

Council Meeting - 27 May 2020

Meeting is held in the Council Chamber, Level 2, Philip Laing House
144 Rattray Street, Dunedin



Members:

Hon Marian Hobbs, Chairperson	Cr Gary Kelliher
Cr Michael Laws, Deputy Chairperson	Cr Kevin Malcolm
Cr Hilary Calvert	Cr Andrew Noone
Cr Michael Deaker	Cr Gretchen Robertson
Cr Alexa Forbes	Cr Bryan Scott
Cr Carmen Hope	Cr Kate Wilson

Senior Officer: Sarah Gardner, Chief Executive

Meeting Support: Liz Spector, Committee Secretary

27 May 2020 01:00 PM

Agenda Topic	Page
1. APOLOGIES No apologies were received prior to publication of the agenda.	
2. ATTENDANCE Staff present will be identified.	
3. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA Note: Any additions must be approved by resolution with an explanation as to why they cannot be delayed until a future meeting.	
4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST Members are reminded of the need to stand aside from decision-making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected representative and any private or other external interest they might have.	
5. PUBLIC FORUM Members of the public may request to speak to the Council.	
6. PRESENTATION	4
6.1 Cosy Homes Charitable Trust 2019 Air Quality Improvement Activities	4
6.1.1 Attachment 1: Cosy Homes Charitable Trust 2019 Air Quality Improvement Activities	5
7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	11
7.1 Minutes of the 22 April 2020 Council Meeting	11

7.2	Minutes of the 6 May 2020 Extraordinary Council Meeting	19
8.	ACTIONS (Status of Council Resolutions)	22
9.	CHAIRPERSON'S AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORTS	24
9.1	Chairperson's Report	24
9.2	Chief Executive's Report	27
10.	MATTERS FOR COUNCIL DECISION	31
10.1	COVID-19 Recovery Framework	31
	To provide an update on the Otago Regional Council's COVID-19 Recovery Framework, and next steps.	
10.1.1	Attachment 1: ORC COVID-19 Internal Response Framework	38
10.2	Fare Collection Reinstatement	43
	This paper seeks decisions from Council on reinstating fares on Dunedin and Queenstown bus services and the fares to be charged to enable deployment of the new electronic ticketing system.	
10.3	February 2020 Flood Recovery - Progress and Estimated Costs	55
	To update Council on progress with recovery from the December 2019 and February 2020 floods and the financial implications for ORC.	
10.3.1	Appendix 1: Progress and Revised Flood Damage Priorities 2020.05.15	66
10.3.2	Appendix 2: NEMA and CIP Shovel Ready Funding Application Details	70
10.3.3	Appendix 3: Flood Protection Schemes background and maps	77
10.3.4	Appendix 4: Priority 1 Flood Damage - location and selected completed repairs	81
10.3.5	Appendix 5: Priority 2 Flood damage - location and details of repairs required	88
10.3.6	Appendix 6: Emergency Response Fund creation	96
10.4	Proposed Governance Structure for developing a new Land and Water Regional Plan	101
	This report provides further detail on the proposed governance structure for the Land & Water Regional Plan (LWRP) following the discussion at the Strategy and Planning Committee meeting on 13 May 2020.	
11.	MATTERS FOR NOTING	107
11.1	RPS Consultation Summary	107
	To provide council with a summary of the data collected from the completed phase one, and partially completed phase two, pre-notification community consultation programme for the RPS Review 2020 undertaken across February and March 2020.	
11.1.1	Attachment 1: RPS Community Consultation Summary Report	110
11.2	Spatial Variation of Air Quality in Wanaka	150
	To report the results of a study undertaken in Wanaka to inform the most appropriate location for the new permanent, continuous air quality monitoring station.	

12.	RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED AT COMMITTEE MEETINGS	158
	Recommendations made by Committees to be formally adopted by Council.	
12.1	Strategy and Planning Committee Recommendations 13 May 2020	158
12.2	Regulatory Committee Recommendations 11 March 2020	160
12.3	Infrastructure Committee Recommendations 11 March 2020	162
13.	NOTICES OF MOTION	163
13.1	Notice of Motion - Commerce Commission Submission on Aurora Energy Price Increase	163
14.	CLOSURE	

6.1. Presentation of Cosy Homes Trust 2019 Annual Activity Report

Prepared for: Council
Report No. P&S1853
Activity: Environmental - Clean Air Implementation Initiatives
Author: Sarah Harrison, Air Quality Scientist
Endorsed by: Gwyneth Elsum, General Manager Strategy, Policy and Science
Date: 27 May 2020

PURPOSE

- [1] To fulfil article 6.1.6 of the Memorandum of Understanding between ORC and the Cosy Homes Trust. Cosy Homes Trust Project Manager Jeremy Baker will be present to speak to the report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [2] In November 2018 the ORC and the Cosy Homes Trust (CHT) signed an MoU to define their working relationship, following the ORC's air quality strategy adoption in June that year.
- [3] The ORC 2018-2028 LTP approved an allocation of \$45,000 per annum for years one to three, for working in Air Zone 1 towns and Milton.
- [4] The objective of the MoU is to work together towards the goal of providing warm homes and clean air to the residents of the towns mentioned above. CHT are to provide assistance with the air quality strategy where it relates to domestic heating.
- [5] The responsibilities of the CHT are listed in section 6 of the MoU.
- [6] Article 6.1.6 states that an annual programme activity report is to be submitted to ORC.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives this report.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Cosy Homes Trust Annual Air Quality Activities 2019 [6 pages]

Cosy Homes Charitable Trust
258 Stuart Street 9016 | PO Box 446 9054 | Dunedin
021 999 395
info@cosyhomes.org.nz



20 February 2020

Cosy Homes Report to Otago Regional Council
2019 Air Quality Improvement Activities

Background

The Cosy Homes Charitable Trust (“the Trust”) is an NGO working to improve the health, warmth and energy efficiency of Otago’s housing stock through advocacy, high level cross sector collaboration, and education.

The Otago Regional Council is the agency responsible for ensuring air quality in the region meets Ministry for the Environment standards.

There is a history of air quality standard breaches in five designated “Air Zone” or airshed towns in the Otago region: Arrowtown, Clyde, Cromwell, Alexandra, and Milton. There is a strong evidence base that these breaches are nearly caused by conditions related to domestic home heating, namely solid fuel burners such as wood and coal burners, combined with geographical and meteorological conditions trapping the pollution at ground level. Specifically, residents are: using outdated burners with higher levels of emissions and lower levels of efficiency than meet today’s standards, burning coal, burning wet wood, burning rubbish, not using good burning techniques/practices including maintenance of their burning equipment, not using a whole house performance approach (ie, don’t have insulation and therefore use more solid fuel) or some combination of these factors.

Otago Regional Council has an existing finance programme, Clean Heat/Clean Air, which assists property owners with a subsidy to replace older, less efficient and higher emitting burners with clean heating. This subsidy has been underutilised in recent years.

There is a large crossover of people living in cold, damp homes who are also contributing to the air quality issues in the Air Zone towns. A whole home performance evaluation and solution is the best approach to solve issues faced by both ORC and Cosy Homes.

The Collaboration

The Trust and Otago Regional Council are working together on solutions to simultaneously improve air quality in the region and to improve the health, warmth and energy efficiency of homes in the Air Zone towns. This is guided by a Memorandum of Understanding outlining roles, objectives, remuneration for services and reporting requirements, including:

1.0 Responsibilities

- 1.1 The CHT agrees to provide assistance with the following activities:
 - 1.1.1 Strategic planning related to the development of local air quality programmes.
 - 1.1.2 Coordination of public events highlighting clean heating appliances.
 - 1.1.3 Development of community-facing communications.
 - 1.1.4 Organisation of, and presentation at, community meetings.
 - 1.1.5 Development of strategic community networks including, but not limited to, social service agencies, clean heating service providers/installers, local councils staff and elected members, and neighbourhood/community groups.
 - 1.1.6 Annual programme activity reporting to ORC.

- 1.2 The ORC agrees to:

“Everyone lives in a warm and healthy home”

Cosy Homes Charitable Trust
258 Stuart Street 9016 | PO Box 446 9054 | Dunedin
021 999 395
info@cosyhomes.org.nz



- 1.2.1 Designate a staff member familiar with the council's air quality work programme as a liaison to work with CHT. The liaison will provide guidance on the council's strategic direction and programme activities.
- 1.2.2 Provide \$45,000 per annum for years 1 to 3. Year one, as agreed, will be paid upon receipt of invoice. Subsequent annual funding will be released following receipt of the annual CHT report and subsequent invoice.

- 1.3 The CHT's role is to assist the ORC by:
 - 1.3.1 Facilitating the uptake of the Clean Heat Clean Air programme to replace "inefficient" burners in Air Zone 1 towns and Milton – refer clause 5.1.1.
 - 1.3.2 Connecting households to any additional financial resources that assist with the uptake of clean heating appliances (ex: Voluntary Targeted Rates programmes).
 - 1.3.3 Educating householders for reduced emissions from compliant burners – refer clause 5.1.2.
 - 1.3.4 Educating homeowners on available ultra-low emission heating appliances – refer clause 5.1.3.
 - 1.3.5 Educating householders on home performance and energy efficiency improvements or behaviours that will result in a reduction of solid fuel burning emissions.

