the committee have made the decision to gift the remaining proceeds from the sale of the course to the Aoraki Foundation.

The purpose of St. Andrews Golf Fund is to support the development of golf within the South Canterbury region. Initially it will focus on supporting the operational costs for the Futures Golf program run by Aorangi Golf in partnership with Golf NZ. Futures Golf is aimed at enriching the lives of young people by creating experiences that inspire a lifelong love of golf. Aorangi Golf Development Officer, Tom Wilson, has seen a 39% increase in junior members since starting the program in 2022. These young people are learning new skills while developing a love of being physically active.

Recipients

A big gift to the Community

Twelve charitable causes in South Canterbury received a wonderful surprise, all thanks to one kind local donor.

Back in 2017 the donor established two endowment funds with the Aoraki Foundation. The funds were to promote two causes that they were passionate about, health and heritage. Through these funds the donor has already donated in excess of \$10,000 to local charities and organisations.

Having had a successful business career, and as a life-long investor, the donor has always kept a keen eye on the financial markets. They are well aware of the uncertainty and volatility that lies ahead, as we navigate our way out of the Covid-19 recovery. It was this uncertainty that led them to the conclusion that charities need as much support as they can get right now. With this in mind, the donor approached the Aoraki Foundation with a plan to fully distribute the two funds to a selection of charities that were close to their heart.

"It is not easy for charities. The cost of living has dramatically increased, placing considerably more strain on funding at a time where many of these services are needed most." - Donor



St. Patrick's Church, Burkes Pass

Appreciating the motivation behind this decision, the Aoraki Foundation were fully supportive of their request and worked with the donor to identify the charities that they would most like to support. In total more than \$366,000 was donated to 12 different charities. These charities are either based in South Canterbury, or the funds are to be spent on assets and services which benefit South Canterbury.

The task of informing these charities about this generous gift fell to Aoraki Foundation Chief Executive, Richard Spackman. As Richard explains, "Hearing the recipients' reaction to these gifts was a genuine privilege - they were so appreciative and grateful. One recipient said I was just like Father Christmas! I really felt that the donor should be making these calls but he is so unassuming."

Jane Batchelor, from the Burkes Pass Heritage Trust, was overwhelmed by the donor's generosity. She said that the trustees intend to use the funds to update the interior of the historic St. Patrick's Church.

A gift of this magnitude is an honour to be involved with, we feel so lucky that the donor chose the Aoraki Foundation to support their philanthropic ambitions. On behalf of the Aoraki Foundation, the charities, and the community in general I would like to say, "Thank you, you truly are a wonderful person".

Health Fund

St John South Canterbury • \$27,528.97
 Hospice South Canterbury • \$27,528.97
 Presbyterian Support SC • \$27,528.97
 Cancer Society of NZ • \$27,528.97
 Idea Services • \$27,528.97
 Stroke Foundation NZ • \$18,352.65
 SC Health Endowment Fund • \$27,528.97

Heritage Fund

Anglican Church Property Trustees • \$36,509.79
 SC Museum Development Trust Board • \$82,147.03
 Timaru Civic Trust • \$27,382.34
 South Canterbury Historical Trust • \$27,382.34
 Burkes Pass Heritage Trust • \$9,127.45

The Aoraki Foundation is proud to have supported the following organisations and individuals through the generosity of our donors.



Recipients

2022/23

South Canterbury Health Fund

Alzheimers South Canterbury
Towards staff salaries - \$9,500

Life Education Trust
Towards Educator salaries - \$4,660.37

Wandersearch Canterbury
To purchase new radio frequency devices and refurbish existing devices - \$2,714

Cancer Society of NZ
Towards build, fit-out and ongoing operational expenses of 3 bedrooms in the South Canterbury wing of the new Canterbury Cancer Facility - \$30,000

Ronald McDonald House - South Island
Towards costs associated with South Canterbury families staying at the Ronald McDonald facilities - \$3,500

Graeme Dingle Foundation
Towards costs to run the Kiwi Can Programme in South Canterbury schools - \$3,500

Geraldine Family & Youth Trust
Towards costs to run the Breakfast Club at Geraldine Primary School - \$1,154

YMCA South & Mid Canterbury
Towards the cost of running the Resiliency Toolkit Programme in South Canterbury secondary schools - \$3,500

Miller General Impact Fund

Presbyterian Support
Towards running the Christmas Angel Project 2023 - \$10,000

Fraser Park Community Trust
Towards the development of the multi-sport and events centre - \$5,000

YMCA South & Mid Canterbury
Towards the cost to run the Raise Up Youth Development Programme - \$3,500

Graeme Dingle Foundation
Towards running the Kiwi Can Programme in South Canterbury schools - \$6,000

Fairlie Golf Club
Towards the installation of an accessibility toilet in the clubhouse - \$1,160.37

Life Education Trust
Towards Educator salaries - \$5,339.63

St. Andrews Youth Endowment Fund

Isla Young
Towards tertiary studies - \$500

Georgie Hawke
Towards tertiary studies - \$500

Graeme Dingle Foundation



Aoraki Women's Fund

Project Period
Impact grant - \$2,000

Plunket Perinatal Adjustment Programme
Impact grant - \$2,000

Pinc & Steel
Impact grant - \$1,518

Presbyterian Support
Impact grant - \$1,807

South Canterbury Women's Refuge
Impact grant - \$2,675

Cody Hunter Timaru Host Lions Fund

Anonymous
Post-surgery costs associated with liver transplant - \$1,000

Fraser Ross Environmental Fund

Forest & Bird South Canterbury
Towards costs of undertaking a vegetation history study at Arowhenua Bush - \$6,000

Total
\$444,075.40

Grants & Scholarships



Raewyn & David

David & Raewyn's Story

Alzheimers South Canterbury

When David was diagnosed with Early Onset Dementia we were living in Wellington. The specialist had asked to speak to me privately, and matter of factly told me that there was no cure and that I needed to make sure our affairs were in order. I was stunned and left his office feeling as if my world had just turned upside down and I was all alone.

I quickly found out that family and friends while empathetic did not want to hear about dementia as it made them feel uncomfortable and as to support, well, they wanted me to tell them what to do, but how could I do that, when I didn't know myself?

For around 18 months we muddled along. David left work and we moved to Timaru to be closer to our daughter. The first thing I did was make an appointment to see a new doctor and I am so thankful that I did. He offered to contact the Alzheimers Society on our behalf and arrange for someone to contact us.

"When Rosie sat in my kitchen introducing herself and telling us how the Alzheimers Society could help and support us, I could have cried."

- Raewyn

Here was someone who knew what our journey might look like. Rosie gave me information on what services

were available, and has made a point of ringing me on a regular basis to make sure as a carer I'm looking after myself - something I didn't know how to do because for so long it had always been about David and his illness.

I was encouraged to attend the carers group course the Alzheimers Society run, and for the first time got to meet other people going through similar journeys to mine. I listened to guest speakers who offered so much information that I'd never heard before.

When Rosie first met me, I'd just been diagnosed with depression and felt totally overwhelmed. Today thanks to the support I am receiving from the Alzheimers Society, I am well again and feel better able to cope with this horrible beast dementia that's forced its way into my life.

This journey is a marathon and I know there will be times I stumble but I don't feel that I'm alone anymore. Rosie in particular from Alzheimers South Canterbury has kept me sane and gives me so many tips and tricks on things that I can change or do to make living with dementia bearable. I can't thank her enough.

How the Aoraki Foundation helped:

Alzheimers South Canterbury received a grant of \$8,500 from the South Canterbury Health Endowment Fund to support salaries of staff like Rosie.

Life Education

A giraffe with a mission

When Educator, Amy Pateman, told her 23 year old step daughter she was going to be working for Life Education, she exclaimed "Oh Harold, I loved Harold... does he still smell good?" Showing that Harold evokes long lasting memories of learning through all the senses.

Those memories are created by Specialist Educators that provide schools with unique lessons to meet their children's learning needs. Covering those challenging topics that our children and young people face today, including: relationships with food, substance use, mental health and well-being and bullying. These factors are key to The Life Education Trust's mission of inspiring tamariki and rangitahi to make positive choices.

"It is great that children can recollect the key points from the lessons 3, 4 and 5 years on - as well as remembering Harold's famous jokes"

- Amy Pateman, Educator

After two terms with Life Education, Amy is constantly amazed at the messaging the children recall from previous years. As well as remembering some of Harold's famous jokes. It's great that children can recollect the key points from the lessons 3, 4 and 5 years ago.

Amy believes it's a combination of factors that create these long-lasting memories. First being that the children are engaged the minute they walk in with the different space and the cool technology and of course the Giraffe that smells wonderful....Harold!

"I love Harold - He's my best friend " - Student



The mobile Life Education classroom rolling into another school

Life Education has been operating in Mid and South Canterbury for over 30 years and visits 8,000 children annually. They offer schools two lessons per class in their own mobile classroom. This is made possible by local trucking companies who move the classroom, sometimes daily, to help reach the smaller rural schools that might otherwise miss out due to distance.

Life Education are very grateful for the local support they receive, and for the awesome team they have behind them. Their Trust is made up of volunteers who govern and assist with grant applications, fundraising events and promotions. This small group of volunteers are very committed to ensuring Harold and his messages remain in our schools for many years to come.

How the Aoraki Foundation helped:

Through the generosity of our donors, the South Canterbury Health Endowment Fund and Miller General Impact Fund provided Life Education with a grant of \$10,000 towards educator salaries.



The team from Todd Mudie Group turn up to save Christmas as co-funders of the Christmas Angels Project

“One day we hope we can be a Christmas Angel and help a family out.”

Christmas Angel recipient family

Christmas Angels

Presbyterian Support South Canterbury

Christmas is a special time of year particularly for children, but not all children in South Canterbury experience this the same. An increasing amount of families have been forgoing Christmas as financial pressures increase. Four years ago Presbyterian Support South Canterbury (PSSC) launched a project to change this and bring joy back to Christmas.

Christmas Angels is a community wide initiative where sponsors (individuals/families or businesses) are matched with a family in need. The sponsor a.k.a "angel" will purchase Christmas gifts for their allocated family and PSSC will deliver these on behalf of the angel.

Family referrals come in from Plunket, Multicultural Aoraki, Arowhenua Whanau Services, Refugee Settlement Service and Family Works. In the first year the project supported 53 families to brighten up their Christmas. This year that number is expected to grow to well over 200. This just shows the financial troubles many families are facing.

“It only takes a few bills and Christmas is gone. It could come down to choices like your car’s warrant of fitness or Christmas presents for your kids.” - Carolyn Cooper, PSSC Chief Executive

Christmas Angels Co-ordinator Jan Hide (who is also a former trustee of the Aoraki Foundation) feels fortunate to be involved with the project.

“The efforts being made by families to improve their lives is so inspiring and the generosity of our sponsors is unbelievable” - Jan Hide

Most important is the difference it makes to those in need. Waking up on Christmas morning with presents under the tree is not a given for all families. It may be only one day but these are days we remember so fondly as children.

“It is the first time in five years we have had presents under our Xmas tree and we now look forward to Xmas day and seeing smiles and tears in our kids eyes” - Anonymous

How the Aoraki Foundation helped:

The Aoraki Foundation funded the operational costs of Christmas Angels in 2021 (\$10,000) & 2022 (\$9,000) from the Miller General Impact Fund. In 2023 we could only allocate \$4,000 to the project but found a partner in Todd Mudie Group who made up the \$6,000 shortfall. Thank you to Todd, Sheryl & all the team at TMG.

Thank you letters



Thank you for Making
our Christmas Special.

Thank you so
much for your
very generous
gifts.

The girls saw me
bring them inside
and their eyes lit up
asked where they came
from and I said an
angel.

Thanks again so much
it means the world

Merry Christmas and
a very safe and
Happy New year.

Thank-you to our Christmas
Angel. I was in tears when
I looked through the gifts you
gave my family. I can so
thank full I can't find the words
to express it. My kids will be
over the moon. One day I
hope we can be a Christmas
Angel and help a family out.
Thank-you from the bottom
of our hearts

XOXO

Dear Christmas Angels

I just want to express my gratitude
for your kindness and generosity.

2022 has been a challenging year with
ups and downs BUT Christmas (and the
days leading up to it) I will always
remember with positivity and happiness

This Christmas I felt very blessed and
grateful. This is in a large part thank
to you!

We haven't had a Christmas like this for
many years. It was stress and worry
free. I was actually very excited on
Christmas Eve putting our Christmas
presents underneath our tree. It was
magical and I loved seeing the kids'
surprised expressions in the early
morning.

I cried on Christmas morning when the
were opening their wonderful presents.
I apologised to the kids for getting so
emotional. But they told me it was okay
as they knew they were "happy tears".

No words can fully express my gratitude.
Thank you for your kindness and I
hope this thank you will suffice.

Kindest regards,
—

Events

Connecting with community

Aoraki Women's Fund

The Aoraki Women's Fund had a busy year hosting their first major event since Covid-19 and what a great event it was. Billed as a re-launch of the fund, the premise of the evening was to get 100 women to donate \$100 each and for that full \$10,000 to be given out to causes helping women and girls.

As Aoraki Women's Fund committee chair Tam Johnson describes,

"We are so grateful for the contribution of each person who played a part in making the night unforgettable. The event was not only enjoyable but also fruitful, as \$10,000 was distributed to five deserving causes in South Canterbury".

The donations went to the Project Period, Postnatal Adjustment Programme, Family Works, Pinc & Steel and Women's Refuge. These charities are making a difference to the lives of women and girls, many of which are at a low point in their life. It is a constant struggle for charities to get funding so gifts like this make a real and meaningful impact as you can see from this response below:

"Oh my goodness this is absolutely amazing! What a successful brilliant night full of inspiring wahine doing amazing mahi in our community. Again thank you so much from the bottom of our hearts with so much aroha" - Alana, Women's Refuge

The event was a wonderful way to make an immediate difference in the community. However, the main aim of the Aoraki Women's Fund is to establish a permanent fund, an endowment fund, to support local causes forever. The committee has been working towards this goal for two years and have already raised over \$20,000 through regular monthly donations from a small group of dedicated women, many of whom serve on the committee.

The success of the event and the generosity of the attendees and donors has made it clear that the Aoraki Women's Fund is a cause that resonates with the community.

Celebrate South Canterbury

Celebrate South Canterbury is a new event for us and we are aiming to grow this into a larger event for South Canterbury to come together to celebrate philanthropy, volunteering, charities and community groups.

Held at the beautiful Algantighe Art Gallery, Celebrate South Canterbury was a chance for our donors to hear first hand stories of the impact their gifts make in the community. Four charities spoke on the day about the challenges they face in the community and the importance of financial support to meet these challenges.

A special announcement was made on the day that the Fraser Ross Environmental Fund was making its first grant to support further studies at Arowhenua Bush just outside of Temuka.



Ashley Showan
Celebrate South Canterbury

"Imagine a world where women and girls can reach their biggest, most ambitious dreams."

Jenny Carter-Bolitho, Aoraki Women's Fund





Aoraki MRI Charitable Trust

Ten years on and going strong

A very significant birthday happened on the 15th of March. The South Canterbury MRI Scanner turned ten years old. In these last ten years more than 35,000 MRI scans have been performed at Timaru Hospital. It is incredible to think that prior to the installation of the scanner, patients had to travel to Christchurch to get an MRI. As Nathan Taylor, Radiology Manager at Te Whatu Ora explains,

“The benefits of a local MRI Scanner have been massive for South Canterbury and cannot be understated. Prior to 2013, patients had to travel to Christchurch by private vehicle or ambulance. This could be a whole day away for the patient and often a support person”.

Fundraising

The work on the fundraising appeal started almost two years prior to the opening of the scanner, and was a joint initiative between the South Canterbury District Health Board and the Aoraki Foundation. The committee was led by Ron Luxton and included Chris Fleming, Gavin Wilton, Steve Earnshaw, Ian O’Loughlin, Anne Dickens, Ian Smith, Peter Burton, Lorna Inch and fundraising project manager Stacey Scott.

As Ron says, “It was a very busy time. We started the campaign with \$1 million thanks to large donations from the Health South Canterbury Charitable Trust (\$100k), Alpine Energy (\$150k), AD Hally Trust (\$250k) , and St Vianneys (\$500k). I will always remember how, the day after we launched, I got a phone call to say an individual wanted to donate. Now, this was an individual, not an organisation. This person wanted to donate one hundred thousand dollars. That was simply astounding. We only gained momentum from there”.

Outside of the initial fundraising committee there were many other individuals that made a significant contribution. Nigel Davenport and Ken McKenzie from the Aoraki Foundation were heavily involved. As was Dale Walden from the St Vianneys Trust. In fact, these three supporters, and Ron, would become the initial Trustees of the Aoraki MRI Charitable Trust. Service clubs such as the local Lions and Rotary made major contributions along with funders Trust Aoraki and the Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury. Like any project of this scale it needed the whole community to get behind the idea and South Canterbury sure did that. Within 18 months they had raised \$3.1 million which exceeded the cost of getting the MRI Scanner operational.

“The upgrade has significantly improved the image quality while reducing the time to perform a MRI scan. Ten years ago having the MRI available in South Canterbury was a huge achievement, this upgrade has ensured the future for another ten, with world-class technology”.