This report summarises the activities undertaken by Cosy Homes in 2019 to satisfy the expectations and requirements of both parties in regards to air quality work as outlined in the MOU.

History

Significant background work largely took place in 2018, with the development of a new Air Quality Strategy and subsequent Implementation Plan adopted by the Regional Council in late 2018. The Trust worked alongside Policy Analyst Sylvie Leduc and Air Scientist Deborah Mills to advise on community conditions, whole home performance as it relates to air quality, and lessons learned from the Cosy Homes/ORC Milton Air Quality Pilot Programme that was active in 2017/18.

In late 2018, the Cosy Homes Trust was approached by ORC Councillor Ella Lawton after a meeting with the Arrowtown Village Association, which was requesting help from the Council to specifically address ongoing air quality issues in their community. Cr. Lawton saw the alignment of Cosy Homes' work, ORC's responsibilities around air quality, and the community's interest in taking action.

Given the community's desire to work together with ORC, and ORC's good working relationship with Cosy Homes Trust in regards to developing the Air Quality Strategy and Implementation Plan, along with the Milton Pilot Programme, Arrowtown became the first focus of the Work Plan in 2019, with community specific contexts considered.

"Everyone lives in a warm and healthy home"

Cosy Homes Charitable Trust
 258 Stuart Street 9016 | PO Box 446 9054 | Dunedin
 021 999 395
 info@cosyhomes.org.nz



2019 Cosy Homes Activities

The following outlines these activities as it relates to the roles and responsibilities in the MOU as above:

<p>Strategic planning related to the development of local air quality programmes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cosy Homes held meetings and planning activities that involved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ORC policy, science, compliance and communications/engagement staff ○ Public Health South ○ Arrowtown Village Association ○ Arrowtown Clean Air Trust ○ ORC Councillor for Arrowtown, Ella Lawton ○ QLDC Councillor for Arrowtown, Scott Stevens ○ QLDC communications staff ○ NIWA Scientist Ian Longley • Research on local conditions, including meetings with community members, touring the town with Trustees of the Clean Air Trust to identify areas of pollution concentration, census research, etc.
<p>Coordination of public events highlighting clean heating appliances</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cosy Homes organised and ran a Clean Heating Expo held in late May 2019 in the heart of Arrowtown featuring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Multiple clean heating installers registered with the Clean Heat Clean Air programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ultra low emission burners were featured ○ Two insulation installers ○ NIWA Scientists recruiting participants for their Arrowtown air quality research project and demonstrating the technology used both inside and outside in the project ○ ORC policy, communications and compliance staff promoting Clean Heat/Clean Air subsidies and answering questions around compliance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Arrowtown ORC Councillor Ella Lawton was present throughout the day ○ An Eco Design Advisor/home performance expert hired by Cosy Homes to provide independent advice and education on a range of home performance issues and challenges ○ Public Health South featured their research on air quality and health impacts completed in Southland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DHB Commissioner and Arrowtown resident Jean O’Callaghan also attended ○ QLDC building and consent staff ○ Attended by approximately 85-100 Arrowtown residents
<p>Development of community-facing communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisting ORC communications staff with changes to the Clean Heat/Clean Air website <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Update with new thresholds, new installers ○ Include information on other resources including EECA subsidies and links to Cosy Homes • Assisting ORC communications staff with development of a new brochure for Clean Heat/Clean Air • Assisting ORC communications staff with the development of the “Burn Dry, Breathe Easy” campaign <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Professional video produced featuring local Arrowtown residents, shared on social media via ORC, Arrowtown Village Association, Public Health, Cosy Homes, and QLDC channels • Cosy Homes became the referral agency when calls regarding heating/insulation/burning came into the regional council • Reviewing language used in ORC compliance communications (ex: notification of smoky chimneys)
<p>Organisation of, and presentation at, community meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint ORC/Cosy Homes stalls at two April dates of the Arrowtown Farmers Market to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Introduce staff and signal air quality work in 2019

“Everyone lives in a warm and healthy home”

Cosy Homes Charitable Trust
 258 Stuart Street 9016 | PO Box 446 9054 | Dunedin
 021 999 395
 info@cosyhomes.org.nz



- Promote Clean Heat/Clean Air and EECA subsidies
- Promote the NIWA Arrowtown air quality research project
- Provide education around home performance and good burning practices
- Sell subsidised firewood moisture meters to residents of the Otago region
- Answer questions around compliance with burning rules
- Promoted by ORC, Cosy Homes, AVA, QLDC and the Farmers Market
- A “Science Night” Lecture in early May at the Arrowtown Athaeneum Hall featuring NIWA Scientist Ian Longley presenting their air quality project and recruiting participants
 - Attended by 50 Arrowtown residents
- Cosy Homes held monthly drop-in office hours sessions from May – September 2019, including weekend, evening and daytime availability at multiple locations throughout Arrowtown.
 - Residents attended with questions about Clean Heat/Clean Air, insulation, new tenancy laws regarding healthy homes requirements, moisture issues and more.
 - Education was the focus, including about the available financial resource.
- Cosy Homes did home visits to Arrowtown residents who received compliance notices from ORC and requested additional assistance with education around firewood, good burning techniques and available subsidies.
 - Three home visits were requested and completed.
- A November “Firewood Expo” event held at the Arrowtown Farmers Market featuring:
 - Wayne “The Firewood Guy” Braden offering firewood specials and answering questions about wood types, and good burning technique
 - A free raffle for 3m of blue gum, courtesy of the Firewood Guy
 - “Dan the Chimney Man” chimney cleaning services offering fire safety information and scheduling services for Arrowtown residents
 - ORC compliance staff answering questions about regulations, selling subsidised firewood moisture meters
 - Cosy Homes staff answering questions about Clean Heat/Clean Air, EECA subsidies and general home performance advice
 - Engagement with an estimated 125 community members
- Cosy Homes presented joint ORC/Cosy Homes air quality work at their biannual stakeholder meetings in June and December 2019; stakeholder meetings are attended by approximately 50 different groups working locally, regionally and nationally; ORC staff and councillors were in attendance.
- Cosy Homes presented joint ORC/Cosy Homes air quality work at their April 2019 Regional Mayoral Hui in Alexandra.

Development of strategic community networks including, but not limited to, social service agencies, clean heating service providers/installers, local councils staff and elected members, and neighbourhood/community groups.

- Cosy Homes developed relationships with many stakeholders throughout the planning and execution of the 2019 activities in Arrowtown, including but not limited to:
 - ORC policy, science, compliance and communications/engagement staff
 - Public Health South health promotion team, communications staff
 - Arrowtown Village Association
 - Arrowtown Clean Air Trust
 - Arrowtown Farmers Market
 - Arrowtown School
 - Lakes District Museum
 - *Mountain Scene* newspaper
 - The Central App

“Everyone lives in a warm and healthy home”

Cosy Homes Charitable Trust
258 Stuart Street 9016 | PO Box 446 9054 | Dunedin
021 999 395
info@cosyhomes.org.nz



- ORC Councillor for Arrowtown, Ella Lawton
- QLDC Councillor for Arrowtown, Scott Stevens
- QLDC policy staff
- QLDC communications and event staff
- NIWA Scientist Ian Longley; research assistant Francisco Barraza
- Heating installers: Mantel, Mitre10
- Insulation installers: Smart Energy Solutions, Absolute Energy
- Hiberna (high performance design/build firm)
- Public health researcher and lecturer Alexandra McMillan
- Fire and Emergency Services New Zealand
- Arrowtown Volunteer Fire Brigade
- Individual Arrowtown residents
- Members of the public referred by Otago Regional Council reception staff

Results and Observations

Some results of the efforts in 2019 in Arrowtown can be quantified:

- There was a 166% increase in uptake of the Clean Heat/Clean Air subsidy in Arrowtown in the 2018/19 financial year over the previous year.
- Thus far in 2019/20, there is an 187% increase in uptake in Arrowtown over last financial year, with several months remaining.
- Six Arrowtown households were able to utilise the EECA Warmer Kiwi Homes insulation subsidies [EECA GEM database]

No data is available on households who may have upgraded burners or insulation without accessing subsidies.

Other results, including the education and engagement activities, are more difficult to quantify and will only be realised in the long term; hundreds of Arrowtown residents received education and advice around clean heating, available subsidies, home performance and more. Engagement and education will need to be ongoing to ensure that messages are clearly taken on board and changes begin to take place. Anecdotally, many residents indicated they will install ultra-low emission burners in the near future, generally waiting for their financial situation to allow for a large capital purchase, even with subsidies currently on offer.

Value was added into the 2019 activities by the NIWA research project taking place in Arrowtown throughout the winter. Though separate projects, activities were collaborative and supportive; ORC and Cosy Homes were able to leverage the promotion of the NIWA project to highlight practical solutions and educational opportunities around air quality issues.

Also valuable were the lessons learned around attitudes and perceptions of community members regarding air quality issues and how they should be managed. There is no clear consensus in the community on who is responsible (individual accountability versus regulatory agency), and how these issues should be resolved (social pressure versus banning all burners versus stay-out-of-our-business). Some community members believed that rural burning outside of town was entirely responsible for air quality issues, despite both ORC and NIWA data clearly demonstrating otherwise. Some community members who live in areas with better air quality seemed to be less engaged around air quality issues, though evidence shows that those areas actually contribute to the poor air quality in lower elevations of town. All of this demonstrates a need to “speak” to multiple audiences with a range of beliefs and technical levels of understanding of air quality issues and their causes, as well as being nimble and compassionate in any responses to community concerns. A careful blend of scientific evidence and appropriate narratives will be required.

“Everyone lives in a warm and healthy home”

Cosy Homes Charitable Trust
258 Stuart Street 9016 | PO Box 446 9054 | Dunedin
021 999 395
info@cosyhomes.org.nz



Similarly, the perceptions within the community of the community itself has an influence on approach. Amongst some residents there is a perception that Arrowtown is full of people of means who can afford solutions that will improve air quality. While this is certainly a town with fewer social needs than other Air Zone towns, there are still many residents who do not have the means to change their capital equipment. This is evidenced by the number of households able to access the EECA insulation programme, which is means-tested. Anecdotally, many residents referenced the cost burden of purchasing firewood a season in advance, which is best practice for clean burning, or the inability to afford firewood at all.

Strategies to contend with multiple housing situations will also need to be developed in Arrowtown and other Air Zone towns to address: owner/occupied homes, rental properties, short-term accommodation, and absentee owners. The differences between these housing situations emerged throughout activities in 2019, and must be considered in the future Implementation Plan activities. Each may require a different approach.

Local installers are a wealth of information about their communities and local trends. These relationships should be developed beyond the transactional nature or involvement in the Clean Heat/Clean Air programme.

Acknowledgements

Cosy Homes would like to thank the following Otago Regional Staff for their excellent work throughout the planning and implementation process:

- Deborah Mills (retired)
- Sarah Harrison
- Sylvie Leduc
- Fiona Mangos
- Lauren Hunter
- Rhiannon Saunders
- Julie Everett-Hincks

We look forward to working closely with ORC throughout 2020 and beyond.

"Everyone lives in a warm and healthy home"



Minutes of a meeting of Council held
via teleconference at
1 p.m. Wednesday, 22 April 2020

Membership

Hon Marian Hobbs

(Chairperson)

Cr Michael Laws

(Deputy Chairperson)

Cr Hilary Calvert

Cr Michael Deaker

Cr Alexa Forbes

Cr Carmen Hope

Cr Gary Kelliher

Cr Kevin Malcolm

Cr Andrew Noone

Cr Gretchen Robertson

Cr Bryan Scott

Cr Kate Wilson

Welcome

Hon Cr Marian Hobbs welcomed Councillors and staff to the live-streamed meeting at 1:00 p.m.

1. APOLOGIES

Cr Kelliher submitted his apologies for the meeting

Resolution

That the apologies for Cr Kelliher be accepted.

Moved: Carmen Hope

Seconded: Kevin Malcolm

CARRIED

2. ATTENDANCE

Staff in attendance included: Sarah Gardner (Chief Executive), Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services), Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy and Science), Sally Giddens (GM People, Culture and Communications), Gavin Palmer (GM Operations), Richard Saunders (GM Regulatory), Amanda Vercoe (Executive Advisor), Liz Spector (Committee Secretary), Andrea Howard (Manager Biosecurity and Rural Liaison Teams), Anita Dawe (Acting Manager Policy), Lisa Hawkins (Team Lead RPS, Air and Coast), Richard Lord (Team Leader Biodiversity and Biosecurity), Shayde Bain (Communications Engagement Advisor), Dolina Lee (Policy Analyst), Blaise Cahill-Lane (Digital Communications Lead), Tom De Pelsemaeker (Team Leader Freshwater and Land), and Joanna Gilroy (Manager Consents).

3. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The agenda was confirmed as presented.

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Councillor Noone and Councillor Wilson identified conflicts of interest on the Building Transfer agenda report. Both Councillors said they would not participate in discussions or vote on the item.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Recommendation

That the minutes of the (public portion of the) Council meeting held on 9 April 2020 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record, with changes as requested.

Moved: Cr Calvert

Seconded: Cr Deaker

CARRIED

6. ACTIONS (STATUS OF COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS)

Outstanding Actions from Resolutions of the Council Meeting were reviewed.

7. CHAIRPERSON'S AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORTS

Resolution

That the Council:

1) **Receives** the Chairperson's and Chief Executive's reports.

Moved: Cr Hope

Seconded: Cr Noone

CARRIED

8. MATTERS FOR COUNCIL DECISION

8.1. ECO Fund Applications - March 2020 Funding Round

This report advised Council of the ECO Fund selection panel's recommendations for the March 2020 Funding Round and requested Council approval. Cr Deaker spoke to the report as the Chair of the selection panel. He noted the panel's request that the Council consider ways to fund an application that although it did not meet the community involvement and engagement criteria of the ECO Fund, would provide significant benefits to ORC's work programmes and desired environmental outcomes. GM Strategy, Policy and Science Gwyneth Elsum said there were internal discussions underway towards this request. She said ORC is working with the University of Otago to develop a Memorandum of Understanding with Catchments Otago which may be the best way to help this applicant.

Cr Scott asked that the ECO Fund's budget be increased for future funding rounds to \$1 million. He said it would be a clear signal to the region that the Council is listening to the community and its concerns for the environment. After a discussion, Cr Scott made a motion requesting a staff report to address his suggestion to increase funding.

Resolution

That the Council:

1) **Receives** this report.

Moved: Cr Deaker
Seconded: Cr Hope
CARRIED

2) **Approves** the funding recommendations of the ECO Fund decision panel for the following applications, to a value of \$132,573.78 as per the summary sheet of projects.

Moved: Cr Deaker
Seconded: Cr Hope
CARRIED

3) **Approves** for staff to seek an alternative funding option for ORC to support the work of the Southern Great Lakes Programme, as per the request of the Councillor Decision Panel.

Moved: Cr Deaker
Seconded: Cr Hope
CARRIED

4) **Requests** a staff report to the next Council Meeting on increasing ECO Fund to \$1million for the next funding round with particular consideration for virus hit communities.

Moved: Cr Scott
Seconded: Cr Forbes
CARRIED

8.2. Transfer of Building Functions

Cr Wilson and Cr Noone indicated conflicts of interest on this item and did not participate in discussions or the vote.

The report was provided to seek Council's approval to start the process to transfer ORC's functions, powers and duties under the Building Act 2004 for processing building consents for large dams to Environment Canterbury. Richard Saunders (GM Regulatory) and Joanna Gilroy (Manager Consents) were present by video conference to speak to the report.

Councillor Scott noted the significant reduction in these consent applications with no corresponding decrease in costs to the ORC. He said this indicates a transfer to Environment Canterbury should commence. He also noted the request is to start public consultation and would be reported back to Council after consultation has closed. After further discussion, Chairperson Hobbs asked for a motion.

Resolution

That the Council:

- 1) Approves the commencement of the process to transfer Council's functions, powers and duties as an accredited Building Consent Authority to Environment Canterbury.
- 2) Approves Councillors Wilson and Noone to hear from submitters, consider all submissions received, deliberate and make recommendations to Council in relation to the transfer of Building Act functions.
- 3) Notes that staff will report back to Council following public consultation on the proposal to transfer the function.

Moved: Cr Hope

Seconded: Cr Scott

CARRIED

8.3. Making Plan Change 6AA Operative

The report was provided to obtain Council's approval for Plan Change 6AA and to set a date for making the plan change operative and incorporate the amended provisions into the operative Water Plan. Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy and Science) and Dolina Lee (Policy Analyst) were available to answer questions. After a general discussion of the report, Cr Wilson made a motion.

Resolution

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Approves** minor changes made to Proposed Plan Change 6AA in accordance with clause 16(2) of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991.
- 3) **Approves** Plan Change 6AA, and incorporates these provisions into the Operative Regional Plan: Water for Otago in accordance with clause 17(2) of Schedule 1 to the Resource Management Act 1991; and
- 4) **Affix** Council's seal to Plan Change 6AA to the Regional Plan: Water for Otago in accordance with clause 17(3) of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991; and,

- 5) **Resolves** to make Plan Change 6AA operative from Saturday 16 May 2020, and publicly notify this date on Saturday 9 May 2020, in accordance with clause 20 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Moved: Cr Wilson

Seconded: Cr Calvert

CARRIED

8.4. 2020/2021 Biosecurity Operational Plan

The report was provided to seek Council's approval to adopt the 2020/21 operational plan for the Regional Pest Management Plan. Andrea Howard (Manager Biodiversity and Rural Liaison), Richard Lord (Team Leader Biosecurity and Biodiversity) and Gavin Palmer (GM Operations) were available for questions.