Nathan Taylor, Radiology Manager

2022/23 Highlights

MRI Scanner

\$1.66M **\$994k** **36,433**

in funds available
after the upgrade

upgrade of
the MRI scanner

MRI examinations
since installation

Upgrade

The Aoraki MRI Charitable Trust wisely chose to lease the MRI Scanner to the South Canterbury District Health Board based on a recommended ten year life expectancy. These lease payments would enable the Trust to fully replace the scanner at the end of its useful life. As trustee Nigel Davenport explains, “One of the best decisions made by the board was to use a model that ensured South Canterbury had ownership of our MRI, not the national health system”

As the ten year lease period approached its expiry, the Trustees sought an assessment on the existing MRI. While the existing scanner was performing well, the Trustees

also wanted to consider the future needs of our community and a desire to future proof as much as possible. Based on consultation with the SCDHB Radiology team and the supplier General Electric, it was agreed to upgrade rather than fully replace the scanner. The upgrade would provide better imaging quality, technology improvements, reduction in patient examination times, and the continuation of a comprehensive preventative maintenance agreement. While the upgrade came at a hefty cost of close to one million dollars, it saves more than that again by avoiding a full replacement along with a significantly shorter downtime.



Ascend Aoraki

Three new Ambassadors

The Aoraki Foundation awarded three former trustees the status of Ambassador at a gala event at the end of 2022. Lesley Roy, Ken McKenzie, and Ron Luxton were recognised for their service to the Aoraki Foundation at the event entitled Ascend Aoraki. Current trustee and Chairperson Greg Anderson explained,

“An Ambassador of the Aoraki Foundation is not only someone who has given their time to building our community foundation, but they exhibit our beliefs in their day to day lives and continue to support the Foundation through advocacy and promotion.”

Lesley Roy was a trustee for six years, five of which were as Chairperson. She was the Mackenzie District Representative and oversaw a strong period of growth at the Foundation. Lesley is still heavily involved with the Aoraki Foundation especially the Aoraki Women’s Fund, a fund for women, by women.

Ken Mackenzie was one of the original five trustees. Ken was instrumental in the early days with funding projects like C-Bay and endowments like the Miller General Impact Fund. Ken continues to provide pro bono legal advice to the Foundation and has a huge amount of knowledge on philanthropy and bequests.

Ron Luxton also served six years on the Aoraki Foundation board. Ron played a pivotal role in the establishment of the South Canterbury Health Endowment Fund and the MRI Scanner fundraising campaign. Ron remains a trustee of the Aoraki MRI Charitable Trust.

All three ambassadors spoke fondly of their time as trustees and stressed how important it is that the community supports the Aoraki Foundation to continue to grow new funds.

Ascend Aoraki was also the first opportunity for Chief Executive, Richard Spackman to publicly outline the aspirational goal the Aoraki Foundation has set. This is to distribute \$1 million per year in funding by the year 2030. This goal is as lofty as the mountain we are named after, but we owe it to those that have come before us to be brave, we owe it to our community to be ambitious, and we owe it to ourselves to be resolute. Achieving this goal will not be easy and we will not do this alone. In order to support the community for the foreseeable future we first will need assistance ourselves. We are confident that support will come, in Richard’s words,

“South Canterbury is a wonderful place full of generous and charitable people that give where they live.”

"One of the most wonderful elements about the Aoraki Foundation is that it enables us to give to the future."

Lesley Roy, Aoraki Foundation Ambassador



Thank You

We are so very grateful

Endowment Donors

90th Jubilee Scholarship Trust
Mountainview School Scholarship
Endowment Fund

Anonymous Donors
Swimming Fund

Aoraki Water Trust
Aoraki Water Endowment Fund

Ashley Shewan
Ashley Shewan Health Endowment Fund
A.J. Shewan Endowment Fund (Heritage)

Eric & Queenie Miller
Miller General Impact Fund

Fraser Ross
Fraser Ross Environmental Fund

HC Trustees 2010 (HC Partners)
Hubbard Churcher Scholarship Fund

The Health South Canterbury Charitable Trust
SC Nursing Education Endowment Fund

Leigh Lawless
Aoraki Kids Endowment Fund

Mackenzie Area Community Services Charitable Trust
Mackenzie Charitable Fund

Richard & Sharon Spackman
Financial Literacy Fund

St. Andrews Golf Club
St. Andrews Youth Endowment Fund
St. Andrews Golf Fund

South Canterbury District Health Board
South Canterbury Health Endowment
Fund

South Canterbury Multiple Sclerosis Society
South Canterbury Multiple Sclerosis
Endowment Fund

Endowment Donors

Stacey Scott
Scott Family Endowment

Timaru Host Lions
Cody Hunter Timaru Host Lions Fund

Timaru-Temuka Methodist Parish Charitable Trust
Timaru-Temuka Methodist Parish Fund

Various Donors
Aoraki Foundation Women's Fund

Friends of the Foundation

Centsable

Fluid Design

Ginny Bolderstone

Goru

Lesley & Malcolm Roy

Robyn & David Hewson

RA & JM Luxton

Scott & Associates

Todd Mudie Group

And all our generous
anonymous donors

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“We love that by supporting the Aoraki Foundation it will help a multitude of charities now and forever.”

Logan Hanifin, Oceania Dairy



Partners

Supporting our community

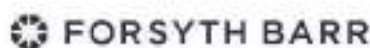
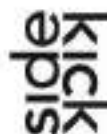
Strategic Partner



Community Partners



Commercial Partners



IMPACT REPORT 2023



**Aoraki
Foundation**

Call 03 687 7363

Email admin@aorakifoundation.org.nz

Web aorakifoundation.org.nz

Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



We are writing to you as a group with a significant stake in the outcome of the current deliberations on the future of the stadium complex who do not feel recognized as "stakeholders" in the process.

Aorangi Stadium includes a gymnasium with a wide range of equipment for weight training and other exercises typically used for "fitness circuit" classes. This area can accommodate up to 50 people in a single class.

Whilst many of the services provided by this facility are now catered for by the C Bay complex near Caroline Bay, Aorangi Stadium remains the preferred venue for Timaru senior citizens formal exercise classes. Around 7 one hour classes are run during the Monday to Friday working week throughout the year. These classes are attended by Timaru seniors equating to in excess of 200 "man hours" per week making this group of individuals collectively a principal user of this facility during the working week throughout the entire year.

Most of us pay \$5.50 per 1hour session for these classes. Some individuals are funded to attend by 3rd parties.

Why don't we use C Bay?

C Bay does not have the space to accommodate a group of our size.

Seniors generally prefer to exercise in a non-competitive environment catering to their diverse needs dictated by the typical issues experienced by our cohort. (A cohort which is predicted to continue growing as a proportion of the Timaru population)

During weekdays Aorangi is easily accessed by foot, bicycle and car by the majority of users.

A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

You are currently deliberating over the option of building a new facility at Aorangi or upgrading the current facility. We acknowledge that either way we will lose the use of Aorangi Stadium for a period of time. Obviously our preference would be for a solution that minimizes disruption to our use of the gym.

We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

ROBERT REGINALD MCILRAITH



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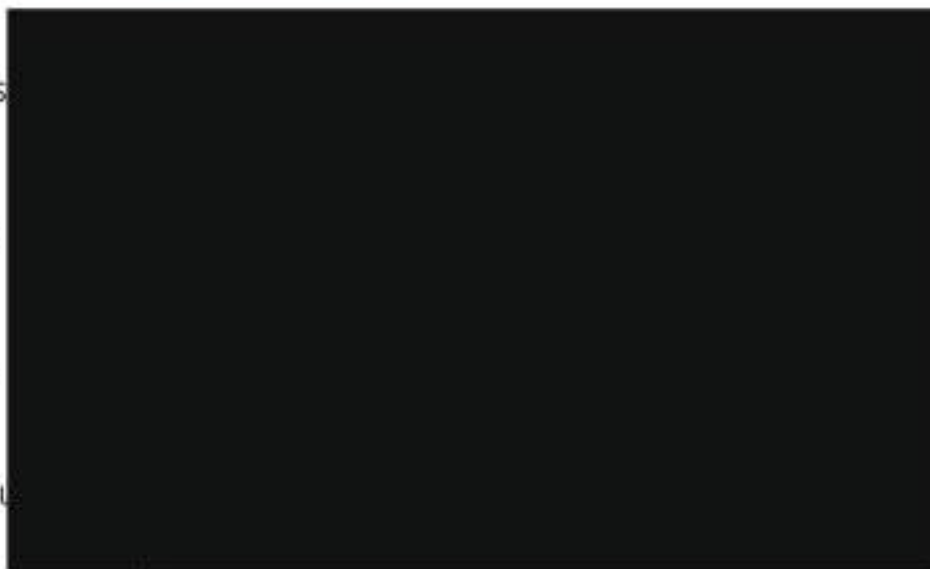
NAME *ROBIN STILL*

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE



Timaru Council Plan:

- 1/ Get on and finish Theatre Royal, stop mucking around! The longer it goes on the more it will cost!
- 2/ Liquor Laws TDC, these are so backwood! Opening up some footpath areas outside Hotels could be used for Daytime dining + drinking. Get in the real world.
- 3/ Heritage colours for buildings. RUBBISH. its only paint, brighten up our old buildings.
- 4/ Consultants: use our local ones or use your own Brains. Costs are stupid.

5/

Hydro site: Belongs to a council member, i believe. Needs to be built with Bar Accommodation and a Restaurant at very Top so everyday people can get fantastic view and not just a couple of wealthy people in penthouses. Get on with it. Maybe Japanese investors (i.e. 5th Cant Golf trips)

6/ Magestic Theatre: please save it. Beautiful inside. Not everything old needs knocking down. A green space - what a joke.

7/ streetsweeping and weeding NOT done enough. Some streets are terrible.

8/ S.H. One - Ashbury to showgrounds. Pressure or Fines on Developer

9/ Stafford st, Pedestrians
only. Sounds great BUT
TDC forgets Farmers carpark
only and this is a town
Full of oldies and you want
to take away another 30 odd
carparks. Rethink it.

yours sincerely
R. Wilson
(Hoodie)

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NAME

Roger McKeown

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

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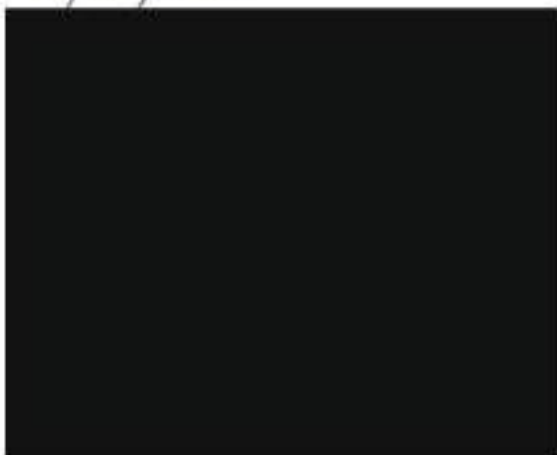
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NAME Rosemary Veldstra.

ADDRESS

PHONE 0

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

At present our stadium accomodates well
for mature people allowing exercising
meeting and mixing with others.

This is extremely important
for many for many for mental heath + well being.

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NAME

Rosemary Weir

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE





Timaru District Council Long Term Plan Submission 2024

Much has been achieved since the Geraldine Sculpture Trail's (GST) first submission to the Timaru District Council (TDC) 2021 Long-Term Plan.

Following that submission, the council has continued its strong support of the project which has enabled it to forge ahead on the construction of the trails and begin to attract sculptures.

The GST is pleased to report the following:

- **Waihi River Trail (Loop 1)** – the track development is completed so the focus now is on securing permanent and temporary sculptures, and the hard landscape elements (viewing platform and boardwalk) while concluding directional and wayfinding signage (orientational signage completed).
 - ✓ Construction of the viewing platform is underway and due to be completed soon.
 - ✓ Consents for the boardwalk completed and construction about to commence.
 - ✓ Some Pat Foster and Andrew Cheeseman sculptures (on loan from Aigantighe Gallery) are on display along this loop as part of our temporary sculpture display.
- **Rhododendron Dell Trail (Loop 2)** – the track development is near completion (with only the landscape enhancement to complete) so the focus is now on securing permanent and temporary sculptures, as well as the Wilson Street footbridge upgrade including the bollard fence and wheel stop upgrade while concluding directional and wayfinding signage (orientational signage completed).
- **Domain Trail (Loop 3)** – the track development is completed so the focus now is on securing permanent and temporary sculptures and all signage(orientational/wayfinding/directional).
- **Talbot Forest Trail (Loop 4)** - a future focus.
- Donations for permanent sculptures are beginning to be received.
- A promotional website and social media are about to launch in mid-2024.
- Monthly 'In the Loop' column in the GNews to inform, inspire, and ensure the community is on the journey.

The next stages of action will focus on:

- Completing the signage elements of the trails.
- Completing the hard and smaller elements of the trails.
- Writing policies and contracts around the purchase and loan of sculptures
- Project future entity framework.
- Continuing to grow relationships with sculptors, agents, and other related organisations.
- Completion of the website and associated promotional tools i.e. promotional video and catalogue.
- Working with Geraldine High School in a bulb planting exercise on the Memorial Walkway.

During the past 3 years, the trails have attracted a loyal following with regular daily walkers including families with pushchairs/buggies and mobility scooters on the trails. They have become a popular visitor experience, especially the busy Rhododendron Trail (Loop 2) which encompasses the Rhododendrons when they are in flower.

Work with ECan and TDC for weed control and understory clearing in preparation for planting has occurred with ongoing maintenance undertaken by a volunteer group. There has been a discussion with Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua to include information about traditional mahinga kai gathering practices along the river and the planting of Rongoā rākau (Maori medicinal plants).

Connections with other organisations and individuals in the plant world, made by the project team and the Waihi River Trails Committee, has seen Geraldine benefit from the donation of some rare specimen plants from collectors and a group of endangered Rhododendrons from the renowned Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust collection.

It is hoped that Geraldine will be further blessed with other special and rare examples in the future which will add to the beauty and significance of the trail and public spaces of Geraldine.

With much of the trail infrastructure in place or soon to be completed, the focus is now shifting toward fundraising for sculptures and developing a sustainable model for the future of the trail. Relationships have been built with other established organisations such as Wellington Sculpture Trust which will enable the GST to seek guidance and information to assist its ongoing development.

The GST Art Advisory Group continues to play an important role in helping the project to develop relationships with sculptors, other organisations and individuals with experience and skills in the art world. This group will come into its own as the first permanent pieces are selected for the trail, ensuring the high-quality approach that is the vision for the trail.

Projects are never completed in isolation and this one is no different. The essence of any successful project is the collaboration of invested parties aligned on the same trajectory. From the onset, Venture Timaru's seed funding and the support of Timaru District Council, the Geraldine Community Board, the Aigantighe Art Gallery, the Geraldine Licensing Trust, the Aotearoa Gaming Trust, Pub Charity, and many other supportive funders and community groups have enabled this project to progress at pace, for the benefit of the Geraldine community and wider district, for now, and into the future.

While much has been achieved in three short years, there is still mahi to be done to bring the trail to the point where it is fully complete and can proudly sit among the district's visitor attractions as a unique and free-to-all hero experience. Once complete the trail will require ongoing support to maintain it as a preeminent community asset.

We hope to engage, encourage, and delight all who walk on the trail, and over time as we begin to deliver the art, feel the pride that this is happening right here in the beautiful town of Geraldine.

Geraldine.nz urges the council to:

1. Continue to support the trail during its development phase.
2. Commit to the maintenance of the trail for the future.
3. Formally recognise the significance of the plant collections in both Todd Park and the Rhododendron Dell.

Background:

In 2018, a public meeting was hosted by Geraldine.nz to discuss the concept of public art. This meeting was held in response to many informal discussions around the community discussing the enhancement of the town through art and embracing the artistic reputation Geraldine enjoys more actively.

At that meeting, local businessman Michael Barker, gave voice to a long-held idea in the community, the creation of a combined trail, to encompass the existing riverside trail and Talbot Forest and then follow a marked route through the centre of town. Michael's vision included the use of sculpture to enhance and differentiate from trails in other places and as recognition of Geraldine's artistic reputation.

Geraldine.nz started working with Michael to socialise this idea around the community and discuss the concept with the Timaru District Council (TDC) officers.

In parallel, the Geraldine Community Board was working with the TDC to establish an agreement to govern the land management of the riverside trail, following a gap left after a former community group was no longer operating in the area.

In March 2020 MOUs for the riverside trail were finally confirmed between the TDC and the landowners, LINZ, and DOC.

Following the COVID-19 lockdown, funding became available via the Government's Strategic Asset Management Programme (STAPP) for the development of projects within the Timaru District. The Geraldine community was invited by Venture Timaru (Economic Development & Regional Tourism Organisation) to provide information for a proposal to be developed to fund the creation of a design plan and a project manager.

Venture Timaru was successful in this application and \$95k was allocated towards the project. They then invited the Geraldine community to form a cross-organisational community project group, with members from the Geraldine Community Board, Geraldine Licensing Trust, DOC, TDC, Geraldine.nz, to take the project forward on behalf of Venture Timaru.