The Councillors had questions about how to achieve community compliance with some of the requirements in the RPMP. Cr Forbes expressed concern that enforcement may not be easily accomplished and asked staff to ensure the Plan delivers what the region needs. Dr Palmer said work is underway on enforcement approaches to meet the Plan's requirements. He also noted the Plan can potentially be reviewed for changes at any time in the future.

Cr Malcolm stated the operational plan is strong but did note his concern regarding rabbit and wallaby control. He urged staff to continue to implement policies to ensure enforcement by landowners. Cr Noone agreed and said staff should increase enforcement actions to ensure compliance.

Cr Hobbs stated at the earlier workshop informing Councillors about economic recovery for Otago post-COVID-19, the Councillors indicated they were interested in promoting biosecurity and biodiversity work as part of the recovery plan. After further discussion of the operational plan, Cr Hobbs asked for a motion and Cr Scott moved:

Resolution

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Approves** the Otago Regional Council's Regional Pest Management Plan - 2020-2021 Operational Plan.
- 3) **Agrees** to provide a copy of the Otago Regional Council's Regional Pest Management Plan - 2020-2021 Operational Plan to the Minister for Biosecurity as required under Section 100B of the Biosecurity Act 1993.
- 4) **Notes** that staff will report back to Council any response from the Minister for Biosecurity.

Moved: Cr Scott

Seconded: Cr Robertson

CARRIED

A Division was called:

For: Cr Deaker, Cr Forbes, Cr Hobbs, Cr Hope, Cr Malcolm, Cr Noone, Cr Robertson, Cr Scott

Against: Cr Laws, Cr Wilson

Abstain: Cr Calvert

8.5. RPS Review 2020 - Updated Programme

The report was provided to set out options for a revised Regional Policy Statement (RPS) Review 2020 Programme, and to approve an updated programme. Lisa Hawkins (Team Leader RPS, Air and Coast), Anita Dawe (Acting Manager Policy) and Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy and Science) were available to answer questions.

Cr Scott noted staff provided three options for the Programme and asked which of the three staff recommended. CEO Sarah Gardner said staff made no recommendation but had provided options and risks for each option to allow the Councillors to make an informed decision.

Each Councillor spoke to which of the three options they preferred. After each had spoken, Chair Hobbs took an informal poll to see if any of the options would outpoll as a choice for a vote. There was a consensus of 9 Councillors that Option B was the preferred choice, with 2 Councillors preferring Option A.

Cr Laws moved an additional resolution that the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Strategy and Planning Committee be the two Councillors on the reference group selection panel. Cr Hobbs said she would put this motion after the others.

Chairperson Hobbs then put part one and part two of the recommendations:

Resolution

That the Council:

- 1) *Receives the report*

Moved: Cr Hope

Seconded: Cr Deaker

CARRIED

Resolution

That the Council:

- 2) *Notes the risks of each option in the report, particularly to notification timeframes and the Ministers Recommendation;*

Moved: Cr Forbes

Seconded: Cr Hope

CARRIED

Cr Wilson then proposed to amend staff Option B with specific details including that staff look to find ways to reduce the costs for Option B, use Otago-based facilitators and for Councillors to be used as sponsors of the proposed focus groups. Chairperson Hobbs then asked for a vote on Recommendation 3, indicating whether Councillors were in favour of Cr Wilson's replacement motion or the staff motion.

Resolution

That the Council:

- 3) *Approves Option B with the following details:*

- a) *Seek staff to reassess savings to reduce the costs of Option B*

- b) *That council expresses a preference for Otago-based facilitators to be involved in option B*

- c) *That councillors with appropriate roles be used as sponsors in the focus groups*

Moved: Cr Wilson

Seconded: Cr Calvert

For: Cr Calvert, Cr Forbes, Cr Hope, Cr Laws, Cr Malcolm, Cr Wilson
Against (For staff recommendation): Cr Deaker, Cr Hobbs, Cr Noone, Cr Robertson, Cr Scott
Option B as amended by Cr Wilson CARRIED 6 – 5

Resolution

That the Council:

- 4) **Notes and Approves** additional funding and resources unbudgeted in the draft Annual Plan 2020/2021, approximately \$180,000.

Moved: Cr Wilson
Seconded: Cr Noone
CARRIED

Resolution

That the Council:

- 5) **Notes** that the approved programme will be included in the update to be provided to the Minister at the end of April.

Moved: Cr Deaker
Seconded: Cr Noone
CARRIED

Cr Hobbs then put Cr Laws' motion:

Resolution

That the Council:

- 6) **Appoint** the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Strategy and Planning Committee as Councillor representatives on the reference group selection panel.

Moved: Cr Laws
Seconded: Cr Deaker
CARRIED

9. MATTERS FOR NOTING

9.1. Progress report to Minister Parker

This paper was provided to present for adoption by Council the first progress report to the Minister for the Environment, Hon David Parker, in accordance with section 27 of the Resource Management Act 1991, in relation to the recommendations made under section 24A of the Resource Management Act 1991. Anita Dawe (Acting Manager Policy) and Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy and Science) were present to answer questions about the report and response to Minister Parker.

After discussion of the report, Cr Hobbs asked for a motion.

Resolution

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives** this report.

- 2) **Approves** the report to the Minister for the Environment (included as Appendix 1) reporting on progress against the recommendations contained in his letter of 18 November 2019; and,
- 3) **Notes** that the next report will be required to be provided by 31 October 2020.

Moved: Cr Wilson
Seconded: Cr Noone
CARRIED

10. CLOSURE

There was no further business and Chairperson Hobbs closed the meeting.

Chairperson

Date



Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of Council held
electronically on
Tuesday 5 May 2020 at 10:00 am

Membership

Hon Marian Hobbs

(Chair)

Cr Michael Laws

(Deputy Chairperson)

Cr Hilary Calvert

Cr Michael Deaker

Cr Alexa Forbes

Cr Carmen Hope

Cr Gary Kelliher

Cr Kevin Malcolm

Cr Andrew Noone

Cr Gretchen Robertson

Cr Bryan Scott

Cr Kate Wilson

Welcome

Hon Marian Hobbs welcomed Councillors, members of the public and staff to the meeting at 10 a.m.

For our future

70 Stafford St, Private Bag 1954, Dunedin 9054 | ph (03) 474 0827 or 0800 474 082 | www.orc.govt.nz

1. APOLOGIES

Resolution

That the apologies for Cr Laws, Cr Kelliher, and Cr Noone be accepted.

Moved: Cr Forbes
 Seconded: Cr Kevin Malcolm
 CARRIED

2. ATTENDANCE

Sarah Gardner (Chief Executive)
 Nick Donnelly (General Manager Corporate Services and CFO)
 Gavin Palmer (General Manager Operations)
 Sally Giddens (General Manager People, Culture and Communications)
 Gwyneth Elsum (General Manager Policy, Strategy and Science)
 Amanda Vercoe (Executive Advisor)
 Liz Spector (Committee Secretary)

Also in attendance were: Garry Maloney (Manager Transport) and Frederique Gulcher (Public Transport Brand Lead).

3. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The agenda was confirmed as circulated.

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were advised.

5. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

Resolution

*That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:
 Item 1.1 Bus Ticketing Update*

Moved: Cr Deaker
 Seconded: Cr Wilson
 CARRIED

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

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
1.1 Bus Ticketing Update	Subject to subsection (3), a local authority may by resolution exclude the public from the whole or any part	Section 48(1)(a); Section 7(2)(h) 7(2)(i)

Outstanding Actions from Resolutions of the Council Meeting

2019-2022 triennium

2016-2019 triennium

REPORT TITLE	MEETING DATE	RESOLUTION	STATUS	UPDATE
11.3 Delegations	3 April 2019	Direct CE to bring a review of delegations for Council decision.	IN PROGRESS Regulatory/Governance	Underway for reporting in early 2020.
11.3 Disposal of Poison Services Assets	15 May 2019	ORC to consult with community on proposed sale of poison services assets and include the Galloway land as part of a proposed sale	IN PROGRESS Operations	14/04/2020 Gavin Palmer - Consultation material being prepared.
11.3 Finalise Biodiversity Action Plan	26 June 2019	Develop business case options for resourcing biodiversity and biosecurity activities to inform the next LTP (2021 - 2031) and enable implementation of the Biodiversity Action Plan.	COMPLETE - Operations	Approved at 22 April 2020 Council Meeting.
9.1 Decision Making Structure	13 Nov 2019	That a review of the committee structure including membership be reviewed at 6-months.	ASSIGNED - Governance	Report will be brought to Council in June 2020.
10.3 Ratifying Otago Local Authorities Triennial Agmt	29 January 2020	That issues for potential consideration by the Mayoral Forum be considered at the next Strategy and Planning meeting.	IN PROGRESS Governance	Report will be included in the next Strategy and Planning Committee Agenda.
9.1 Port Otago Strategic Asset	11 March 2020	That staff conduct a workshop for Council to work through	COMPLETED	15/04/2020 Nick Donnelly - Workshop planned for 27 May,

Review			consideration of dividend changes and other issues for Port Otago Ltd		prior to the 3 June Finance Committee meeting.
9.1 Port Otago Strategic Asset Review		11 March 2020	Refer the PwC strategic asset review to the Finance Committee to consider next steps.	IN PROGRESS – Corporate Services	15/04/2020 Nick Donnelly - Will be referred to the next Finance Committee meeting, scheduled for 3 June 2020.
8.1 ECO Fund Applications – March 2020		22 April 2020	Report back on potential increase to \$1m for next ECO Fund Round, with focus on virus-hit communities.	IN PROGRESS – Corporate Services	19/05/2020 Nick Donnelly – will be included in 27 May agenda item, <i>COVID-19 Recovery Framework</i> .

9.1. Chairperson's Report

Prepared for: Council
Activity: Governance Report
Author: Cr Marian Hobbs, Chairperson
Date: 20 May 2020

SUMMARY FROM 15 APRIL – 18 MAY

- [1] Alert Level Two is in some ways more difficult than the two previous levels. I find myself driving out to face-to-face meetings and then back home to Zoom meetings, and it is the same for all of us.
- [2] As I write I am aware that staff are in that halfway house as well, as are businesses around town. That is why when I had begun making decisions about timing of Annual Plan meetings and the methodology, I did not want to upset the apple cart by last minute changes. But, here we are today trying a hybrid meeting, with some meeting virtually and others in the room.
- [3] As I am sure you are all experiencing, Zoom meetings will continue for some time to come. All those involving international membership and most including multi-regional membership. All LGNZ committees will continue to meet on Zoom, including the Regional Chairs, the Otago Mayors, both formally and informally.
- [4] Probably the first focus was job creation, but then Queenstown holiday visa workers assumed priority. The emergency teams always have a welfare/care component, but the numbers needing support in Queenstown were too many for one council to cope with. A national level Zoom meeting was organised on 18 April, led by Sarah Stuart-Black. All the Otago Mayors and some Southland ones were in on the call. We learnt why the government had just set up a fund of \$30 million. It was for emergency support whether you were a citizen or not, but we needed to make contact, so the ORC staff and families and friends took to the phones. Thousands were contacted, and through a standardised question sheet, the team led by Richard Saunders was able to ascertain the immigration status, food, accommodation and health needs. The work is still ongoing with the ORC having shifted to Queenstown.
- [5] ***The Green Jobs:*** Rather like the shovel-ready infrastructure jobs, councils were asked to apply for green-based jobs. I had some problems with sorting through short-term or medium, skilled or unskilled. Alexa did some wonderful work with various providers and activists in the green area in Queenstown area and in the QLDC. Meetings were called, phone calls made, and information gathered. Quickly following, we had an excellent ORC meeting with the Minister for Conservation. At the same time Sarah had asked Nick to put together a Recovery Framework for ORC teams. There were beginning to be a range of actors in the space with a problem of falling over each other and not achieving anything.

- [6] Nick has drawn up a recovery framework, and in that is a helpful listing of opportunities:
- Infrastructure, through Crown Infrastructure partners;
 - Environment through DoC and MPI;
 - Transport.
- [7] I took the environment area and expanded it:
- *Air:* Work with Cosy Homes to work on a town such as Milton to do the refurbishment of cold homes.
 - *Water:* Wetlands restoration – working with Pomahaka, but also the Waihola group and the Sinclair Wetlands (Ngāi Tahu). And, there is also Tomahawk Lagoon, as well as work with riparian planting.
 - *Biodiversity:* Support for tree nurseries such as Te Kokano, Wakatipu Wildlife Trust and others, and two major projects from Predator Free Dunedin in the biodiversity area.
 - *Biosecurity:* Wilding pines (Phil Murray), Maniototo, and other areas such as Mahinerangi; the Minister mentioned two others.
 - *Rabbits:* A focus on small holdings and using a trained team with dogs using Magtoxin in the burrows.
 - *Wallabies:* Both detection and removal; there is more money in the Budget.
 - Southern Lakes Sanctuary which is an ambitious predator-free programme in Queenstown.
 - ECO funds.
- [8] So, I got on the phone and rang a number of experienced people. What became apparent was that nearly all of them wanted trained teams. So, that has become a priority, working with Cromwell Polytechnic and Dunedin to develop the appropriate courses which we would work to get financial support for.
- [9] Sarah established contact with DoC South Island who has offered to co-ordinate all the different offers of work.
- [10] ***Economic Recovery Coordinator:*** We are working with the Mayors to provide an economic recovery person to take all the above from the theory to actually happening, and I believe there will be a paper for us at our Council meeting. And, while some of this is short to medium term, there are big questions for the longer term about diversifying the economy.
- [11] Part of the return to school has been the managing of school students using the buses with reduced passenger loading. Really effective work was done by the transport team working with the schools.
- [12] I continue to do interviews and promotions trying to attract applicants to our RPS panels.

- [13] I was really thrilled to read of John Falconer's work, with his preservation of the scroll plains on his farm. A letter of appreciation was sent.
- [14] **Salary:** Two months ago, the Otago Mayors agreed to donate 10% of our nett salary to charities of our choice. We had not wanted pressure on councillors in small councils to build. We knew that we were not able to reduce our salaries, but the law has been changed. The Chair of the Remuneration Authority has written to us all. It is likely all those with salaries above \$100,000 will be asked to lower their salaries up to 20% for six months. Those of us who had already donated were asked to advise the Authority of this and they might adjust the deduction.
- [15] **Governance Report:** Early in our term we opted to review our committee and responsibility structure. A report has been prepared on our activity since election in October. I have had input into it, but rather than put it on the May agenda, I have asked that you receive this report at this meeting, and that submissions/comments be received by me before 17 June so we can bring forward a paper for that June meeting.
- [16] It has been a busy Level Four and Three.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives this report.**

Hon Marian L Hobbs
Chairperson

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

9.2. Chief Executive's Report

Prepared for: Council
Activity: Governance Report
Author: Sarah Gardner, Chief Executive
Date: 18 May 2020

KEY MEETINGS

- [1] 23 April – Regional Council Chief Executives (RCEO) meeting.
- [2] 23 April – South Island DOC, Regional Chief Executives and Ngai Tahu Initial Collaboration re nature-based employment opportunities.
- [3] 24 April – Chief Executives Environment and Economic Forum (CEEEFs) – includes all Regional Council CE's and key Government CE's.
- [4] 25 April (Saturday) – CDEM calls for overseas citizens in Queenstown.
- [5] 26 April (Sunday) – CDEM calls for overseas citizens in Queenstown.
- [6] 28 April – Caring for Communities – NEMA/RCEO's discussion.
- [7] 30 April – Good Water Programme Steering Committee.
- [8] 30 April – Society of Local Government Managers (SOLGM) Chief Executive meeting.
- [9] 1 May – LGNZ Regional Sector meeting.
- [10] 1 May – NEMA and Local Government Response Unit meeting.
- [11] 1 May – Bus Ticketing Implementation meeting.
- [12] 3 May (Sunday)– Meeting at ECC with Sarah Stuart-Black (NEMA), Group Controller, Richard Saunders, Police District Commander Paul Basham and Cr Marian Hobbs.
- [13] 4 May – COVID-19 weekly briefing for Otago Joint Committee, CEG and Iwi.
- [14] 4 May – NEMA/Regional Councils and Group Controllers briefing.
- [15] 5 May – Environmental Taskforce and Workforce meeting with DOC and others.
- [16] 6 May – Extraordinary Council meeting.
- [17] 7 May – NZTA: Helping you navigate COVID-19 meeting.
- [18] 7 May – Catch-up with RCEO's.
- [19] 8 May – MfE/Regional Council CE weekly meeting.
- [20] 8 May – CDEM – transition to local leadership recovery model.
- [21] 8 May – LGNZ Infrastructure meeting.
- [22] 8 May – Meeting with Hon Eugenie Sage and Cr Marian Hobbs re nature-based employment proposals.
- [23] 11 May – COVID-19 weekly briefing for Otago Joint Committee, CEG and Iwi.
- [24] 11 May – Port Liaison Working Group.