The group is known as the Geraldine Sculpture Trail Group (GST) and currently operates under the umbrella of Geraldine.nz.

Further funding has been secured in subsequent years from both Venture Timaru and the Timaru District Council, who are major supporters of the trail project.

Purpose:

To enhance the town of Geraldine by developing existing trails and linking with the central business district (CBD) through art, nature, history, and culture. (See GST Strategic Plan)

The Geraldine Nature and Sculpture Trail has been created to inspire and delight our community and our visitors.

Unique in New Zealand, this free and accessible open-air gallery will showcase high-quality art set in Geraldine's riverside woodlands, Rhododendron Dell, expansive Domain, and ancient podocarp forest.

All our permanent sculptures will be by prominent New Zealand sculptors (potentially Canterbury sculptors) with a strong desire for our temporary pieces to be by sculptors that are establishing themselves or are well-established and recognised.

Their contribution to our townscape is enduring and enriches the creative atmosphere of the town, which includes 4 fine art galleries appealing to a wide range of clients: making art accessible to everyone, and raising awareness, understanding, and appreciation of contemporary public sculpture.

Flowing water, the primordial forest's quiet, birdsong, and local history and culture stories create a special world for people on the Trail and ultimately make Geraldine a better place to live and visit.

Incredibly, the Geraldine Nature and Sculpture Trail are mere steps from Geraldine's village centre.

About the Trail:

Geraldine Nature and Sculpture Trail comprise four loops, each with its unique character and identity (see loop descriptors doc):

- Waihi River Trail (Loop 1)
- Rhododendron Dell Trail (Loop 2)
- Domain Trail (Loop 3)
- Talbot Forest Trail (Loop 4)

Geraldine Nature and Sculpture Trail is a community project borne out of locals' love of the arts and our area's natural beauty.

GERALDINE SCULPTURE TRAIL LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN



Values:

Our values express who we are:

KAITIAKITANGA – We are guardians of our natural environment and community and abide by our ethical and statutory responsibilities to the land.

AWARENESS – We wish to inspire through art and nature.

EXPERIENCE – We love Geraldine and want others to visit and appreciate our place.

COMPASSION - People matter: our community, our artists, and our guests.

We invite you to step out of your ‘everyday’ and explore Geraldine Nature and Sculpture Trail. Take your time. Notice the little and the large. Play. Most of all, embrace the moment.

Project:

The project is split into 4 main aspects:

Trail Infrastructure/Loop creation – This includes earthworks, trail construction, planting, furniture, and signage installation to create the foundation/canvas for the sculptures to be overlaid. The project is working on a loop-by-loop basis with each loop considered a distinct phase.

Permanent Sculpture Selection and Purchase – Adhering to the selection and purchasing guidelines, the project group will purchase several permanent pieces for each loop.

Fundraising – The project group will seek to raise funds for both loop creation and sculpture purchase. This will entail different approaches to different audiences.

Ongoing Curation of the Collection (permanent and temporary) – A curator will manage the sculpture collection and the sales of pieces, working to ensure the trail offers a high-quality artistic experience.

Governance:

The trail is located on land owned by DOC, LINZ, and TDC. TDC officially manages the land under MOUS with both DOC and LINZ.

The project is a community project, which sits under the umbrella of Geraldine.nz (an incorporated society), and is governed by representatives from a few local organisations:

Timaru District Council	Bill Steans
Geraldine Community Board	Janene Adams
Independent Chair	Nicky Donkers (Ex-Chair G.nz/Chair of Geraldine Licensing Trust)
Geraldine Councilor	Gavin Oliver
Dept of Conservation	Chris Coulter
Aigantighe Gallery	Cara Fitzgerald (brought onto the project group in May 2023 in recognition of her knowledge/expertise around art/sculpture)

This group meets every 3 months or sooner if required.

The role of this group is to:

- Make decisions about the trail strategy and policies.
- Decide matters involving financial amounts above a certain limit.
- Approve contracts and obligations.
- Approve or change the annual budget.
- Address all matters with the potential to have a material impact on the reputation of the Committee and Trail.

Management:

Operations Group – This group sits below the Project Governance Group and works on the day-to-day decisions to keep the project moving. This group consists of:

Bill Steans	TDC Parks and Recreation Manager
Steve Sullivan	Implementation Manager
Rosie Woods	Coordinating Project Manager
Nicky Donkers	Project Group representative
Dave Atwood	Waihi River Trails Committee representative

This group meets every 6 weeks or sooner pending need.

The day-to-day tasks of the project are managed by:

Coordinating Project Manager – This role coordinates the project and handles all admin, meetings, fundraising, and external liaison.

Implementation Manager - This role covers planning and management of site works.

These 2 positions meet weekly.

A separate scoping doc for both roles has been developed along with contracts (which are valid/signed).

Curator – This role will become responsible for the art/sculpture of the trail, selection recommendations, purchase, and sales but until this role has funding available an Art Advisory Group will recommend artists/sculptures (see separate terms of reference for the makeup of that group and their role)

Communications:

All communications must be coordinated through the project managers and in line with plans agreed upon by the Project Governance Group.

Sculpture Trail Model:

The Sculpture Trail will be populated with a small number of pieces purchased for the Trail's permanent collection. These pieces will be augmented by a far greater number of pieces on temporary display for sale.

In the future, the sculpture component of the trail will need a curator who works with sculptors to select pieces that fit the criteria for the trail. Commission would be taken from sales which would fund the curator and contribute to the ongoing marketing and management of the trail.

Maintenance:

Work on the trail is to be of the highest standard, in keeping with the experience that the group is aiming to create. The standard of work also needs to be high to ensure easy and accessible maintenance of the area on an ongoing and long-term basis.

Once the key infrastructure of each loop is in place it will be vested in the Council for ongoing maintenance and upkeep. This is a key consideration now that loop one has almost been completed.

Community Connections and Working Together

Geraldine is a community blessed with a strong tradition of volunteering, collaboration, and getting things done. The trail concept is the most recent opportunity for a range of local groups to work together to create a community asset that is accessible, sustainable, and most importantly a unique experience for all.

Stakeholders in this project include:

- *Timaru District Council
- *Geraldine Community Board
- *Department of Conservation (landowners)
- *Land Information NZ (landowners)
- *Environment Canterbury
- *Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua (who represent those who hold mana whenua in the Timaru District)
- *Geraldine.nz (Community Development and Promotions Assn)
- *Bike Geraldine
- *Geraldine Public Art Group
- *Talbot Forest Working Group (Innovators of replanting public areas in the native bush)
- *Community Gardens Volunteer Workforce

Questions

The GST project group welcomes any questions and they can be directed through the Governance Group Chair Nicky Donkers (nicky@ndconsulting.nz) or the Project Coordinator Rosie Woods (sculpture@geraldine.nz).

Footnote: this project is referenced in the Geraldine Strategic 3-year Plan (2023-2026).

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NAME *Rosera Collings*

ADDRESS

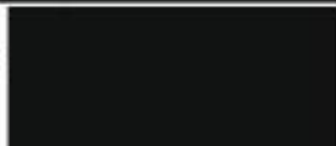
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NAME *Sallie Meggitt*

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NAME *Sally Hutchison - Aged 77 yrs old*

ADDRESS [Redacted]

PHONE [Redacted]

EMAIL [Redacted]

SIGNATURE [Redacted]

Subject: Concerns and Objections Regarding Timaru District Council's Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

To the Timaru District Council,

I am writing to express my deep concerns and objections regarding the lack of focus on climate change mitigation and adaptation in the Timaru District Council's (TDC) Long-Term Plan (LTP) 2024-2034. As a resident of this beautiful region, I believe it is crucial for our local council to prioritise actions that address the pressing issue of climate change, particularly as its impacts become increasingly evident.

One of the most alarming aspects of the current LTP is the significant reduction in funding allocated to climate change initiatives compared to the previous plan. In a time where climate change poses ever-growing threats to our environment, economy, and community resilience, reducing financial resources dedicated to addressing this issue is simply unacceptable. We cannot afford to backtrack on our commitments to mitigating and adapting to climate change. Further to this, I believe that over the past three years only a small % of the budget allocated to climate change activities was used (12% in 21/22 and 56% in 22/23). This also seems contrary to the "Climate Emergency" that was declared by our local council three years ago.

I note that this draft plan does refer to a Climate Change Response Plan targeting net carbon zero by 2050, I assume to comply with the NZ target. As stated in the consultation document it is expected to take 12-15 months to develop. This should have already been developed and in place after the last LTP. I feel like we are repeating ourselves. Where is the urgency? The council declared a Climate Emergency three years ago, we need to act as if our house is on fire. To now say it will take another two years to develop the plan is unacceptable.

Furthermore, it is imperative that the TDC takes proactive steps to inform and empower residents to act in preserving our region for future generations. Providing accessible information and tools on how everyone can contribute to environmental sustainability is essential in fostering a collective effort towards preserving the natural beauty and resources of our beloved region. Environmental sustainability needs to be part of every decision-making process.

I would like to understand how the TDC has / will integrate and consider Environmental sustainability and Impacts on Climate Change into every decision made.

Neglecting to prioritize climate change action not only jeopardizes the well-being of current and future generations but also risks leaving a legacy of environmental degradation and costly repercussions for years to come. We have a responsibility to act now to ensure that the Timaru District remains a thriving and sustainable community for generations to come.

I urge the Timaru District Council to reconsider its priorities in the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034 and to allocate adequate resources to address the urgent challenges posed by climate change. Our future depends on it.

I look forward to the opportunity to discuss this with you in person.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sandra Tait', followed by a small dash.

Sandra Tait



7.9 Key Issue: Climate Change - How much should Council do?

Author: Fabia Fox, Policy Analyst
Mark Low, Strategy and Corporate Planning Manager

Authoriser: Andrew Dixon, Group Manager Infrastructure

Recommendation

That Council

1. Consider the feedback received from the community on the options consulted on relating to how much Council should do to prepare for climate change.
2. Council approves Option 3, do even more, with \$585,000 per annum of funding allocated to the climate change work programme acknowledging an additional rates increase required to fund this for the final Long Term Plan 2021-31.

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to summarise the community feedback received on the options consulted on relating to how much Council should do to prepare for climate change over the period of the Long Term Plan 2021-31 (LTP).
2. The report provides analysis of issues raised by submitters in relation to the options consulted on, and other feedback received to support Council decision-making relating to the proposed budget for Council's climate change work programme for 2021-31, in accordance with section 78 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA).²

Assessment of Significance and Engagement

3. At the 15 February meeting Council determined that the extent of investment and the timing of Council's response to climate change was of high significance, particularly in relation to the current and future impact on the social, cultural, economic and environmental wellbeing of Timaru District's communities.
4. In accordance with this assessment Council's proposed response to climate change was included as a key issue within the LTP consultation document. Extensive community wide engagement has been undertaken as part of the LTP process. It is now for Council to consider the community views in relation to the options discussed, and the decision on how much Council should do to address climate change.

Background

5. In 2018, the then Mayor of Timaru District, Damon Odey, signed the Local Government Leaders' Climate Change Declaration on behalf of the Timaru District Council.

² Section 78 of the LGA requires Council, in the course of its decision-making process in relation to a matter, to give consideration to the views and preferences likely to be affected by, or to have an interest in, the matter.

6. In recognition of this Declaration, and the increasing call for climate change action on international, national and local levels, Council began preliminary work to understand the impact of climate change on Council and on the Timaru District.³
7. As part of the development of the LTP 2021-31, Council held a number of workshops to prepare significant climate change forecasting assumptions for Council and the District. Also discussed was the inclusion of resourcing within the LTP to develop and assist with the delivery of a climate change strategy and work programme.
8. Council resolved that Climate Change be included as a key issue, with the following options forming part of the LTP Consultation Document:
9. **Option 1: Do the minimum.**
 - (a) This option would mean Council does not allocate dedicated funding or resource to focus on adapting to climate change or mitigating the impacts of climate change.
 - (b) Under this option, very little progress would be made on planning for climate change to ensure that the Timaru District remains resilient. Council would not be able to respond over the 10 years of the LTP to climate change affected communities, questions or requests for direction and engagement on how to adapt and mitigate the effects of climate change.
 - (c) This option would have no immediate impact on operating or capital budgets. It is anticipated that this option may have future negative impacts on both operating and capital budgets where the cost of retrospective, restorative or mitigating actions is factored in.
10. **Option 2: Do more (Council's preferred option, currently included in the draft budget).**
 - (a) This option funds a dedicated climate change resource to develop, amongst other initiatives, a Climate Change Strategy within the first three years of the LTP, focusing on:
 - (i) Adaptation: investing in research to better understand the climate change risks to Council's services, assets and infrastructure, and planning how Council can respond to these risks.
 - (ii) Mitigation: establishing Council's carbon footprint, and beginning work to reduce emissions from the services we provide for our community.
 - (b) This option would also provide for a small amount of Iwi, community and stakeholder engagement, working across the District with communities and businesses to lead and support climate change resilience efforts.
 - (c) This would enable Council to meet new legislative reporting requirements and to collaborate with the Canterbury Mayoral Forum Climate Change work stream.
 - (d) The draft LTP budget includes \$3.6 million of additional new operational funding (an average of \$360,000 per annum) that is funded from rates.

³ In late 2019 Timaru District Council and Environment Canterbury jointly commissioned NIWA and Jacobs to undertake Coastal Erosion and Coastal Inundation Assessments, to inform the District Plan Review. The outcomes of these assessments were presented to Council in July 2020, and the revised coastal hazards have been incorporated in the draft District Plan.

11. Option 3: Do even more.

- (a) This option would provide a greater amount of dedicated funding for climate change, allowing Council to accelerate and increase the work outlined in Option 2 by:
 - (i) Undertaking more modelling of the impacts on specific Council services and extending this work to at-risk communities, looking at options to adapt or mitigate the effects;
 - (ii) Actively engaging with our community to adapt to climate change and reduce emissions across the District including an additional staff position; and
 - (iii) Dedicating more resources to work proactively with climate change affected communities and industries to plan for any adaptation needed.
- (b) This option would see \$5.9 million of additional new operational rates funding (\$590,000 per annum) allocated to a climate change work programme.

Community Feedback

12. 378 submitters provided feedback indicating which option they preferred on the Climate Change key issue with a strong majority of submitters directing Council to do more, or even more:⁴
 - Option 1: Do the minimum – 99 submissions (26%)⁵
 - Option 2: Do more (Council’s preferred option) – 137 submissions (36%)
 - Option 3: Do even more – 142 submissions (38%) – including one submission containing 121 signatures in support
13. Climate change was well canvassed at the community engagement events with most stakeholders supporting Council’s plans to resource a climate change work programme. Feedback included highlighting opportunities for emissions reduction and greater sustainability across the district and the need for a collaborative approach to the development of a Climate Change Strategy.
14. An informal straw poll on the consultation options was undertaken using voting boxes at CBay Aquatic Centre between 4 and 6 May 2021 and at engagement events at the Timaru Farmers Market on 1 May 2021 and at The Crow’s Nest on 2 May 2021. Voters at both events indicated strong support for an increased Council role in climate change work with totals as follows.
 - Option 1: Do the minimum – 21 votes (14%)
 - Option 2: Do more (Council’s preferred option) – 35 votes (24%)
 - Option 3: Do even more – 89 votes (62%)
15. Analysis of the feedback received shows public opinion is split into two philosophical camps – support for an increase in Council’s role in Climate Change work (Options 2 and 3), which is the clear majority; and opposition to Council’s proposed role in Climate Change (Option 1). A number of themes emerged within these two positions and are discussed below, providing

⁴ A further 13 submitters provided feedback but did not select a preferred option.

⁵ Percentage calculated based on the 378 submissions received where an option was selected by the submitter, and does not include those submissions where the climate change key issue was not addressed.

some examples of feedback. Officer comment has been provided in relation to the key themes arising from the submissions.

Opposition to Council's proposed Climate Change Work Programme

16. Feedback provided by those submitters who selected Option 1: Do the minimum generally addressed three concerns, set out below:
17. **Responding to climate change is not the role of local government:** Around 10 submitters highlighted this concern, suggesting in some instances that Regional Councils and Central Government are more directly responsible for climate change work, and that any territorial Council spend may result in duplication of efforts and costs for ratepayers. Some submissions also noted that Council should not take a leadership role within this space. Comments included:
 - "This is NOT a local body issue. The Government should be responsible for any concern re the emotional debated issue of climate change."
 - "Climate change is a huge issue – in fact, it's a Global Issue. Collaboration and direction needs to come first internationally and nationally down to a local level. Obviously TDC will need to have funds available to respond BUT it is NOT up to the Council to develop the strategy. I do not like the use of rate payer money to establish the Adaptation and Mitigation concepts outlined by TDC in their preferred option, and see more sense in funds being set aside to respond to central directives (as this is what will ultimately happen anyway)."
 - "District cannot afford it. Much to do with Central Government ideals. Central Government should be responsible for costs."
 - "This is the time to follow others and not be the leader. Too many Councils are making decisions that may/may not work. Wait and see before acting."
18. **Officer Comment:** Council has a number of obligations under current legislation to consider and plan for the potential impact of climate change such as, but not limited to, the Resource Management Act 1991, Local Government Act 2002, and Climate Change Response Act 2002. Doing nothing with regards to climate change is not an option available to any local authority under current and proposed legislation and regulations.
19. While climate change is an issue of global scale, the potential effects of climate change and the associated risks will be felt on a local scale. Council services, assets and infrastructure will be impacted at a local level; households and business within the Timaru District will be impacted; local industry and businesses will be required to reduce their carbon emissions. Local government is best placed to support local communities and respond to many of the issues likely to arise from climate change.
20. Council recognises the need for central government to provide a clear and consistent legislative framework for climate change adaptation and mitigation, particularly regarding who will bear the costs. Council will continue to advocate for this essential work to be expedited by central government.
21. Council may choose to delay any investment in preparing for climate change until central government legislation and direction is in place. However, officers consider it unlikely that any direction provided by central government would contain sufficient local detail to support Council's future decision-making in response to mitigating, and adapting to the effects of climate change at a district level.