- [25] 12 May – Catch-up with ORC Managers to go over Level 2 Operating Plan and phased return approach.
- [26] 13 May – All staff meeting to give general update, go over Level 2 Operating Plan and phased return approach.
- [27] 13 May – Strategy & Planning Committee.
- [28] 14 May – Catch-up with RCEO's.
- [29] 15 May – MfE/Regional Council CE weekly meeting.
- [30] 15 May – NEMA and Local Government Response Unit meeting.
- [31] 18 May – COVID-19 weekly briefing for Otago Joint Committee, CEG and Iwi.
- [32] 19 May – Greg Keys (MPI) re temporary redeployment.
- [33] 19 May – Phone interview re Port Otago 2020 Materiality Process.
- [34] 21 May – Annual Plan Hearings – Day 1.
- [35] 22 May – Catch up RCEO's and briefing from DOC on Jobs in Nature.
- [36] 22 May – MfE/Regional Council CE weekly meeting.
- [37] 22 May – Annual Plan Hearings – Day 2.
- [38] 25 May – Annual Plan Hearings – Day 3.
- [39] 25 May – COVID-19 weekly briefing for Otago Joint Committee, CEG and Iwi.

OVERVIEW

- [40] The period since lockdown has been extremely busy with additional demands on many staff related to response and now in addition, recovery. All but one of the meetings above have been completed over Zoom or similar platforms. In addition, with our Regulatory General Manager, Richard Saunders working full time as our CDEM Group Controller, I have taken up the day-to-day running of most of his function with assistance from Amanda Vercoe, Executive Advisor.
- [41] Much of this period has required significant liaison with central government. In particular this has been necessary to understand CDEM requirements and response, particularly around welfare, to inform government policy and legislation passed under urgency, to prepare for changes in COVID-19 Alert Levels and to commence recovery planning and respond to central government requests for engagement and information.

CDEM Response

- [42] The Otago Emergency Management Group has had its ECC activated in Dunedin since first required the Friday before lockdown announcements were made. Over 26 ORC staff have resourced the ECC over this period.
- [43] In the last week NEMA, in discussion with Queenstown Lakes District Council, has requested that the Group assist further in Queenstown, and since Monday 18 May 2020, our Group Controller has relocated to Queenstown and others in the CDEM ECC response. Queenstown is by far the area that requires significant assistance under the Caring for Communities response framework. We expect to continue to provide response in this way until at least the end of June 2020. At some stage this

responsibility will transition to a central government arrangement, likely a hub, but this is still in planning stages.

[44] Thus far in Queenstown (at 18 May 2020) Queenstown Lakes District Council, with the assistance of the Otago Emergency Management Group, have managed:

- 15,699 requests for assistance;
- 6,527 of those from individuals seeking assistance;
- 5,867 of requestors are foreign nationals seeking assistance; and
- \$1.65M in food vouchers and other welfare, including firewood, medical expenses etc.

[45] As of mid-May the Group has initiated a further process to now pay accommodation and utility expenses for those requiring welfare assistance who are not eligible for assistance by other means e.g. work and income. This expenditure from the Group is ORC funded temporarily and is cost recoverable through NEMA. This and the provision of access to food vouchers is the only assistance available for foreign nationals at present. Some are receiving the wage subsidy from employers but many have lost jobs or arrived just as lockdown was imminent.

ORC Operations in Level 2

[46] As of Monday 18 May 2020 we have provision for 50% of our staff to work in the office, although we continue to follow government guidance noting that the overarching sentiment is still to work from home if that is possible. We have reopened our Stafford Street office to the public, but our Queenstown office remains closed to the public.

[47] The reason we have only provided for 50% occupancy of our offices in any location is because this is the maximum capacity we can achieve while observing separation distances and other workplace guidance for COVID-19 Alert Level 2.

[48] All staff have a safety plan for their work whether they continue to be at home, or are in the office, or working in the field. No staff were permitted to come into the office or to work in the field without safety plans in place first.

[49] Much of our fieldwork has resumed and we are only restricting activity where Level 2 precautions cannot be undertaken or where we see particular risk.

Recovery

[50] I will not cover this in detail here as you have a separate paper that outlines at a high level what we are working on with regards to recovery. I would just note that the detail of recovery is yet to come. Government itself is working to determine its own departmental structures for recovery, and there is currently a level of duplication and insufficient clarity about who is administering what and how that will occur in terms of budget announced funding etc.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) ***Receives this report.***

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

10.1. COVID-19 Recovery Framework

Prepared for: Council
Report No. GOV1921
Activity: Governance Report
Author: Nick Donnelly, General Manager Corporate Services and CFO
Endorsed by: Sarah Gardner, Chief Executive
Date: 22 May 2020

PURPOSE

- [1] To provide an update on the Otago Regional Council's COVID-19 Recovery Framework, and next steps.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [2] COVID-19 has created an unprecedented global emergency. Impacts on Otago are significant and vary across the region and its sectors. The Otago Regional Council has been actively involved in the COVID-19 response over the last two months, including shifting its entire staff to working from home, and running the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Group Emergency Coordination Centre. While the response is still underway, an internal framework has been developed to manage and plan for the Council's contribution to COVID-19 recovery.
- [3] Adopting and delivering the 20/21 Annual Plan is an investment in the community that will contribute to COVID-19 recovery efforts, alongside providing policy, regulatory and service delivery certainty and consistency.
- [4] In addition to business as usual, the Recovery Framework will assist staff with identifying and recommending specific recovery focussed projects or activities to Council. Current areas of opportunity include:
- a. *Infrastructure:* Projects submitted to the Crown Infrastructure Partnerships Fund
 - b. *Environment:*
 - i. Opportunities arising from the 2020 budget announcement of \$1.1 billion to create 11,000 environment jobs in the regions
 - ii. Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) funding for catchment group work
 - iii. Proposals from environmental and civil society groups, seeking funding and/or other support
 - iv. ORC generated projects, including councillor suggestions.
 - c. *Public transport*
- [5] The Framework also identifies principles, to assist with considerations on the various proposals.

- [6] There are multiple streams of work underway across both the business and non-governmental organisations, and at a local and Central Government level on what the full impacts of COVID-19 will look like, and how to best tackle the recovery to ensure it is effective. However, a lot of detail is still to be worked out and finalised, and there is currently a lot of cross-over between funding requests and project proposals. There is also work to be done to identify how the various proposals will assist with recovery needs.
- [7] We understand from numerous conversations at both councillor and staff levels that it will take time for recovery plans to shape up across the region and for the ORC to identify how it can best contribute and in what role. In the meantime, staff and councillors remain engaged in discussions, which in addition to our own planning, will continue to inform advice to Council on proposed ORC recovery activities.
- [8] Decisions on funding recovery activities do not need to be made in conjunction with the adoption on the annual plan. Instead supplementary funding proposals can be brought to Council when they arise.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Notes** the Otago Regional Council Recovery Framework to address COVID-19, which includes a business as usual “plus” model
- 3) **Notes** the principles outlined in para 25, which will be used to help guide COVID-19 recovery project considerations, including:
 - Future focused (good environmental outcomes and a healthy Otago)
 - Align to ORC core business and add value to ORC priorities
 - Benefit the Otago region
 - Sustainability (internal and external)
 - Achievable
- 4) **Notes** that staff and councillors are actively involved in recovery discussions across the region and with Central Government, which will continue to inform advice to Council on proposed ORC recovery activities
- 5) **Notes** that extending the ECOFund to \$1million has been included in the list of possible projects, and recommendations will be included on this with recommendations to Council on overall recovery proposals
- 6) **Notes** that decisions about funding recovery activities do not have to be made in conjunction with the adoption of the 20/21 Annual Plan. Instead supplementary funding proposals can be brought to Council

BACKGROUND

- [9] COVID-19 has created an unprecedented global emergency. Impacts on Otago have been, and will continue to be, significant and vary across the region and its sectors.
- [10] Local Government in New Zealand is responsible for promoting the four wellbeings within its communities – economic, environmental, social and cultural. It is also responsible for civil defence and emergency planning, response and recovery.

Through both lenses, the ORC is planning for how it will contribute to recovery efforts in Otago.

- [11] The Otago Regional Council has been actively responding to COVID-19. A Pandemic Plan was put in place and within 48 hours of the Government's Level 4 announcement the entire staff moved to working from home. Essential Services continued to be provided in the community, but most of our field staff were able to be redeployed to home-based work for the duration of the Level 4 lockdown.
- [12] Our Civil Defence and Emergency Management Emergency Coordination Centre has been fully activated for nine weeks, with at least 26 ORC staff rostered to work one or more shifts either in the office or remotely, in addition to Emergency Management Otago team members. One ORC staff member based in Alexandra was rostered in the Central Otago District Council's Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). An additional 16 ORC staff members took part in the "Calls for Queenstown" project, calling foreign nationals in Queenstown Lakes.
- [13] Our newly established Strategy Team has been providing economic analysis of the impacts of COVID-19 on the Otago region. In conjunction with the Otago Regional Economic Development group, the team are currently working to establish sector-based analyses of the potential impacts, to assist with establishing priorities for recovery.

DISCUSSION

- [14] As we move into the COVID-19 recovery phase, the Council has developed a Recovery Framework to map and monitor the various streams of work (a high-level version is attached).

Business as usual...

- [15] Adopting and beginning to deliver the 20/21 Annual Plan is an investment in the community that will contribute to COVID-19 recovery efforts. Alongside policy and regulatory certainty and consistency and strong service delivery, we can support the community with their recovery planning and beyond by performing our core roles and doing them well.
- [16] To ensure we continue to be an employer of choice and support a high performing workforce, the Framework establishes an Internal Adaptation Working Group to identify and capitalise on workforce opportunities that have arisen through the disruption to "business as usual". This workstream will also consider our building needs, which may have now changed.

...“Plus”

- [17] In addition to business as usual, the Opportunities Working Group within the Recovery Framework is working to identify, analyse and develop recommendations for targeted COVID-19 recovery activities within Otago across three key areas – infrastructure, environment and public transport. This work will inform recommendations to Council on options for consideration. Key opportunities that are being worked through currently include (with more detail included in the attachment):

Infrastructure

- [18] A list of ORC “shovel ready” projects was submitted to the Crown Infrastructure Partnerships Fund for possible funding, as part of a call by Central Government to get the economy moving post-COVID.
- [19] In total 802 “shovel ready” projects, out of the 1924 submissions with a combined value of \$136 billion, were selected and forwarded to the Economic Development Minister Phil Twyford and Infrastructure Minister Shane Jones on Monday 18 May 2020 for consideration for Government funding. Unfortunately, none of the ORC projects were included on that list. Unsuccessful projects have been forwarded to the Provincial Development Unit for consideration for funding through the Provincial Growth Fund, however there are no guarantees that the ORC projects submitted will receive support.

Environment

- [20] Under this category, the following are being considered:
- a. Opportunities arising from the 2020 budget announcement of \$1.1 billion to create 11,000 environment jobs in the regions
 - b. MPI funding for catchment group work
 - c. Proposals from environmental and civil society groups, seeking funding and/or other support
 - d. ORC generated projects, including councillor suggestions
- [21] The working group are currently collecting more detail on all the proposals on the table, as there is cross-over between funding requests and project proposals. There is also work to be done to identify how the various proposals will assist with recovery needs.
- [22] Central Government will be providing further guidance on how the \$1.1 billion budget announcement will be implemented, so we can also assess whether some of the proposals on the table could be matched against it. We are in discussions with Department of Conservation, Ngāi Tahu and South Island Regional Councils about possible opportunities. Job creation is a key driver for the central government funding.
- [23] Partnerships will be key to environment projects that the ORC may choose to support, and this includes considering the role ORC can best play (i.e. funder/facilitator/coordinator/ supporter/advocate).

Public transport

- [24] As has already been discussed with Council, there are opportunities through delivering public transport in Otago for contributing to COVID-19 recovery. Currently this includes fare free bus travel. The implementation of the new electronic ticketing system provides additional benefits via contactless travel and contact tracing.

Principles

- [25] Following the workshop with councillors on 22 April 2020, the following principles have been established to guide consideration and planning for all potential projects under the above themes:
- Future focused (good environmental outcomes and a healthy Otago)
 - Align to ORC core business and add value to ORC priorities
 - Benefit the Otago region
 - Sustainability (internal and external)
 - Achievable

- [26] Projects will be assessed against those principles, as well as against the recovery priorities which will be identified as a result of the ongoing economic analysis, and in coordination with the Otago Regional Economic Development Group.

Regional Engagement

- [27] The Otago Regional Council will remain well connected with the regional recovery efforts, to ensure ORC projects are aligned and co-ordinated with the wider Otago regional response opportunities.
- [28] As mentioned in paragraph 12, our Strategy team will continue to provide regional economic analysis to support the region identify areas for targeted assistance.
- [29] A Group Recovery Manager will also be appointed, to manage statutory CDEM recovery functions, and provide leadership and coordination across the region with respect to recovery.

Funding options

- [30] Council has a number of funding options it can consider for COVID related activity that sits outside of that already provided for and funding in the current financial year and the proposed 2020/21 Annual Plan.
- [31] The majority of the proposals put forward to date are associated with bids for Central Government funding or workstreams being led by crown entities ie DOC, MPI. Once these proposals and funding bids are developed further it is hoped that all or most of the funding required will come Central Government.
- [32] If Council is required / chooses to co-fund initiatives or chooses to fund initiatives itself, Reserves could be used in the 2020/21 year where rate funding is not provided for in the 2020/21 Annual Plan. Depending on significance, consultation could be undertaken for subsequent years if ongoing rate funding is required.
- [33] This process has been utilised in the past when, for example, unbudgeted Wallaby control activity was added part way through a financial year. In that example the unbudgeted expenditure was reserve funded and the following year it was consulted on in the Annual Plan and rate funded going forward.
- [34] Council also has other reserves that can be utilised for short term funding. These reserves can either be used as a finite source of funding or repaid over subsequent years depending on the nature of the activity, Councils revenue and financing policy and what Council considers financially prudent. This includes General Reserves, the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Reserve and the Emergency Response Reserve.
- [35] The Emergency Response Reserve was established in 1995. The primary purpose of this reserve is to provide funding for infrastructure assets that Council is required to self-insure. Council also considered it desirable to extend the purpose of the Emergency Response Reserve to the wider range of risks associated with Council's activities. The Reserve is therefore available for responding to emergency situations and effects where, in the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer, it is considered appropriate.

- [36] The Emergency Response Reserve currently has a balance of \$4.4m. In the event the reserve is used, consideration of replenishment including funding sources and timing will be considered on a case by case basis.
- [37] The civil defence response to COVID-19 alone is expected to cost at least \$0.5m in unbudgeted expenditure. Council will need to determine where this deficit is allocated to.
- [38] Council should also note the Emergency Response Reserve may be considered as a funding option for Lower Clutha flood repairs as outlined in a separate paper to this Council meeting.
- [39] All funding options need to be considered in the context of the initial funding requirement and any associated or ongoing funding that may be required as that activity continues in future years. A decision to reserve fund an initiative in the short term may require a subsequent rate increase if that activity is not or cannot be reserve funded in later years. There may also be ongoing funding and rating requirements for initiatives that are initially funded via Central Government.

What next

- [40] Key COVID-19 priorities in the short term are:
- a. Ongoing management of the Group Emergency Coordination Centre response work
 - b. Continue to develop targeted COVID-19 recovery projects, as more detail becomes available and establish recovery priorities and a clear assessment process and criteria for these projects, in order to make recommendations to Council for consideration
 - c. Continue to engage with Central Government processes on recovery and funding opportunities
 - d. Continue to develop economic analysis to the region on impacts of COVID-19
- [41] Staff will provide a progress update to Council at the end of June.

OPTIONS

- [42] Note that the ORC has developed a COVID-19 Recovery Framework and regular updates will be provided to councillors on how the work is progressing.

CONSIDERATIONS

Policy Considerations

- [43] Not applicable for this update but will be considered as project proposals are developed.

Financial Considerations

- [44] Not applicable for this update, but there will be financial implications for agreeing to contribute to COVID-19 recovery efforts. Financial implications and funding options will be considered in detail as specific projects are recommended to Council for considerations.

Significance and Engagement

[45] Not applicable for this update.

Legislative Considerations

[46] Not applicable for this update.

Risk Considerations

[47] The above programme of work is in addition to the ORC's agreed workplan. Resourcing it could be a challenge and staff may need to consider some additional resource to manage the process when it comes to doing detailed business cases for proposed activities.

NEXT STEPS

[48] The next steps are to continue to progress the Recovery Framework and report back to Council at the end of June.

ATTACHMENTS

1. ORC COVI D 19 Internal Response Framework 27 05 2020 Council [**10.1.1** - 5 pages]

Otago Regional Council: COVID-19 Recovery Framework – May 2020

Governance Group:	Otago Regional Council				
Steering Group:	Joint Committee / Mayoral Forum		ORC Executive Leadership Team		
Workstream:	Response: CDEM Group ECC	Recovery: CDEM Group Recovery	Response: Continuity Management Group	Recovery: Opportunities Group	Recovery: Internal Adaptation Group
Lead:	Richard Saunders	Group Recovery Manager (to be appointed)	Nicole Ross	Nick Donnelly	Sally Giddens
Purpose:	Manage and implement statutory CDEM functions.	Coordinate recovery actions across Otago TAs; provide economic analysis; engage on opportunities from central government for region.	Manage internal operational response to COVID-19 in line with Pandemic Plan.	Coordinate and prioritise internal ORC project/policy responses to COVID-19 recovery.	Identify, develop and manage ORC people and physical space opportunities arising from the disruption to 'business as usual' operations.
Duration:	Until instructed to stand down by NEMA	Ongoing	While under Government Alert Levels	Ongoing	Ongoing

Otago Regional Council: COVID-19 Recovery Framework – May 2020

1. Regional Group

Membership (to be confirmed)

- Group Recovery Manager, once appointed (Lead)
- Marianna Brook (Mayoral Forum Secretariat)
- Sylvie Leduc (ORED/Strategy)
- Ann Yang (Economic analysis)
- Michele Poole/Richard Saunders (CDEM responsibilities)

Role

- Coordinate and lead the region wide recovery to COVID-19 in Otago and maintain a close link with the ORC Opportunities Group
- Provide economic analysis for the region
- Maintain close links with central government, to maximise opportunities for Otago
- Undertake statutory CDEM recovery obligations

2. Opportunities Group

Role

- Coordinate the prioritisation of ORC led project opportunities for ORC COVID-19 recovery, for consideration by Council, including:
 - Funding opportunities from central government.
 - Requests for support from community organisations.
- Ensure ORC opportunities are aligned with recovery framework principles:
 - Future focused (good environmental outcomes and a healthy Otago).
 - Align to ORC core business and add value to ORC priorities.
 - Benefit the Otago region.
 - Sustainability (internal and external).
 - Achievable.
- Oversee the scoping of any projects that are progressed to ensure they are integrated into the LTP.
- Liaise with Group Recovery Manager and ensure ORC projects are align and co-ordinated with the wider Otago regional response opportunities.