22. Officers suggest that Council's future decision-making to protect and enhance its activities, and the environment, economy and social wellbeing of the District will be better supported by robust, locally informed climate change research, and that this will require more than a minimal investment.
23. **Wait for others to do the work first:** A number of submitters urged Council to wait for other local authorities, government, and other organisations to undertake the work first before following suit. Feedback included:
- "This is the time to follow others and not be the leader. Too many Councils are making decisions that may/may not work. Wait and see before acting."
 - "To rush in at this stage may leave future generations with bigger problems than we have now."
 - "Leave it to ECan."
 - "This sounds like a lot of planning and "research" absolute waste of money. Nothing is actually being done. Why reinvent the wheel look at research and plans made by other cities and towns around the world, why bother wasting money doing something someone has already done."
24. **Officer Comment:** Officers recognise the concern about duplication of work. As a member of the Canterbury Mayoral Forum's Climate Change Working Group Council will continue to collaborate closely and share resources and knowledge with other Canterbury councils. While this regional work is important, it does not provide the necessary level of detail to assess the risks and opportunities for Timaru District, nor does this work provide any assessment of the risks to Council's assets or services.
25. **Climate Change is not a key issue / adaptation and mitigation efforts not worth it:** Some submitters expressed views that the impact of climate change was not a key issue Council should be concerned with or invest in for reasons highlighted by the comments below:
- "Spending large amounts of money will not change our weather. People need to be trained in how to adapt to our changing weather patterns. If New Zealand went carbon neutral tomorrow the world's weather would not change one bit."
 - "Climates have been changing for millions of years, so most justifiably believe in climate change. Man's impact however is an entirely different matter. Its perhaps interesting that governments can sort COVID-19 well, yet by taxing this and that think they can change the worlds temperature. I reckon the sun just may have something to do with this. Sustainability is a different subject, people seem to get this confused."
 - "Not falling for the con. Culture of fear."
 - "Actual empirical evidence and the actual climate state is seriously at odds with "Modelling predictions Focus on reducing pollution, Better efficiency and recycling to reduce the impact of waste on the environment. A measurable cause and effect situation. Don't waste money chasing a theoretical possibility down a postulated bottomless pit with no scale of assessment."
26. **Officer Comment:** In response to this feedback from submitters, officers note that in 2018 Council approved the signing of the Local Government Leaders' Climate Change Declaration, acknowledging the importance and urgent need to address climate change for the benefit of current and future generations. In signing the declaration, Council committed to:

- (a) Develop and implement ambitious action plans that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support resilience within our own councils and for our local communities;
 - (b) Work with our communities to understand, prepare for and respond to the physical impacts of climate change; and
 - (c) Work with central government to deliver on national emission reduction targets and support resilience in our communities.⁶
27. Further, Council's LTP has been developed based on the assumption that:
- (a) Over the period of this LTP the effects of climate change are expected to impact on the social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing of our communities, including the physical and built environment of the Timaru District, Council's activities and service delivery and potentially Council's financial position such as increased debt to cover costs of damage to infrastructure, changes in the rate take due to changes in land use as a result of changes in climatic conditions.⁷
28. Council's proposed Climate Change work programme, presented for feedback in the LTP Consultation Document, recognises Council's commitment to mitigation and adaptation action, and the assumption that climate change will have a considerable and increasing impact on the wellbeing of our communities. While a number of submitters provided links to resources challenging this assumption, officers did not identify, in those sources, any substantive or compelling evidence to justify Council reversing its position.

Support for Council's proposed Climate Change Work Programme

29. 74% of submitters who selected a specific option in their submission indicated they wished Council to "do more" or "do even more". The further comments that supported these submissions covered similar themes across the two options, many of these supporting Council's active involvement in both climate change adaptation and carbon emission mitigation efforts. The main topics addressed include:
30. **Recognition of the need for more climate change action by Council:** Submitters who supported either Option 2 or 3 made comments of general support and recognition of the importance of climate change action, with the need for urgency noted on a number of occasions. This feedback also made frequent reference to concern for the future, and future generations. Comments included:
- "Climate change is a reality and should be a priority."
 - "If we do nothing now it could be very expensive later. Once damage is done it may be too late."
 - "Climate change is not going to wait for us to act. It is happening and it is irreversible. The more we do now, the better off our tamariki and mokopuna will be in the future."
 - "Climate change is one of the most important and urgent issues of the time and will have impacts on many facets of the district including social and environmental."
31. **Officer Comment:** The proposed budget, research and planning work programme included in the draft LTP are intended to initiate the necessary climate change response action. By undertaking risk and carbon emission assessments for Council activities and for the district,

⁶ Local Government Leaders' Climate Change Declaration

⁷ Timaru District Council Significant Forecasting Assumptions 2021-31, Climate Change, Adopted 9 April 2021.

Council will be able to more effectively plan to adapt to the impacts of climate change, and to mitigate the ongoing future harm caused by carbon emissions.

32. The particular focus on research and data gathering to support future development of a strategic plan for action in the first three years of the Plan is a recognition from Council that this work is essential for providing for the future wellbeing of the Timaru District.
33. **Collaboration with regional council and central government:** Similarly to those submitters who did not support Council action on climate change, there was an expressed desire for Council to engage and collaborate with Environment Canterbury, central government and other agencies to improve efficiency and collective outcomes. Submitters also noted the need for Council to work with, and support local agencies, businesses and industry to address climate change mitigation and adaptation. Comments to this effect include:
- “Important to work in collaboration with other agencies and enable the district to move forward as one in this space.”
 - “As a business owner we would like to support initiatives in this area but we don’t know where to start.”
 - “Working with such as Venture Timaru, Ara Polytechnic, agricultural-based industries and the SC Chamber of Commerce to encourage business training and innovation on carbon emission reduction as well as climate change adaptation plus encouraging lower volume/higher value tourism.”
 - “In principle we support the collation of data and the development of “in house” expertise. We also encourage the TDC to expand this work with the business community and invite engagement with the SCCC (South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce) team and members to implement a first stages approach to measuring carbon footprints in businesses, pursuing a whole of district approach.”
34. **Officer Comment:** Ongoing engagement and collaboration with Canterbury councils will continue under the proposed work programme within the draft LTP.
35. It is envisaged that all research undertaken by Council, including risk and carbon emissions assessments, will be shared with the whole community, although the proposed budget for engagement with the wider community and businesses is limited. Council may wish to consider increasing the budget to provide for a greater level of engagement to support district-wide efforts to reduce carbon emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.
36. **Apply climate change lens to all Council activities:** Submitters want to see Council integrate climate change into all Council decision-making with mitigation and adaptation incorporated in all activity and asset planning. Comments addressing this theme include:
- “Prioritising climate change action provides an opportunity to case a climate lens across all Council activities proposed in the LTP to ensure that the Council’s activities complement climate goals and so that the Timaru district is on a pathway towards a climate just future for generations to come, as soon as possible.”
 - “Ensure climate change is core business for the Council and climate change considerations are consistently mainstreamed throughout all Council policy and procedures... Embed climate change and emission-reductions into all Council projects e.g. proposed projects such as Heritage Precinct, Art Gallery etc. must be planned as zero emission facilities, take full account of zero emission transport options etc.”

- “We think that climate change and environmental impact should not feature as a separate category in the LTP. It needs to be integrated into every action and every decision within every department. In some cases this will mean spending more within a department (but long-term saving suture disasters and livelihoods). In other cases, we see the potential for spending less.”
 - “We need to think about long term effects of climate change in every aspect of the LTP so focusing on this is important to me.”
37. **Officer Comment:** Officers note the importance of integrated planning for climate change is important across all Council activities. As much as has been possible with Council’s current knowledge about the impacts of climate change, activity managers have factored adaptation and mitigation into their activity management plans for the next ten years. For example, the Water Supply activity commissioned an assessment of the impact of increased drought conditions due to climate change on long-term water security for Timaru so that this could be factored into the 30 year Infrastructure Strategy. The Roothing Activity Management Plan includes the use of emulsion for all road resurfacing, which has an approximately 50% emission reduction compared to traditional bitumen resurfacing, and the Theatre Royal and Heritage Hub project has included consideration of building energy efficiency in the concept design.⁸
38. The proposed budget will allow for more thorough assessments and planning for how Council activities and assets can factor in carbon emissions reduction and adaptation to the adverse effects of the changing climate. The research and data collection undertaken in the first three years of the LTP will more accurately inform activity management planning in preparation for the 2024-2034 LTP.
39. **Timaru District Council to be leaders:** 20 submissions emphasised a desire for Council to be a leader in climate change action, including one submission that contained 121 supporting signatories. These submissions called for Council to provide leadership both within the community and from a national perspective, with some referencing Council’s leading role in waste minimisation as an example of such leadership. Comments include:
- “We are relying on the leaders within the TDC to create and ensure a TDC climate action plan will allow our region, including business, households and organisations meet our Zero Carbon Act obligations but more importantly create a resilient, vibrant community with a strong local low carbon economy.”
 - “I want SC (South Canterbury) to be a leader in how local govt can be pro-active in dealing with climate change. I want TDC to give me (and everyone) clear leadership on how to deal effectively with climate change issues. The big stuff like where we can/can’t live, stop commerce from harming the populous, reduce our carbon footprint and my carbon footprint. Help the community develop jobs /employment options that are environment friendly.”
 - “We are in a climate crisis and the more we do now the better it will be for all our citizens as well as our environment. We cannot do too much help slow the effects of climate change. If we take this option we can become a leading district in addressing climate change and showing the country what is possible. Anything less is creating more work

⁸ <https://www.roadscience.co.nz/bitumen-emulsion-and-carbon-emissions>

for those younger generations who do not deserve to take on the responsibility to fix what we have been unable to.”

- “It would be amazing to lead the way and SC become an example for other regions. Delaying action will be detrimental to our future. Let’s be responsible and take action. It will be great to recruit/engage expertise for the roles also. Attract expertise now before other regions decide to act in their LTPs. We were the first with the recycling bins, let’s be the first to get a meaningful plan in place that reflects the likely requirements of the Climate Change Commission.”
40. **Officer Comment:** The proposed budget will allow Council to develop a strategic plan that will ensure that Council and the Timaru District are well positioned to adapt to a zero carbon economy, and a world disrupted by the impacts of climate change.
41. The development of a strategic plan will further define Council’s leadership role in responding to climate change. Officers note that community, Iwi, business and other stakeholder engagement will be central to determining Council’s role in the future.
42. **Needs more investment:** A number of submitters who supported “Option 3: Do even more” also indicated that they wished Council spend more than \$5.9 million over the LTP on climate change.
- “Furthermore only 0.6% of our rates (\$2.97/week for the average ratepayer) are allocated to Climate Change / Sustainability – we feel this is nowhere near relative to the importance of this issue. According to the pie chart below, Climate Change and Sustainability is slightly more important than cemeteries and slightly less important than public toilets!!”
 - “Budget too small. Responding by reducing emissions from Council activity as well as helping the District to react to/mitigate climate changes from storms, floods, droughts, coastal erosion. May require more than two staff to do that properly, so don’t be half-baked.”
 - “The 3 options don’t go far enough. Much more need to be spent in this area which is proposed to receive just 0.6% of TDC funding. At least 10% of TDC funding needs to be focused on climate change.”
43. **Officer Comment:** The proposed budget for the climate change work programme (Option 2) has been prepared on the basis of employing two officers to lead the development of a climate change strategy and undertake the necessary data collection and research. Some budget has also been provided, for the commissioning of technical assessments and engagement. Option 3 provides for a dedicated climate change engagement officer to work with our communities, Iwi, businesses and key stakeholders.
44. Any funding needed for remedial work on Council’s assets or services due to damage caused by the effects of climate change will need to be met through existing budgets or unplanned expenditure, as will any mitigation or adaptation initiatives identified in the development of the climate change strategy.
45. Officers anticipate that the climate change strategy will inform the development of the 2024-34 LTP, particularly the budgets associated with activity management plans. Funding for specific mitigation and adaptation projects will be able to be applied in a considered and responsible way once Council has a clear strategic direction and greater knowledge of the risks associated with climate change.

46. **Climate Emergency:** Three submissions (including one containing 121 signatures in support of the submission) requested that Council declare a climate emergency.
47. **Officer Comment:** Officers note that 17 councils across New Zealand, including Environment Canterbury have declared climate change emergencies, and on 2 December 2020 central government followed suit, committing to a carbon-neutral government by 2025.
48. Council may wish to consider declaring a climate change emergency.
49. **Suggestions for actions Council can take:** Submitters on this key issue provided suggestions for a range of mitigation and adaptation actions, including:
 - (a) Greater investment in active and public transport to reduce vehicle emissions;
 - (b) Electrification of council's fleet and public transport;
 - (c) Improved waste minimisation efforts to reduce emissions from landfill;
 - (d) Greater level of planting, especially of native species, across the District;
 - (e) Hard structure protection for coastal assets (eg Redruth landfill);
 - (f) Consideration of low emission construction and building efficiencies for all new Council facilities;
 - (g) Planning for more resilient infrastructure (eg stormwater networks);
 - (h) Close engagement with and guidance for community groups and businesses on emissions reduction.
50. **Officer Comment:** All feedback received on possible actions Council can take to reduce emissions and prepare for the impacts of climate change will be considered as Council develops a climate change strategy.

Options and Preferred Option

51. Having considered the views of the community and those likely to be impacted by this decision, it is now for Council to determine its role and the level of funding allocated to preparing for Climate Change in the Long Term Plan 2021-31.
52. **Option 1: Retain budget of \$360,000 per annum (Option 2 in the consultation document) for climate change work programme:** This is Council's preferred option and has been included in the draft LTP budget.
53. This option was supported by 36% of those submitters who responded to this question in the consultation document.
54. The advantages of this option include:
 - (a) The establishment of a climate change work programme with dedicated resource to progress the development of a Council strategy in the first three years of the LTP.
 - (b) Council would be better placed to respond to the reporting requirements included in the Climate Change Response Act, and contribute to the Canterbury Mayoral Forum Climate Change Working Group.
 - (c) The development of a climate change strategy will help inform future action plans and the development of budgets for the 2024-34 LTP.

- (d) Responding broadly to the majority of the submitters who supported an increased Council role in responding to climate change (consultation options 1 and 2 – 74% support).
55. The disadvantages of this option include:
- (a) An increase in operating expenditure from previous Long Term Plan, impacting on the total rates increase required.
 - (b) This option provides only limited resource for engagement with the community, Iwi and key stakeholders on climate change issues, a topic that was widely supported by submitters.
56. **Option 2: Increase the budget \$585,000 per annum (Option 3 in the consultation document) to allow for increased levels of community engagement and education for climate change.**
57. This option received the most support following consultation, with 38% of submitters in favour.
58. The advantages of this option include those identified in Option 1 above, and:
- (a) Additional resource to support a great level of engagement.
 - (b) The aspirations of the highest number of submitters who advocated for Council to do even more are realised with an increased budget.
59. The disadvantages of this option include:
- (a) A greater increase in operating expenditure, further increasing the rates requirement by a further 0.14% over the 10 years from that which was indicated in the draft LTP.
60. Officers recognise the strong desire from the majority of submitters for Council to increase its leadership and engagement on climate change issues, as discussed above. Officers believe that the benefits to both Council and the community from providing additional resource to increase engagement and education warrant the increased budget required.
61. Officers are now recommending that Council approves Option 3 (as presented in the Consultation Document), providing \$585,000 per annum to resource Council's climate change work programme, ensuring greater levels of community engagement and education are possible.
62. **Option 3: Do not include any budget for the climate change work programme.**
63. This option received the least amount of support from submitters, with 24% indicating they wished Council to do the minimum to respond to climate change.
64. The advantages of this option include:
- (a) A reduction of \$360,000 per annum of operating costs in the draft LTP.
 - (b) The potential to benefit from a 'wait-and-see' approach regarding central government's legislative and regulatory response to climate change.
65. The disadvantages of this option include:
- (a) Failing to support Council's commitment under the Local Government Leaders' Climate Change Declaration, to develop and implement ambitious action plans that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support resilience within councils and for local communities.

- (b) A lack of locally-based research and in-house knowledge and expertise on the climate change impacts and emission reduction opportunities, limiting Council's ability to plan effectively in this space.
- (c) The aspirations of many submitters who have shown support for Council to undertake a greater role in responding to climate change would not be met.

Relevant Legislation, Council Policy and Plans

- 66. **Climate Change Response Act:**⁹ In 2019 the government passed the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Bill, amending the Climate Change Response Act to provide a framework for New Zealand to develop and implement clear and stable climate change policies that contribute to the global effort under the Paris Agreement (to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius).
- 67. As a result of this amendment, the Act now requires local authorities (and other reporting organisations), to report to the Minister for Climate Change, or the Climate Change Commission on a range of risks, opportunities, financial planning and metrics and targets associated with the organisations climate change response.

Financial and Funding Implications

- 68. The climate change work programme will be funded from rates.
- 69. The funding of the preferred option has been included in the Draft LTP budgets. Should Council wish to increase the budget for climate change to allow for increased levels of engagement and communication then further rates funding of \$225,000 per annum is required. This would require an additional rates increase.
- 70. As noted above, any funding needed for remedial work on Council's assets or services due to damage caused by the effects of climate change will need to be met through existing budgets or unplanned expenditure, as will any mitigation or adaptation initiatives identified in the development of the climate change strategy.

Attachments

Nil

⁹ Section 5zw, Climate Change Response Act 2002.

Timaru District Council Long Term Submission 2024 -2034

Sport Canterbury
Shaun Campbell
Regional Manager South Canterbury

Sport Canterbury is one of 14 Regional Sports Trusts throughout New Zealand. Our vision is to have More People, More Active, More Often. We aim to empower schools, community groups, organisations and their members/staff to improve their capability. We deliver opportunities to those in priority populations to become and remain more physically active. In South Canterbury we work with a range of organisations ranging from club and local sporting groups, programme providers, schools, local funders, Health New Zealand and district councils.

We value the opportunity from Timaru District Council to be able to submit to the long term plan 2024-2034.

We have provided feedback below on the issues raised and provided some general feedback on specific opportunities in our community.

Issue One: Balance Approach to debt to deliver projects

Sport Canterbury supports Option two the Timaru District Council preferred option to raise the debt cap to 2.5. It is critical to keep progressing the Timaru District and quality facilities and infrastructure is important to help with community development across all levels including both social and economic aspects. The main projects identified in the LTP consultation document all need to commence as outlined.

Issue Two: Insure a balance to income and costs

Sport Canterbury again supports option two the Timaru District Council preferred option. Balancing the budget is critical. With a rates rise proposed maintaining the level of services and access to facilities that promote social wellbeing and physical activity is supported.

Issue Three: Balance the things you use with the things you enjoy

Sport Canterbury supports option three, we would like to see a 70/30 split with more capital expenditure to community facilities. Community facilities have lacked investment for some time and it is identified in the 2017 Spaces and Places plan that several need upgrades and a planned maintenance schedule developed. There is a significant benefit in increasing physical activity and social connectiveness through gathering and participating at appropriate and welcoming community facilities. A proactive approach and investment into facilities and their programmes will attract participation that has additional benefits for a persons wellbeing and overall health.

Issue Four: Balance user pays with common good

Sport Canterbury supports option one to limit fee increases. Sport Canterbury encourages other option to raise income and usage of the community facilities aside raising the cost to the user. We believe there is operational opportunities available and with structured scheduling there is opportunity to provide programmes in community facilities that will activate the space and provide additional usage and income to council. We ask council to work with Sport Canterbury to provide us with a database of those that pay regular seasonal agreements so we can support them with their financial planning and how to access additional income to plan for any future increases. Once this is established user fees could be revisited.

General Comments.

We congratulate Timaru District Council on their LTP document and acknowledge the importance of the theme and that getting the balance right is critical in the current economic environment. The investment into community facilities is critical and we encourage the council to remain on track and continue to progress planned projects that will add significant community value for economic development, social and physical well being.

I would value the opportunity to talk to council about this submission, please note only available on the 28th May 2024.

Nga mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shaun Campbell".

Shaun Campbell
Sport Canterbury

Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



We are writing to you as a group with a significant stake in the outcome of the current deliberations on the future of the stadium complex who do not feel recognized as "stakeholders" in the process.

Aorangi Stadium includes a gymnasium with a wide range of equipment for weight training and other exercises typically used for "fitness circuit" classes. This area can accommodate up to 50 people in a single class.

Whilst many of the services provided by this facility are now catered for by the C Bay complex near Caroline Bay, Aorangi Stadium remains the preferred venue for Timaru senior citizens formal exercise classes. Around 7 one hour classes are run during the Monday to Friday working week throughout the year. These classes are attended by Timaru seniors equating to in excess of 200 "man hours" per week making this group of individuals collectively a principal user of this facility during the working week throughout the entire year.

Most of us pay \$5.50 per 1 hour session for these classes. Some individuals are funded to attend by 3rd parties.

Why don't we use C Bay?

C Bay does not have the space to accommodate a group of our size.

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During weekdays Aorangi is easily accessed by foot, bicycle and car by the majority of users.

A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

You are currently deliberating over the option of building a new facility at Aorangi or upgrading the current facility. We acknowledge that either way we will lose the use of Aorangi Stadium for a period of time. Obviously our preference would be for a solution that minimizes disruption to our use of the gym.

We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

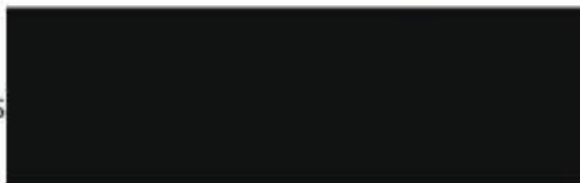
We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

NAME

Shona Hobbs

ADDRESS



PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE



Submission on Long Term Plan 2024 to Timaru District Council

My intention in this submission is to highlight the absence of **action and funding allocated to preparing our community for the adverse effects of Climate change and environmental degradation.**

While it has been great to see climate change being considered and planned for within the Timaru District Council (TDC) infrastructure plan I would like to see more **urgency** and effort dedicated to **proactively** committing to climate change action with a cross agency, visible and accountable approach.

Key concerns I have are

- 1) The current budget allocated to climate change action is less than in the council approved option of the 2021-31 LTP
- 2) The lack of community visibility and dedicated action on Climate change by the TDC
- 3) The LTP appears to take a reactive approach to climate change with absence of leadership and fast tracked action.

I believe that to create effective climate change action, a **fundamental shift** in thinking is required from the Leadership within the TDC.

I encourage councillors and TDC (as an organisation):

To show a more **unified Leadership**

To **visibly communicate** their **commitment to act on climate change to our community.**

To **prioritise action** and allocate sufficient funds to this overreaching issue which will affect our **community wellbeing, economy and the social fabric of our future community.**

The Long Term (LTP) plan speaks beautifully on the “Community wellbeing outcome - Sustainable Environment” (see Fig. 1 below). However, I cannot see these values reflected in any proposed actions. In contrary, the community climate fund approved in the LTP2021 has not been fully utilised and now is proposed to reduce even further. The dog pound budget of \$0.5 million over one year compares to \$2.3 million for climate action over 10 years.

Furthermore, funding the protection and regeneration of our flora and fauna, such as the Significant Natural Areas, has been cut by 50%.

From a climate resilience and sustainable environment point of view, the proposed LTP does not reflect any investment into our community wellbeing outcome as discussed in the plan itself. (See fig.1).

People of this district deserve piece of mind that our leaders are taking urgent action to make us resilient and prepared for a climate emergency as declared by our government in December 2020. (In declaring a climate emergency we) “.....*join the over 1,800 jurisdictions in 32 countries to declare a climate emergency and commit to reducing emissions to avoid a more than 1.5°C rise in global warming;*”

(The government)....“recognise the devastating impact that volatile and extreme weather will have on New Zealand and the wellbeing of New Zealanders, on our primary industries, water availability, and public health, through flooding, sea-level rise, and wildfire damage;

Source: [Motions — Climate Change—Declaration of Emergency - New Zealand Parliament](https://www.parliament.nz)
(www.parliament.nz)

Community Wellbeing Outcome

Sustainable Environment

GOALS

At the heart of our sustainable environment is the practice of kaitiakitanga. It is our role to be guardians of our natural environment.

This Community Wellbeing Outcome seeks to encourage the regeneration of our environment and foster a culture of sustainability.

FOCUS AREAS

- 1. Clean Environment - PRIORITY**
We will prioritise sustainable land and water use to help regenerate our environment.
- 2. Kaitiakitanga**
We will foster a strong connection between our people and the environment.
- 3. Low Carbon and Energy**
We will promote and support low-carbon, low-energy practices.
- 4. Minimise Waste**
We will lead and promote waste minimisation.
- 5. Encourage Biodiversity**
We will support practices, partnerships and policies to protect and regenerate our native flora and fauna.

Fig 1. Timaru LTP2024 overview document

Considering the reduced budget proposed in the current draft LTP I believe that the council has not followed through on commitments made in 2021 after the LTP consultation process. Furthermore, I would like to remind our Council of their responsibility to act as it has been 6 years since Council approved the signing of the Local Government Leaders' Climate Change Declaration. (See fig.2)

Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda 31 May 2021

, officers note that in 2018

Council approved the signing of the Local Government Leaders' Climate Change Declaration,

acknowledging the importance and urgent need to address climate change for the benefit of current and future generations. In signing the declaration, Council committed to:

Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda 31 May 2021

Item 7.9 Page 97

(a) Develop and implement ambitious action plans that reduce greenhouse gas emissions

and support resilience within our own councils and for our local communities;

(b) Work with our communities to understand, prepare for and respond to the physical

impacts of climate change; and (c) Work with central government to deliver on national emission reduction targets and support resilience in our communities.6

Fig 2. Ordinary council meeting File Reference 1425222

In the 2021 consultation process the community clearly communicated a high level of concern and wish for TDC to act on climate change. 74% of submissions (279 submissions) received stated that council should do more or even more on Climate change (see below Fig 3).

It concerns me that the 2021 allocated funding of 360k/year has not been fully utilised and the future proposed budget is even less at 2.3million/10years. This is despite the 2021 consultation process "74% of submitters who selected a specific option in their submission indicated they wished Council to "do more" or "do even more"(on climate change).

In the submission summary document of 2021 "Officers are now recommending that Council approves Option 3 (as presented in the Consultation Document), providing \$585,000 per annum to resource Council's climate change" (see fig. 4 below).

I believe reducing climate action and budget is of great concern in view of the accelerating and compounding nature of climate change and its associated challenges for our community. The council should be accelerating efforts and funding to ensure the wellbeing of our community and future generations.



Fig 3. Ordinary council meeting File Reference 1425222. 31 May 2021 .

Comments from TDC staff on submissions received 2021

Support for Council's proposed Climate Change Work Programme

(point 29.) 74% of submitters who selected a specific option in their submission indicated they wished Council to "do more" or "do even more". The further comments that supported these submissions covered similar themes across the two options, many of these supporting Council's active involvement in both climate change adaptation and carbon emission mitigation efforts. The main topics addressed include:

*30. Recognition of the need for more climate change action by Council: Submitters who supported either Option 2 or 3 made comments of general support and recognition of the importance of climate change action, with the **need for urgency** noted on a number of occasions. This feedback also made **frequent reference to concern for the future, and future generations.***

Council staff recommendations 2021 after community consultation process

56. OPTION 2: INCREASE THE BUDGET \$585,000 PER ANNUM (Option 3 in the consultation document)

to allow for increased levels of community engagement and education for climate change.

57. THIS OPTION RECEIVED THE MOST SUPPORT FOLLOWING CONSULTATION, WITH 38% OF SUBMITTERS IN FAVOUR.

58. The advantages of this option include those identified in Option 1 above, and:

(a) Additional resource to support a great level of engagement.

(b) The aspirations of the highest number of submitters who advocated for Council to do

even more are realised with an increased budget.

59. The disadvantages of this option include:

(a) A greater increase in operating expenditure, further increasing the rates requirement by a further 0.14% over the 10 years from that which was indicated in the draft LTP.

60. Officers recognise the strong desire from the majority of submitters for Council to increase its leadership and engagement on climate change issues, as discussed above.

Officers believe that the benefits to both Council and the community from providing additional resource to increase engagement and education warrant the increased budget required.

61. Officers are now recommending that Council approves Option 3 (as presented in the Consultation Document), providing \$585,000 per annum to resource Council's climate change work programme, ensuring greater levels of community engagement and education are possible.

Fig 4. Ordinary council meeting File Reference 1425222. 31 May 2021

I appreciate the fact that council is endeavouring to find balance. It is an incredibly difficult job. There are so many essential and important aspects needed to help our community thrive. Climate change does not have an appealing image but must be a priority. Like any other emergency, it requires fast-tracked action.

I support rate increases and 'user pays' while protecting vulnerable people in our community and supporting their ongoing easy access to services.

Below, I list some examples how I believe Council can show greater leadership and ensure community wellbeing. I do acknowledge that council may have initiated some of these actions without my awareness.

Concerns	Suggestions
<p>Council Accountability</p> <p>We need council to <i>act on their previous commitments</i> and ensure sufficient allocation of funds for climate change are allocated. The TDC needs to act now.</p>	<p>A minimum of 4% of council's budget should be allocated to taking action on climate change. Climate change community resilience and community action should be funded additionally to infrastructure funding.</p>
<p>Collaborative, consistent and long term approach needed when making decisions on Climate change</p> <p>It is easy to acknowledge the complexity of climate change and the need to commit to a firm plan, while simultaneously facing challenges such as interruption of leadership roles due to voting cycles and staff turn over.</p> <p>The field of climate change resilience is highly specialised and Counsellors cannot be expected to know details of how to act and lead by themselves in this field.</p> <p>To allow a collaborate and successful climate action plan process and implementation, an independent entity would be highly beneficial.</p>	<p>I request that Timaru District Council financially support the establishment and operation of a South Canterbury Climate Change action entity.</p> <p>Please also consider increased use of contracting work outside of council for specialised work.</p>
<p>TDC's Community visibility and communication.</p> <p>Thank you for dedicating a page of your website to communicate climate action taken since 2021, such as climate workshops facilitated by Rhys Taylor and Phil Driver.</p> <p>I participated in many of the workshops and allocated my time to be part of the climate change advocacy group. However, apart from an environmental meeting discussion late 2023 I see no further action or leadership on this matter.</p>	<p>The community needs a more unified Leadership and visible communication about council's commitment to act on climate change to our community.</p>

<p>Transparency and reflection on decisions made after community consultation and if community feedback really matters</p> <p>A group I am part of facilitated a submission workshop to encourage the general public to submit on the LTP. Many people I talked to on this workshop and in the community commented that ‘The council doesn’t listen anyway and choose to go ahead with their agenda as planned’. At the time I disagreed with those comments. However, unfortunately my findings discussed on page 3 and 4 challenge my positivity: Submission summaries and council staff recommendations clearly state the community’s desire to act on climate change. However , council’s proposed reduction of climate change and biodiversity funding in the current LTP imply that the consultation process from 2021 did not inform these decisions.</p>	<p>I would like elected councilors to show accountability and follow through with previous commitments, especially if they have been informed by a consultation process.</p> <p>Give staff recommendations based on a consultation process appropriate weight when deciding on submission topics.</p>
<p>Continue to accelerate a council wide transition to adaptation and mitigation focused processes and plans</p>	<p>Water recycling systems – residential & industrial</p> <p>Enable property-based water management</p> <p>TDC Building projects should model climate resilient and best sustainable building practises</p> <p>Updated Building Code to include / incentivize climate action</p>
<p>Biodiversity</p> <p>We cannot afford to lose any more biodiversity values in our region, instead these values need to be protected and enhanced. Environmental well-being will contribute towards and benefit the well-being of our community. Changing climatic conditions will undoubtedly affect our natural environment, therefore it is important that our ecosystems are healthy so that they can survive into the future.</p>	<p>I acknowledge the great work which has been done to protect SNA’s in our region in the past. To continue to protect what you have achieved please</p> <p>Increase funding to support biodiversity, such as Significant Natural Areas and biodiversity officer roles.</p>

	Prioritize existing protection and restoration before funding new establishments of plantings
Water resilience Metering water is a one way to generate income to improve community drinking water infrastructure.	Implement water charges as long as it occurs in an equitable way and does not disadvantage lower income households.
Optimising use of volunteers Are there legal limitations to utilise volunteers to support projects?	Maximise and enable use of volunteers to manage projects such as cycleways, plantings and pest control
Local Food resilience Risk of future weather events causing limited food supply.	Enable food production and foraging on public land Establish a network of commercial and local food supplies in case of emergency Community education and establishment of networks to support local food resilience
Alternative transport I applaud the funding allocated to local cycleways. I am unsure if this funding also relates to cycle lanes in our urban areas that enable people and children to commute to work or school safely, enhancing community wellbeing and reducing emissions.	Ensure transport and infrastructure funding allocation focusses on low emission options. If we build roads we will create more traffic. Community education and incentives to support alternative transport.
Climate change and urban design One aspect of applying nature based solutions to climate change is planting street trees in urban areas to provide shade and reduce temperatures. Research shows that urban forests have temperatures that are on average 2.9°F lower than unforested urban areas.	Community education and focus on best practice and council wide planning processes. Stop replacing Berms and Trees with wider footpaths

It is my hope that from this submission you can more deeply appreciate my concerns around our communities' wellbeing and future resilience.

The TDC must ensure Climate Change's overarching principles are **integrated** and **prioritized** with urgency in every Council decision.

I look forward to the opportunity to discuss this submission with you in person.

Kia Kaha

Silke Schlusnus

Mother, business owner and past health professional.

Small business has the same yearly council registration fee as a very large business

A sole trader- with no staff- deemed a low risk business. On the flipside we have many large businesses who are operating with many staff- this means more people to educate, assess, monitor and higher risk for problems to occur, these businesses are handling higher risk ingredients too. (consider your local large restaurant or café) These larger businesses pay the same base council registration fee as a small low risk business.

Currently for low risk businesses- audits are every 18 months but council registration is still an annual fee.

On average it takes less than 30 minutes to audit a home based kitchen. All business details are held at council on a computer system- any change of circumstances are notified by the business operator.

Many in our industry are working from home based kitchens, MPI regulations for the FCP allowed this change over 8 years ago- but over this time council have never looked at their billing system to consider the minute cottage industry operator. The system has changed but the council fee rate allocation has not. Many are part time workers in their businesses. It is a point to note that in our line of work over 50% of the current FCP does not apply to our businesses and we are deemed of very low risk.

When taking into consideration a person's audit cost versus their income capability in their business- the proportion of income to registration/audit costs is vastly different when compared to a bigger business. For a sole trader with an income of as little as 10K per year- a \$330 council fee is 3% of their income and this is without audit costs.

Council fees are often a major barrier to new businesses becoming registered and food safe. Many in the industry are quitting their registration and operating illegally because of cost versus their income ability. They can no longer see the sense with compliance costs versus their income ability. Surely food safety should be the priority.

Cakers or home based cottage industry kitchens are deemed low risk, Sole traders, have no staff, work from a very small kitchen and in the last 10 years have never had a reported problem with their operations. We comply with audit costs and feel this is where food safety should be focused- not on blanket council fees.

Proposal for consideration

- line up council registration fees with business audit fee- this would reduce costs for both the business and the council (less paperwork for council) Yes we agree- this would mean a look at how the system is implemented at council but after 8 years of the current system in place- isn't it about time this happens to keep up with the current times? The system structure has change over time but how the council allocates its fees has not.

- Use a tiered system for our council fee. Sole traders would have a lower cost to pay versus bigger businesses that employ many staff. This would make the system more workable and encourage more to register- making food safety the priority- not money collection.

Submission from Stephen Drew, [REDACTED] 12th May 2024

Finding the balance – adopting a whole of energy system approach in the 10 year clean energy plan

I have worked in the international energy sector for 40 years before I moved to Geraldine 3 years ago to transition an old shop into a net-zero café and to reuse old records.

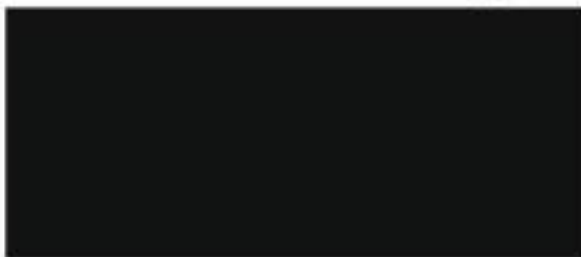
I am willing to talk to Council about how a whole of energy systems approach should be the basis of a 10 year clean energy plan for our communities in the Timaru District

The next 10 years is a critical period in shaping the clean energy transition so it will have an impact on our future lives. The energy transition will be seen by everyone, in the way we live, work and travel. The District ten year plan should present the direction and options for the changes ahead of us and offer the multiple benefits we want to achieve.

Globally, more efficient energy technologies are maturing fast and becoming cheaper to implement; for example advanced heat pumps, solarPV, batteries, EVs, anaerobic digesters, biomethane tractors and trucks, energy storage and smart controls are all available now. The planning challenge is how can these clean technologies be integrated together by taking a whole of energy system approach to make the best use of the available resources. We cannot afford to wait for direction from central Government or the utility companies. The leadership should be encouraged at a local level. Community energy schemes will embrace wider participation, ownership and independence.

The District has made a small start with some heat pump and electric boiler projects. However, there is considerable more work to do especially in the area of what is called integrative design to make our future buildings, homes, farms and transport systems more energy efficient by design. Energy efficiency gains will reduce our future energy use.

Community energy demonstration projects will evolve so we can learn by doing. We will learn that creating multiple benefits is a sensible way forward. We will learn that lower total cost solutions are possible and show that both commercial and community benefits are possible. We will learn how to lock-in emission savings. More importantly we will build more resilience into our electricity infrastructure that will help us all get through extreme weather events. The 10 year energy plan has to paint this picture.



Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



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Whilst many of the services provided by this facility are now catered for by the C Bay complex near Caroline Bay, Aorangi Stadium remains the preferred venue for Timaru senior citizens formal exercise classes. Around 7 one hour classes are run during the Monday to Friday working week throughout the year. These classes are attended by Timaru seniors equating to in excess of 200 "man hours" per week making this group of individuals collectively a principal user of this facility during the working week throughout the entire year.

Most of us pay \$5.50 per 1 hour session for these classes. Some individuals are funded to attend by 3rd parties.

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During weekdays Aorangi is easily accessed by foot, bicycle and car by the majority of users.

A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

You are currently deliberating over the option of building a new facility at Aorangi or upgrading the current facility. We acknowledge that either way we will lose the use of Aorangi Stadium for a period of time. Obviously our preference would be for a solution that minimizes disruption to our use of the gym.

We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

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NAME

Stuart Mayes

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE



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Sue Huxley



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NAME *Susan Geddes*

ADDRESS

PHONE

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SIGNATURE



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Sam Henderson



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SUSAN MORTON



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Name Ted Irvine

address

e-mail

Signature



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NAME *Terry Baird*

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE



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Tim Foley



Bidwill Trust Hospital

Submission to Timaru District Council Long Term Plan 2024-2034

Contact details:

Tina Rogers

General Manager – Bidwill Trust Hospital

tina@bidwillhospital.co.nz

We do not wish to attend a hearing.

Bidwill Trust Hospital is a private surgical hospital based in Timaru. The hospital has been in existence for over 100 years. The hospital undertakes over 2,500 procedures annually and directly employs 80 staff, as well as having medical specialists operating on site. Bidwill Trust Hospital undertakes private surgery as well as ACC elective surgery and surgery contracted by Health New Zealand. The Board is planning for additional growth to meet the expected future health needs of the community.

Private surgical hospitals are important in the New Zealand health system due to the volume of work undertaken which relieves pressure on the public health system. Having a private surgical hospital in Timaru complements the public hospital and is able to support the public hospital in times of need. It is considered important to the attraction and retention of medical professionals to the district.

Our submission:

1. Bidwill Trust Hospital recognizes the aging population within the district, as noted in the Long Term Plan (LTP). We believe that this changing demographic needs additional emphasis and specific actions in the LTP, to recognize the impact on the district over the next 10 years.
2. Bidwill Trust Hospital would like the Timaru District Council to be an enabler for growth, both for business and housing. Additional emphasis and specific actions for growth are recommended to be included in the LTP.

Tony Preen Submission on Rating Differentials 08-05-21

Refer pg 19 Broadsheet of Together We can Thrive. " What are differentials and how do they impact"

I quote "Differentials are used to fairly allocate the overall General Rate to different property categories. Councils' policy is to ensure each broad category (e.g. residential) pays about the same overall proportion of the general Rate every time a property revaluation occurs. The council believes the current split of the General rate pie is fair (see the graph)" Primary 26.81% Commercial 29.35% Residential 42.45%

(It should say Differential Rating is also used to subsidise the residential ratepayer)

It then goes on to say "for example in the last revaluation rural properties have generally declined in value while residential properties have increased in value" So as per the principles in Differential Rating it is proposed to increase the differential from .5 to .67. (a 34% increase from latest revaluation) This ensures farmers pay the same amount collectively as last year. Is that fair?

Similarly, value of property in the CBD is falling. Recent sales of less than 50% of GV for unreinforced masonry buildings is seen. No worries to the council. Just increase the differential. Differential rating means that Commercial owners still pay their slice of the pie. Is that fair? Is it fair that they pay per dollar of land owned, in rates 6.5 times as much as a rural ratepayer?

Similarly, the number of new houses in Timaru has increased markedly over the last 30years. Is it fair that residential ratepayers still only pay 42.45% of the rate take?

I don't believe it is fair. It is a legacy of when Strathalan Council was amalgamated back in 1987? Back then it was a contentious split. It was a compromise then and I believe it is time to look at it again. You have to take notice of what revaluations are telling you.

I think it a very good idea that Council commission a report to revisit Differentials



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PO Box 278, Timaru 7940

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e refugeesettlement@pssc.co.nz
w pssc.org.nz

Long term District Plan Submission

I wish to add a voice to Timaru District Councils Long Term Plan with regards to Timaru Community Development Services.

As the Manager of the Refugee Settlement Services in Timaru I am indebted to the Community Development Team. I am contractually required to work with the wider community to help settle former refugees in Timaru. The network of people necessarily involved in this and in deed for helping any newcomers and migrants is expansive. To continually develop our community, we need to keep attracting and maintaining residents and visitors. The Settling In Collective and the Safer Communities meetings which I attend, organised and hosted by the community Development Team is a professional, independent and accountable service for the community and brings together the right people to meet the needs, find resolutions and work together for our community.

In the last 18 months Refugee Settlement Services has gone from supporting just 3 families to 30. Our service is growing from strength to strength BUT we could not achieve what we achieve without the support and input, administratively and practically from the Council Development Team. A team that has reached into the community and made us feel connected, heard, and listened to by the council. TDC Community Development Team and in most particular the Welcoming Communities' arm of that is a vital connection with our community.


Tracey Miron

10th May 2024

PSSC Refugee Settlement Services Timaru

Our Services



enliven



Fact- Small business has the same yearly council registration fee as a very large business

I am a sole trader- with no staff- deemed a low risk business. On the flipside we have many large businesses who are operating with many staff- more people to educate, assess, monitor and higher risk for problems to occur, these businesses are handling higher risk ingredients too. (consider your local large restaurant or café) These larger businesses pay the same base council registration fee as a small low risk business.

Currently for low risk businesses- audits are every 18 months but council registration is still an annual fee.

On average it takes less than 30 minutes to audit a home based kitchen. All business details are held at council on a computer system- any change of circumstances are notified by the business operator.

Many in our industry are working from home based kitchens. MPI regulations for the FCP allowed this change over 8 years ago- but over this time council have never looked at their billing system to consider the minute cottage industry operator. The system has changed but the council fee rate allocation has not. Many are part time workers in their businesses. It is a point to note that in our line of work over 50% of the current FCP does not apply to our businesses and we are deemed of very low risk.

When taking into consideration a person's audit cost versus their income capability in their business- the proportion of income to registration/audit costs is vastly different when compared to a bigger business. For a sole trader with an income of as little as 10K per year- a \$330 council fee is 3% of their income and this is without audit costs. For a larger operator- this is a mere drop in the bucket!

Council fees are often a major barrier to new businesses becoming registered and food safe. Many in the industry are quitting their registration and operating illegally because of cost versus their income ability. They can no longer see the sense with compliance costs versus their income ability. Surely food safety should be the priority.

Cakers or home based cottage industry kitchens are deemed low risk, most are Sole traders, have no staff, work from a very small kitchen and in the last 10 years have never had a reported problem with their operations. They comply with audit costs and feel this is where food safety should be focused- not on blanket council fees.

Proposal for consideration

- line up council registration fees with business audit fee- this would reduce costs for both the business and the council (less paperwork for council) Yes we agree- this would mean a look at how the system is implemented at council but after 8 years of the current system in place- isn't it about time this happens to keep up with the current times? The system structure has changed over time but how the council allocates its fees has not.

- Use a tiered system for our council fee. Sole traders would have a lower cost to pay versus bigger businesses that employ many staff. This would make the system more workable and encourage more to register- making food safety the priority- not money collection.

I ask that you please consider the above and work with the industry to achieve a fairer system for all to comply and operate under.

Thankyou

Tracy Johnson



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NAME

Treena Davis

ADDRESS

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EMAIL

SIGNATURE



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NAME *Veronica Maree Lower*

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

*When the stadium was being built I purchased several bricks -
Seems unfair now that I am wanting to use it many years later this may change.*

7 May 2024

Timaru District Council
tp@timdc.govt.nz

Tēnā koutou,

Submission on Timaru District Council 2024–2034 Long-Term Plan

1. Thank you for the opportunity to submit on your Long-Term Plan 2024-34. This submission has been compiled on behalf of the National Public Health Service (NPHS) Te Waipounamu, Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora. NPHS Te Waipounamu provides public health services across the South Island, including South Canterbury.
2. NPHS Te Waipounamu recognises its responsibilities to improve, promote and protect the health of people and communities of Aotearoa New Zealand under the Pae Ora (Healthy Futures) Act 2022 and the Health Act 1956.
3. Pae Ora requires the health sector, as one of its roles, to protect and promote healthy communities and health equity across different population groups by working together with multiple sectors to address the determinants of health.
4. NPHS Te Waipounamu is focused on equitable health outcomes. The Ministry of Health defines equity as:
In Aotearoa New Zealand people have differences in health that are not only avoidable, but unfair and unjust. Equity recognises different people with different levels of advantage require different approaches and resources to get equitable health outcomes¹.
5. This submission responds to some of the specific questions provided in the Long Term Plan 2024-34 Consultation Document.
6. This submission sets out particular matters of interest and concern to NPHS Te Waipounamu.

¹ Manatū Hauora | Ministry of Health [Achieving equity](#) | Ministry of Health NZ www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/what-we-do/achieving-equity Published 2020.

General Comments

7. Health and wellbeing are influenced by a wide range of factors beyond the health sector. These factors are often referred to as the 'social determinants of health', and can be described as the environmental, economic and social conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age.² The diagram³ below shows how the various influences on health are complex and interlinked.



Figure 1: Social determinants of health

8. Council has a role in promoting health and wellbeing, as acknowledged in the five community wellbeing outcomes of Resilient Infrastructure, Enhanced Lifestyle, Diverse Economy, Sustainable Environment and Connected Citizens. These community outcomes are aligned with actions to improve the social, cultural, economic and environmental determinants of health.
9. The Long-Term Plan 2024-34 is an opportunity for Council to influence these determinants of health by prioritising funds for actions that support health and wellbeing. Initiatives to

² Public Health Advisory Committee. 2004. *The Health of People and Communities. A Way Forward: Public Policy and the Economic Determinants of Health*. Public Health Advisory Committee: Wellington.

³ Barton, H and Grant, M. (2006) A health map for the local human habitat. *The Journal of the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health* 126 (6), pp 252-253. <http://www.bne.uwe.ac.uk/who/healthmap/default.asp>

improve health and wellbeing outcomes must involve organisations and groups beyond the health sector, such as local government, if they are to have a significant impact.⁴ As highlighted within the Healthy Places, Healthy Lives report⁵, local government decisions and investments influence residents and communities' access to green space, recreational activities, healthy food, and employment opportunities. Equally, local government can influence how people travel to work or school, how clean the water and air is, and how resilient communities are to climate change or other natural hazards.

10. NPHS Te Waipounamu acknowledges the challenges and uncertainty faced by TDC in the context of major central government policy changes including the Water Services Act Repeal Bill, and the repeal of the Natural and Built Environment Act and Spatial Planning Act, and the recent draft Government Policy Statement for Land Transport. We appreciate that these significant changes in the policy landscape add complexity to Council planning; and we appreciate Council's consistency in the face of these changes to continue to support and provide critical health-promoting and health-protecting services to the residents and communities of the Timaru District.
11. NPHS Te Waipounamu also acknowledges the considerable challenges that Council has in financing the critical services that it provides to residents, communities, and businesses in the Timaru District. We acknowledge the findings and recommendations of *He piki tūrangā, he piki kōtuku*, on the future for local government⁶, which noted the considerable pressures on local government finance and highlighted the need for new funding streams and sustainable funding options. *He piki tūrangā, he piki kōtuku* noted that a stronger funding and commissioning relationship between central government and local government to support aligned priorities, particularly in areas such as housing, responses to climate change, and economic development, could relieve financial pressure on local governments and support local, innovative solutions to complex national problems. We note the difficulty in continuing to raise rates for residents and businesses, and that this is a long-term, unsustainable option for both local government and for communities across Aotearoa New Zealand.

⁴ McGinley JM, Williams-Russo P, Knickman JR. 2002. The case for more active policy attention to health promotion. *Health Affairs*, 21(2): 79 - 93.

⁵ Public Health Advisory Committee. 2010. *Healthy Places, Healthy Lives: Urban environments and wellbeing*. Wellington: Ministry of Health. <https://www.hpa.govt.nz/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Healthy-places-healthy-lives-PPHAC.pdf>

⁶ : Review into the Future for Local Government (2023) *He piki tūrangā, he piki kōtuku*. Wellington: New Zealand. https://www.dia.govt.nz/diawebsite.nsf/files/Future-for-Local-Government%20%28Te-Aotake_Final-report.pdf

Specific Comments

Balancing our approach to debt to deliver projects

12. NPHS Te Waipounamu acknowledges that Timaru District has been under-rated for a number of years, affecting Council's ability to invest in key infrastructure. NPHS Te Waipounamu particularly supports Council's proposed investment into drinking water, stormwater, and wastewater infrastructure. Ensuring that drinking water, stormwater, and wastewater assets are replaced if needed and are well-maintained is critical to drinking water and recreational water quality and public health outcomes. There is a clear and strong relationship between water quality and population health outcomes.

13. NPHS Te Waipounamu does not support deferring expenditure on new cycleways and walkways. We recommend that cycleways and walkways are included in the projects to be continued, alongside the arts, sports and water treatment upgrades.

Ensuring we balance income and costs

14. NPHS Te Waipounamu acknowledges the need for Council to increase rates to fund services and projects that promote social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing, and also recognises the financial pressures currently faced by many residents.

15. Equally, NPHS Te Waipounamu recognises the risks to public health from potential cuts to funding key services and infrastructure if rates do not increase. We also note the challenging economic conditions that we are facing in Aotearoa – New Zealand, and how this is affecting the cost of maintaining infrastructure and providing critical community services.

16. NPHS Te Waipounamu agrees that rate increases are required, and, for reasons of community wellbeing, we would like Council to explain options to provide rebates to those who are working to support communities, for example, organisations who provide affordable housing, or those under a certain income threshold.

17. As highlighted in *He piki tūranga, he piki kotuku*, the future for local government⁷, we note that the current model of funding local government functions and services is unsustainable,

⁷ Review into the Future for Local Government (2023) *He piki tūranga, he piki kotuku*. Wellington: New Zealand. [https://www.dia.govt.nz/diawebsite.nsf/Files/Future-for-Local-Government/\\$file/Te-Aotake_Final-report.pdf](https://www.dia.govt.nz/diawebsite.nsf/Files/Future-for-Local-Government/$file/Te-Aotake_Final-report.pdf)

and rates cannot continue to rise indefinitely. NPHS Te Waipounamu supports the development of stronger funding and commissioning relationships between central and local government.

Balancing the things you use with the things you enjoy

Transport

18. Transport and urban design are important determinants of health and can impact people's everyday behaviours and experiences. Road safety, vehicle emissions and air quality, physical activity levels and accessibility are some of the many factors associated with transport and urban design that have a profound impact on population health and wellbeing⁸.

19. NPHS Te Waipounamu strongly supports Council continuing to invest further into public transport infrastructure. Public transport is a critical means for many people to access education, employment, social services, healthcare and nutritious food, which is important for health and wellbeing and to mitigate social exclusion⁹. Lack of, or inadequate public transport can have material impacts on the wellbeing of individuals and communities. Increasing funding for MyWay can enable the community to access opportunities and services that contribute to their wellbeing. For example, in Aotearoa New Zealand a lack of transport was identified as a barrier to visiting a GP for disabled adults, adults living in more deprived areas, Māori and Pacific people of all ages and women compared to men.¹⁰

20. NPHS Te Waipounamu supports Council's continued investment in cycling and walking infrastructure, making it easier and safer for residents to get around. Enabling and supporting active transport can increase individual physical activity, and reduce air pollution, both of which have significant implications for population health.¹¹ NPHS Te Waipounamu notes that cycling infrastructure is needed in Timaru and completing these projects should remain a priority to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and enable better health and wellbeing outcomes for communities in the Timaru District. NPHS Te Waipounamu notes that newcomers to the district, including resettled former refugees, often use cycling

⁸ Shaw C, Randal E, Keall M, Woodward A. Health consequences of transport patterns in New Zealand's largest cities. *N Z Med J.* 2018;131(1472):64–72. Epub 2018/03/23. PMID:2956593

⁹ Libman T. (2012). Evaluating public transportation health benefits. Victoria, BC, Canada: Victoria Transport Policy Institute.

¹⁰ Environmental Health Intelligence. (2021). *Urgent need for GP services due to a lack of transport* [Factheet]. Wellington: Environmental Health Intelligence NZ, Massey University.

¹¹ Harrison, G., Grant-Muller, S. M., & Hodgson, F. C. (2022). Understanding the influence of new and emerging data forms on mobility behaviours and related health outcomes. *Journal of Transport & Health*, 24, 101335.

as a form of transport and recreation, especially among tamariki and rangatahi, enabling these families to integrate into our district.

Figure 2: Healthy Streets Indicators.



21. NPHS Te Waipounamu strongly supports the ongoing mahi to enable transport mode shift, and accessible, active lifestyles through TDC's Active Transport Strategy. The Healthy Streets Indicators, as outlined in the diagram below, are useful for understanding how cycling and walking infrastructure within the town can have benefits for health and wellbeing⁴. For example, improving cycle lanes, reducing traffic speeds, low traffic times or zones has the potential to contribute to several Healthy Street Indicators: People feel safe, People choose to walk and cycle, Clean air and Places to stop and rest (See Figure 2). The

School Travel Plans and Active Transport initiatives that we provide in partnership with council are showing significant change in travel mode shift among primary school children.

Parks and Greenspace

22. NPHS Te Waipounamu supports Council's investment in green spaces for community recreation and to provide protection for communities from impacts of climate change. NPHS Te Waipounamu notes the importance of greenspace and trees in the context of climate change, particularly to reduce potential heat-related illness in a heatwave event.¹² Urban communities are at risk of the urban heat island effect as many of the materials used in urban settings – brick, concrete and steel – trap heat and increase the overall temperature experienced in urban environments.¹³
23. NPHS Te Waipounamu strongly supports investment into native planting. Native plants play a crucial role in stabilising soil, offering long-term flood and erosion control, and can also provide beneficial shade for communities and habitat for native species. Prioritising native biodiversity planting can support native ecosystems and enable a healthier environment.

Housing

24. NPHS Te Waipounamu supports Council's investment into social housing. Housing is a critical determinant of health,¹⁴ ¹⁵ and the places people live are also important in enabling (or acting as barriers to) health and health-promoting behaviours. Council has the potential to support people in the Timaru District to access healthy, warm, sustainable and affordable housing.
25. NPHS Te Waipounamu supports the approach to invest in and enable infill development so that Council's infrastructure resources are used cost-effectively, and to explore options for

¹² Te Mana Ora. 2023. Climate Change and Health in Waitaha Canterbury: A scoping and profiling report to inform Health Impact Assessment. Ōtautahi Christchurch: Te Whatu Ora, Te Mana Ora, National Public Health Service. Accessed from: <https://www.cph.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/ClimateChangeHealthWaitahaCanterbury.pdf>

¹³ Te Mana Ora. 2023. Climate Change and Health in Waitaha Canterbury: A scoping and profiling report to inform Health Impact Assessment. Ōtautahi Christchurch: Te Whatu Ora, Te Mana Ora, National Public Health Service. Accessed from: <https://www.cph.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/ClimateChangeHealthWaitahaCanterbury.pdf>

¹⁴ Howden-Chapman, P., Fyfe, C., Nathan, K., Keell, M., Riggs, L., & Pierson, N. (2021). The effects of housing on health and well-being in aotearoa new zealand: Official newsletter of the new zealand demographic society. [Ngā Pānga Ō Ngā Whare Noho Ki Te Hauora Me Te ūiora | Aotearoa] New Zealand Population Review, Suppl:SPECIAL EDITION: Housing at the Heart of Place, People and Population, 47, 16-32. Retrieved from <https://www.proquest.com/scholarly-journals/effects-housing-on-health-well-being-aotearoa-newzealand/view/2575820278/se-2>

¹⁵ Bunker A, Birmighausen T, Woodward A, Bullen C. Housing structure and occupant behaviour to increase the environmental and health co-benefits of housing: Insights from expert interviews in New Zealand. *Indoor and Built Environment*. 2021;30(4):535-553. doi:10.1177/1420326X19889788

increasing charges to property services at the outset of developments where the long-term maintenance will be more expensive (for example, green fields developments, using targeted rates).

Balancing user pays with common good

26. NPHS Te Waipounamu supports Option 1 – limit fee increases. In addition, introducing a Community Services Cardholder rate for community services will enable low-income families and households to access key services such as swimming pools with benefits to whānau wellbeing and physical health. We note that CBay access for people over 65 is reduced price and is free for those 80 and over, however, there is no discount for other groups that have lower incomes.

Infrastructure Strategy

27. NPHS Te Waipounamu reiterates our support for prioritising investment into drinking water, stormwater, and wastewater infrastructure. We also support bringing forward work on the Caroline Bay Pump Station to enhance the resilience of Caroline Bay sooner than Year 8.
28. NPHS Te Waipounamu suggests that Council accelerates adaptation planning and creates a Climate Resilience Fund manage the dynamic nature of climate change (for example, coastal erosion). We recommend prioritising this work to protect communities and reduce the worst negative health and wellbeing outcomes of climate change.
29. Climate change can affect health and wellbeing outcomes directly through exposure to climate hazards causing injuries and mortalities; and indirectly through greater risk of food and water borne diseases, vector borne diseases, food insecurity, community displacement, lack of access or loss of critical infrastructure, loss of employment, and financial insecurity; all of which have social and economic consequences.¹⁶ A recent report that we produced further outlines the human health and wellbeing impacts of climate change in Waitaha Canterbury.¹⁷ The figure below shows how climate hazards can cause health and wellbeing impacts through various impacts and pathways (Figure 3). Council

¹⁶ Cassé, G., R. McLaman, H. Adams, P. Aldunce, K. Bowen, D. Campbell-Lendrum, S. Clayton, K.L. Ebi, J. Hess, C. Huang, Q. Liu, G. McGregor, J. Semenza, and M.C. Tiede (2022). Health, Wellbeing, and the Changing Structure of Communities. In: *Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, M. Tignor, E.S. Poloczanska, K. Mintembeck, A. Alegría, M. Craig, S. Langsdorf, S. Löschke, V. Möller, A. Okem, B. Rama (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK and New York, NY, USA, pp. 1041–1170. doi:10.1017/9781009325844.009.

¹⁷ Te Mana Ora. (2023). *Climate Change and Health in Waitaha Canterbury: A scoping and profiling report to inform Health Impact Assessment*. Ōtautahi Christchurch: Te Whatu Ora, Te Mana Ora, National Public Health Service. <https://www.sph.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/ClimateChangeHealthWaitahaCanterbury.pdf>

can lessen the impacts of climate change on the health and wellbeing of communities and households, by building resilience into the pathways within Figure 3, through critical adaptation planning and through initiatives funded by the Climate Resilience Fund.

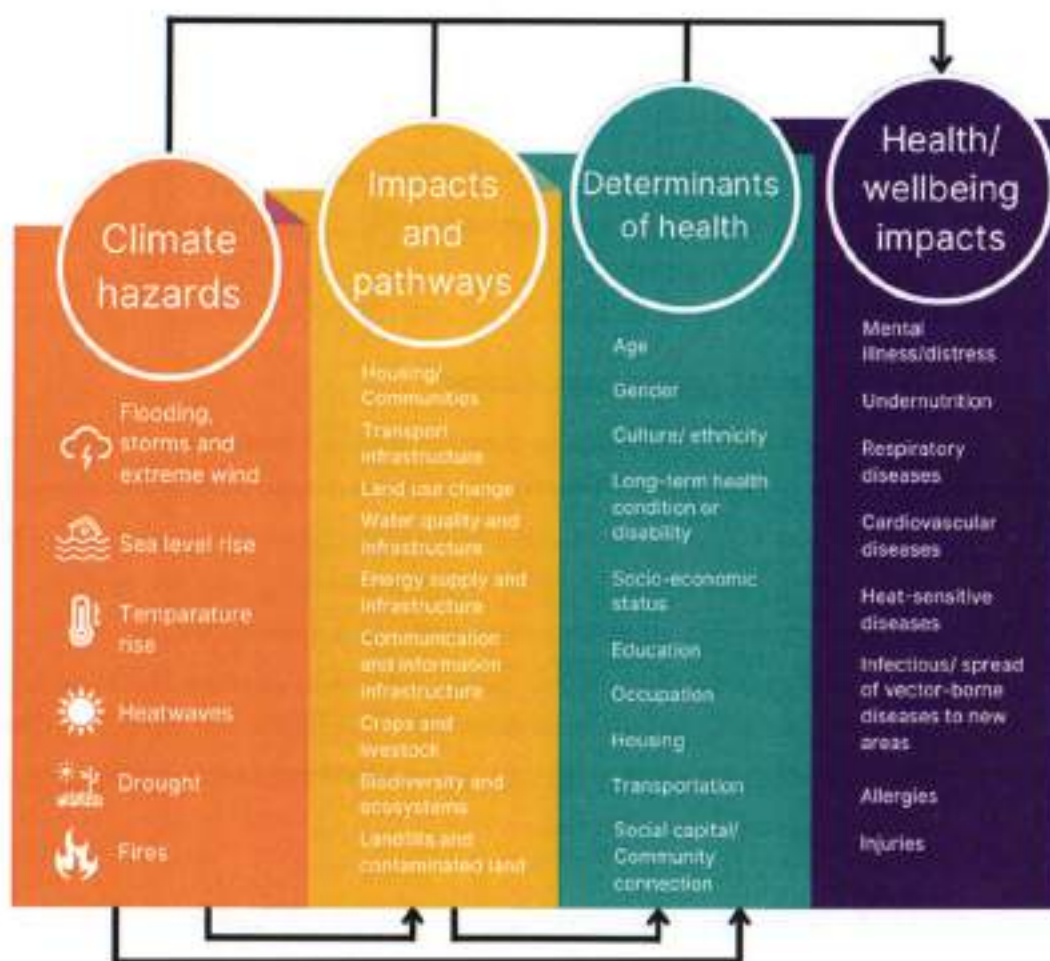


Figure 3: Direct and indirect effects of climate change on health and wellbeing ³⁰

30. NPHS Te Waipounamu also notes that the timing of adaptation planning and implementation matters. Proactive adaptation planning and measures can maximise the co-benefits for health and equity, and best support efforts to protect and promote

³⁰ Te Mana Ora. (2023). Climate Change and Health in Waikato Canterbury: A scoping and profiling report to inform Health Impact Assessment. Ōtautahi Christchurch: Te Whatu Ora, Te Mana Ora, National Public Health Service. <https://www.cph.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/ClimateChangeHealthWaikatoCanterbury.pdf>

wellbeing.¹⁹ Late or poorly planned adaptations can lead to maladaptive actions that can result in worse health outcomes and increase inequities in a community.

31. NPHS Te Waipounamu supports Council's approach to consider climate change impacts across all its capital and operational spending and work programmes, for example, the way that sea level rise and soil erosion may affect landfills, water infrastructure and water quality.
32. NPHS Te Waipounamu therefore supports investing in the asset renewal programme and increasing Council's debt cap, maintaining the ability to borrow further should emergency needs arise.

Significance and Engagement Policy

33. NPHS Te Waipounamu strongly supports Council's vision "Where people, place and business prosper within a healthy, adaptable and regenerative environment" (LTP 2021-31). We encourage Council to take an integrated planning approach to all its decisions to support this vision. Integrated planning involves taking a holistic view of health and wellbeing to plan in ways that build stronger and more sustainable social, environmental, and economic outcomes. NPHS Te Waipounamu recommends Council uses the Integrated Planning Guide to consider how determinants of health are affected by Council decision making.²⁰ We welcome the opportunity to collaborate with Council to support health and wellbeing in the Timaru District.
34. NPHS Te Waipounamu notes that Council prioritises working in partnership with manawhenua and Māori, and that Aoraki Environmental Services are key partners. We also note that many key priorities of Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua are related to environmental protection. We recommend that Council continue their mahi to include manawhenua in their work towards community outcomes, particularly the outcome of: a sustainable environment. Manawhenua are kaitiaki (guardians) of the whenua (land), and mātauranga Māori can provide critical knowledge to support good decision making in protecting and restoring the environment.

¹⁹ Harrison, S. R. (2022). Climate change adaptation for health and wellbeing: A participatory modelling approach (Thesis, Doctor of Philosophy). University of Otago. Retrieved from <http://hdl.handle.net/10523/13289>

²⁰ Health in All Policies Team, Te Manu Ora/Community and Public Health (2022). *Integrated Planning Guide for a healthy, sustainable and resilient future - version 3.2*. Christchurch, New Zealand: Te Whatu Ora.

35. Additionally, NPHS Te Waipounamu notes that Council's vision is supported and enabled by its commitment to work in partnership, particularly with manawhenua, as outlined in the Significance and Engagement Policy. NPHS Te Waipounamu recommends that the Council's responsibility and commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi is strengthened to reflect the partnership of Council as a Crown entity with manawhenua and aligns with the "Working with manawhenua" document. We recommend using 'Te Tiriti o Waitangi' and including the following sentences (and amendment) from "Working with manawhenua" into the Policy at the beginning of the section on relationship with Māori (currently titled 'Māori'): Significance and Engagement Policy, Page 5 - Relationship with Māori as follows:

The Council recognises Kati Huirapa o Arowhenua holds manawhenua status from the Rakaia to Waitaki rivers, including the Timaru District. As Crown partners under Te Tiriti o Waitangi the Timaru District Council recognises its obligations and responsibilities to hearing from and listening to manawhenua priorities and leadership.

36. NPHS Te Waipounamu prioritises health and wellbeing outcomes for Māori and Pacific people, and people living in areas of high socio-economic deprivation who still experience inequitable health outcomes compared to non-Māori/Pacific people and people not living in areas of low socio-economic deprivation²¹. Through partnership with communities, manawhenua, Pacific peoples, and other community groups and non-government organisations, Council can support more equitable outcomes for Timaru District residents.
37. NPHS Te Waipounamu encourages Council to continue to explore opportunities to engage with the growing Pacific community in the Timaru District. We encourage Council to consider developing a Pacific Strategy to support the goals and vision of the Pacific community in the district. *Kapasa*²² is a policy development tool created by the Ministry of Pacific Peoples to support engagement with Pacific communities and provides guidance for such a strategy.

²¹ Health New Zealand Te Whatu Ora. (February 2024). Health Status Report 2023: Executive Summary. Wellington: Health New Zealand Te Whatu Ora: <https://www.tewhaturora.govt.nz/publications/health-status-report/>

²² Ministry for Pacific Peoples (September 2022). *Kapasa: The Pacific Policy Analysis Tool*. [Kapasa.pdf \(mpp.govt.nz\)](https://www.mpp.govt.nz/kapasa.pdf)

Conclusion

38. NPHS Te Waipounamu does not wish to be heard in support of this submission.

39. If others make a similar submission, the submitter will not consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Timaru District Council Long Term Plan.

Ngā mihi,



Vince Barry

Regional Director
National Public Health Service
Te Waipounamu Region

Contact details

Andrea Grant

For and on behalf of NPHS Te Waipounamu


[TeWhatuOra.govt.nz](https://tewhatuora.govt.nz)

Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



We are writing to you as a group with a significant stake in the outcome of the current deliberations on the future of the stadium complex who do not feel recognized as "stakeholders" in the process.

Aorangi Stadium includes a gymnasium with a wide range of equipment for weight training and other exercises typically used for "fitness circuit" classes. This area can accommodate up to 50 people in a single class.

Whilst many of the services provided by this facility are now catered for by the C Bay complex near Caroline Bay, Aorangi Stadium remains the preferred venue for Timaru senior citizens formal exercise classes. Around 7 one hour classes are run during the Monday to Friday working week throughout the year. These classes are attended by Timaru seniors equating to in excess of 200 "man hours" per week making this group of individuals collectively a principal user of this facility during the working week throughout the entire year.

Most of us pay \$5.50 per 1 hour session for these classes. Some individuals are funded to attend by 3rd parties.

Why don't we use C Bay?

C Bay does not have the space to accommodate a group of our size.

Seniors generally prefer to exercise in a non-competitive environment catering to their diverse needs dictated by the typical issues experienced by our cohort. (A cohort which is predicted to continue growing as a proportion of the Timaru population)

During weekdays Aorangi is easily accessed by foot, bicycle and car by the majority of users.

A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

You are currently deliberating over the option of building a new facility at Aorangi or upgrading the current facility. We acknowledge that either way we will lose the use of Aorangi Stadium for a period of time. Obviously our preference would be for a solution that minimizes disruption to our use of the gym.

We have made preliminary enquiries about alternative venues. The main problem is the heavy gym equipment has to remain in the one place throughout the period as regular moving and resetting up is impractical. This precludes the use of most alternative sites.

We also note there are competing interests from other stadium users for the space that we currently occupy and some of these claims are for further space for sports administration. Whilst not diminishing their needs we would argue that as active users of the space for our health and wellbeing this should prioritize our use in this facility over administration which changes brought about by covid 19 have proved can be carried out almost anywhere.

Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

NAME *Ms. Lilian Crowe*

ADDRESS



PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE



*Fitness - Physical - less falls therefore less GP visits less A&E visits less ER visits less hospital admissions less aged care admissions.
mental - less depression less loneliness.
All in all a big saving on the health of.*

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NAME WARWICK KEARINS

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE





Timaru District Council Long Term Plan 2024

Finding the Balance – Join the conversation.

ltp@timdc.govt.nz | www.timaru.govt.nz/ltp/submit | (03) 687 7200

Submission on behalf of the South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce

Introduction

Thank you for providing the opportunity to make a submission on the Timaru District Council's Long Term Plan. The Chamber acknowledges the effort, the intent and the work that has gone into planning the district's future.

The South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce is the voice of South Canterbury business, serving the community since 1905. With over 520 member businesses and with a strong national and international Chamber family, we work together to build business success. We recognise that healthy businesses lead to the improved wellbeing of all South Cantabrian's.

We are a not-for profit - organisation and the largest business support agency in South Canterbury.

South Canterbury businesses and our community have battled through a range of challenges over the last few years and continue to invest and grow our three wonderful districts.

Our businesses have great aspirations for their future, their people, and the districts they have chosen to call home.

Across the country and within our three districts businesses face the challenges of stalling productivity and growth, plus being faced with high inflation and a global economic slowdown.

The feedback that follows is collated from a range of business leaders, across a wide number of sectors and from every size and scale of business. The commentary also reflects the current operating environment.

General Comments

Enablement

The business community is dependent upon local government to provide the settings that "enable" business growth and to allow businesses to flourish. The Long Term Plan needs to focus on supporting business – this is not clearly evident throughout the document. The rating differential demonstrates the huge financial contribution made by businesses and the need for investment by the TDC in long term aspirational goals for our business community is essential.

This philosophy needs to be embedded into all operational activities and long term planning and is not simply the objective of the economic development agency and tourism organisation.

Our members applaud and appreciate the focus on long term critical infrastructure and urge the Council to review the capital spend and categorise into “must have” rather than “nice to have.”

The commentary on the impact of lowering the debt cap that states “we will be unable to replace critical infrastructure and upgrade community facilities within a reasonable timeframe;” infers that these capital projects are being aligned rather than priority given to infrastructure. The split of capital expenditure should be focused more heavily on essential infrastructure and underlining this view is also the need to achieve the best value for money and the most effective use of rate payer funds.

Members have asked that the Council adopts a more enabling pro-active approach seeking to support business and economic development. Examples provided include the processes followed to new or expanding businesses – and asks that the TDC seeks solutions and provides guidance and support. Review is also recommended of the work undertaken in Stafford Street and priority given to enabling a range of businesses to operate within the CBD rather than placing historical limitations and that the lengthy and expensive consultancy work should have better targeted.

Rates

All our businesses are impacted by the same inflationary pressures and rising costs faced by Council, yet few would be comfortable increasing prices by 15%. The Council is in a position where rate payers do not have a choice and therefore carry a responsibility to ensure that complacency does not set in around cost control and expenditure. The feedback from members is that the Council needs to be seen to demonstrate improving efficiencies, removing bureaucracy, and ensuring staffing levels and capability meet current and future demands with a focus on supporting sustainable economic growth.

With a significant rates increase forecast close to doubling over 10 years, businesses and households may simply not be in a position to afford these significant increases. The overall increase in rates collected is proposed to be 15% in 2024/25, 12% in 2025/26 and 12% in 2026/27 beyond this three year period proposed rates have a strong possibility of change. It is also worthy of note that these figures will be based upon the most recent Quotable Values.

Other assumptions that could lead to an increase in rates income could focus on planned expansion and growth – this does not appear to be a factor included in the calculations or within the plan.

Rating Differentials

The current rating system already has an approved differential base with commercial businesses paying significantly higher rates – (see page 9 of the LTP) it is therefore incomprehensible to be implementing an additional BID targeted rate on 275 properties within the CBD at this time. This BID or targeted rate will be hitting arguably the most vulnerable businesses based within the CBD during an economic downturn. This additional targeted rate should be delayed and considered alongside the rating differential review (understood to be

implemented in 2025) in the interim if the BID is determined to be critical then funds used from within the existing rate take or funds dedicated to the CityTown project (now on hold) should be used. Members have also raised the fact that building owners were surveyed about the BID targeted rate and yet it will be the business owners operating in the leased premises that will be paying the additional rate!

Debt Levels

The level of debt proposed in the LTP has been raised as an area of deep concern and that the limitations created by this debt may prohibit appropriate mitigation or recovery plans needed due to climate change for example the Rangitata floods.

The debt levels being proposed are based on raising the current Council approved cap from 2.1 (210%) of income to 2.5 (250%) of income at a time when TDC has now revised their financial position to an operating loss of approximately \$13m and presumably has now lost the dividend payments from Alpine Energy. Economic growth has slowed and the appetite for risk should be reduced.

The Theatre Royal and Heritage Hub

The Theatre Royal and Heritage Hub have minimal focus in the LTP document despite keen interest from the business community.

As previously reported members in general are in support of a theatre/arts/cultural centre being developed however **70%** of the respondents to a Chamber survey are concerned or deeply concerned about the level of spend being proposed. There was significant commentary on the huge increases in costs to date and further increases anticipated, that have pushed this project into unaffordable territory. A number of respondents proposed a full review and that other options need consideration – many were in favour of a new build fit for future generations. Many suggestions also included a multi-use events/conference facility perhaps in a different location such as the bay with improved access and parking and prioritisation of projects that have a clear return to the community.

Two thirds of the respondents opposed the development at an estimated \$57.1m spend and said NO to the development going ahead. While a few supported the project but with caveats including needing a supporting business case, that the costs need to be sorted, that this needs to be an event/conference centre too and that this should be subject to viability and evidence of the economic benefits plus rationalisation of present facilities including the Art gallery.

Well under a third of respondents answered YES. Commentary here focussed on boosting the South end of town, the need for a cultural centre, and that a vibrant city needs a modern and well-functioning arts centre. Concerns were still raised by a number of these respondents about the huge increase in costs, the time delays and whether this investment would curb and limit other essential spend and how difficult decision making is for the public without understanding the full infrastructure spend.

The South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce Board has unanimously opposed the current \$57.1m theatre and heritage facility development. The board does in general terms support the need for a theatre/arts/cultural centre, but they do not support the level of spend proposed as

this will leave minimal/no headroom for unforeseen events and associated necessary expenditure.

Charges and Fees

In general terms the Chamber does support efforts to increase cost recovery from user pay methods where it is appropriate to do this and where it does not prohibit economic activity and growth.

Working Efficiencies, Transparency and Commercial/Business Support

In the current climate members ask that the TDC respects the need to review, and revisit planned investments and operational expenditure. Cutting costs and cutting services are not the same – members have asked that the Council reviews and manages expenditure more tightly as other commercial operators are doing.

Members have also asked that expenditure on significant projects are not approved without due diligence and clearly articulated business plans – The Theatre Royal and Heritage Hub are specific examples and that to proceed without this work lacks prudent management. No commercial entity would proceed with a \$57.1m capital expenditure without a clear and peer reviewed business case.

Closing Comments

Our South Canterbury businesses require certainty, confidence, trust, and enablement in the relationship with local government and ask that commercial practices overlay the local government operations. South Canterbury businesses invest and contribute significantly to the success of this district, the place they have chosen to make their home. There is huge appreciation of the work undertaken by Council and the focus on reinvesting in long term critical infrastructure is applauded but caution is urged around certain projects. A philosophy of greater enablement is also sought with a longer term vision for growth.

Submitted on behalf of the South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce

We would like to speak to our submission.



Wendy Smith
Chief Executive

 | www.scchamber.org.nz

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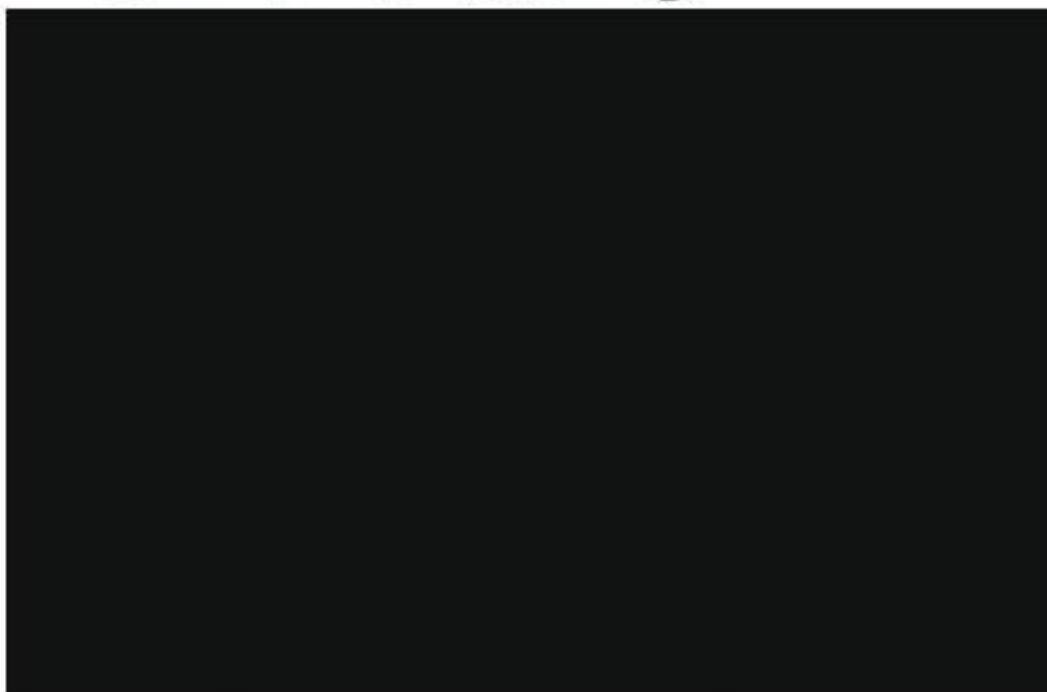
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Aorangi stadium is a facility for many sporting codes some of whose members made considerable contributions to its development. A number of those individuals are now active senior citizens using Aorangi gym. Providing this facility for senior citizens is an acknowledgement of that contribution. Such goodwill is likely to maintain legacy support for community facilities.

Wilhelmina A Russell



Open letter to the Timaru District Council regarding the future of Aorangi Stadium for the active gym users



We are writing to you as a group with a significant stake in the outcome of the current deliberations on the future of the stadium complex who do not feel recognized as "stakeholders" in the process.

Aorangi Stadium includes a gymnasium with a wide range of equipment for weight training and other exercises typically used for "fitness circuit" classes. This area can accommodate up to 50 people in a single class.

Whilst many of the services provided by this facility are now catered for by the C Bay complex near Caroline Bay, Aorangi Stadium remains the preferred venue for Timaru senior citizens formal exercise classes. Around 7 one hour classes are run during the Monday to Friday working week throughout the year. These classes are attended by Timaru seniors equating to in excess of 200 "man hours" per week making this group of individuals collectively a principal user of this facility during the working week throughout the entire year.

Most of us pay \$5.50 per 1hour session for these classes. Some individuals are funded to attend by 3rd parties.

Why don't we use C Bay?

C Bay does not have the space to accommodate a group of our size.

Seniors generally prefer to exercise in a non-competitive environment catering to their diverse needs dictated by the typical issues experienced by our cohort. (A cohort which is predicted to continue growing as a proportion of the Timaru population)

During weekdays Aorangi is easily accessed by foot, bicycle and car by the majority of users.

A C Bay gym membership is beyond the means of some of us.

Senior citizens are a significant proportion of the local population. Keeping this group fit and active makes sense for the individual and the wider community. With promotion these fitness classes could attract even greater uptake.

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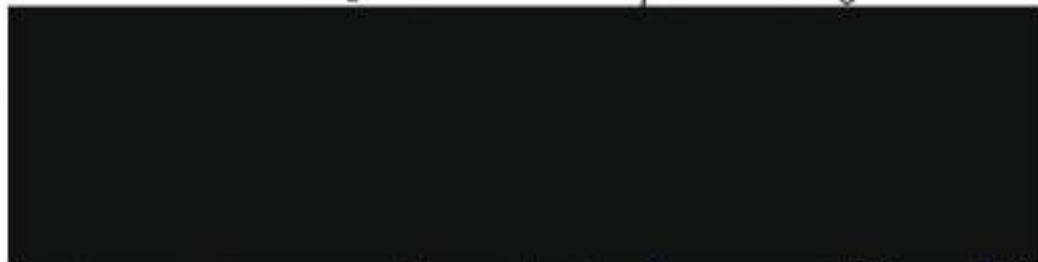
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W Parkes - Dip Phys Ed OU 1959

Wm Parkes' - age = 83



PS In early 1975 I ran the first exercise class in the newly completed stadium - there was a nationwide promotion called Come Alive in 75 and I would be very cross & extremely saddened if 50yrs later in 2025 I was told there were no facilities for me to exercise in at the stadium!

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NAME *Juonne Howes*

ADDRESS [Redacted]

PHONE [Redacted]

EMAIL [Redacted]

SIGNATURE [Redacted]

There is also the thought that the majority also put money into the Stadium when it was build .i.e Stadium stakes. Our children have used this sporting area and our grandchildren now do. So that is 3 generations using it, the older one is still very important.

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Yvonne M. Cully