Membership (to be confirmed)

Core team of 5 with others* to be brought in under the 3 themes by theme leads as required

- Lead – Nick Donnelly
- Strategic Analysis – Sylvie Leduc

3 Theme Leads

- Infrastructure – Michelle Mifflin
 - Flood Protection
- Environment – Andrea Howard
 - Air – Sylvie
 - Water – Andrea
 - Biodiversity / Biosecurity – Richard Lord*
 - Eco Fund – Blaise Cahill-Lane*
- Transport – Garry Maloney

Otago Regional Council: COVID-19 Recovery Framework – May 2020

Team to meet weekly

Theme leads to provide update on opportunities / projects under their theme and to progress oversee further scoping / business case / liaison of selected opportunities

Weekly update / status report provided to the Steering Group (ELT)

Update and decision papers to be provided to Council

Evaluation Group (note this team could sit across all 3 recovery streams)

- Anne Duncan – Strategic plan alignment
- Mike Roesler – LGA, LTP/AP alignment
- Sean Geary – Financial
- Ann Yang – Economic Analysis

This team will ensure proposals are scoped and analysed for consideration by the Steering Group in the first instance and Council.

3. Internal Adaptation Group

Membership

- Sally Giddens (Lead)
- Membership to adapt to reflect skills needed at various points in the work stream

Role

- understand staff experience through lockdown and remote working
- define potential
- enable organisation agility
- HR and procurement policy updates, update staff training
- re-design proposed workspace
- investigate new engagement platforms

Otago Regional Council: COVID-19 Recovery Framework – May 2020

Opportunities / Proposal List - DRAFT

1. Infrastructure

Crown Infrastructure Partners - Shovel Ready

- Albert Town Rock Buttress
- Balcultha Hopsital Creek Detention Bank Mitigation
- Outram Floodbank Weighting Blanket
- Riverbank Road Slip Repair
- Robsons Lagoon
- SH8 Tarras STED
- West Taieri Contour Channel and Bridges

2. Environment

DOC – Jobs in Nature (nature-based employment, revitalising NZ communities)

Community Proposals

- Predator Free – national prospectus for COVID stimulus
- Forest and Bird – conservation stimulus paper, suggestions no specific proposal / request
- SETT – Southern Eco-Trails Trust backcountry mountain biking and hiking trails
- WWT – Southern Lakes Eco Sanctuary
- Orokonui – fence repairs
- Fed Farmers – Green Growth Reset
- NZ Poplar and Willow Research Trust – general funding request
- Urban Water Working Group – Freshwater in Infrastructure Investment, support letter
- Predator Free Dunedin – acceleration proposal
- Landscape Connections Trust – Halo Project forest restoration
- Ahika – Mackenzie wildings

Councillor

- ECO-Fund – increase to \$1 million targeted at affected communities (Cr Scott)
- Water storage – have potential in the region, particularly for the Manuherekia / Falls Dam (Cr Noone)
- Cosy Homes Trust – refit homes in Milton (Cr Hobbs)
- Wetlands restoration – Lake Waihola, Sinclair Wetlands, Tomahawk Lagoon (Cr Hobbs)
- Nurseries – to support biodiversity groups throughout the region (Cr Hobbs)
- Wilding Pines – extend existing work program (Cr Hobbs)
- Rabbit and wallabies – extend existing work program (Cr Hobbs)

Staff

- Biodiversity data management and providing data standards and infrastructure

Otago Regional Council: COVID-19 Recovery Framework – May 2020

- Community based biodiversity Atlas
- Landscape predator control in Otago
- Regional biodiversity asset as a regional park
- Expansion/improvement of the biosecurity program
- Regional scale nursery to supply plant stock for riparian planting and/or reforestation

MPI – Catchment Groups

- Otago Catchment Community – sustainable land use application

3. Transport

- Free fares – NZTA underwriting fares until 30 June
- RITS – accelerated implementation, include interim revised fare / concession structure

10.2. Fare Collection Reinstatement

Prepared for: Council
Report No. PT1907
Activity: Transport: Public Passenger Transport
Author: Garry Maloney, Manager Transport
Endorsed by: Gavin Palmer, General Manager Operations
Date: 21 May 2020

PURPOSE

- [1] This paper seeks decisions from Council on reinstating fares on Dunedin and Queenstown bus services and the fares to be charged to enable deployment of the new electronic ticketing system.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [2] As we entered COVID-19 Alert Level 4, fare collection on all public transport services was abandoned in order to maximise physical distancing and the safety of public transport workers and passengers.
- [3] In early May 2020, the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) issued a new draft policy requiring regional fare collection plans for reinstating fare collection as soon as practicable after moving to Alert Level 2.
- [4] The Agency also indicated that in principle, it strongly encouraged accelerating the implementation and use of electronic ticketing systems, which may include a short extension to its fare-free policy to facilitate that changeover.
- [5] On 6 May 2020, the Council *“approved the removal of the existing ETS hardware and the installation of INIT hardware on buses in both Dunedin and Queenstown”*.
- [6] Giving effect to Council’s May 2020 decision, staff are in the process of implementing the new ticketing system (for example, the old ticketing hardware has been removed and the new hardware installed).
- [7] The implementation approach prior to COVID-19 relied heavily on face to face contact. This approach is no longer appropriate in light of the pandemic and along with bus driver cash-handling concerns is why staff are recommending a transitional change to fares.
- [8] A key feature of the revised implementation approach is to introduce fares and concessions in two stages:
- Phase 1 (transitional) – implement discounted interim fares for all users such that high rates of concession registration and validation are not required prior to system launch (removes concession registration from the critical path).

- Phase 2 - implement normal fares and concession entitlements by January 2021, or such other time as agreed by Council.

[9] The following tables illustrate differences between the current fare pricing and the

Dunedin Fares

Zones travelled	GoCard			Cash	
	Adult	Child	Tertiary student / other concessions	Adult	Child
1	\$1.92	\$1.15	\$1.72	\$2.60	\$1.60
2	\$2.53	\$1.52	\$2.28	\$3.40	\$2.10
3	\$4.44	\$2.66	\$4.00	\$6.00	\$3.60
4	\$7.58	\$4.55	\$6.82	\$10.20	\$6.10
5	\$11.41	\$6.85	\$10.27	\$15.30	\$9.20

Zones travelled	Bee Card		Cash
	Adult	Youth	All
All	\$2.00	\$1.50	\$3.00

Queenstown Fares

Zones travelled	GoCard		Cash	
	Adult	Youth	Adult	Youth
1	\$2.00	\$1.50	\$5.00	\$4.00
Airport			\$10.00	\$8.00

Zones travelled	Bee Card		Cash
	Adult	Youth	All
All	\$2.00	\$1.50	\$4.00

Table 1: Current and Recommended Dunedin and Queenstown Fares

recommended simplified approach (Phase 1):

- [10] The above shows for the transitional period (Phase 1), removing fare zones in Dunedin and minimising cash fares. For Queenstown, simply minimising cash fares. Common to both areas is that SuperGold Card travel in the transitional period would be free all day.
- [11] As the recommended change for Dunedin effectively increases the maximum fare for Zone 1 customers, Regional Public Transport Plan Policy requires that we consult the public on our intention to change the fare. This is not the case in Queenstown, so we do not need to consult that community further.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Adopts** in principle the following implementation approach to reintroduce fares and concessions in Dunedin and Queenstown:
 - Phase 1 (transitional) – implement discounted interim fares for all users such that high rates of concession registration and validation are not required prior to system launch (removes concession registration from the critical path).
 - Phase 2 - implement normal fares and concession entitlements by January 2021, or such other time as agreed by Council.
- 3) **Adopts** in principle, Options D3 and Q2 as outlined in the report noting that both will incur additional loss in fares above that resulting from the current patronage decrease arising from COVID-19.
- 4) **Approves** consulting the public on Option D3 as outlined in the report.

- 5) **Notes** that discussions are ongoing with New Zealand Transport Agency in regard to Council's regional fare collection plan and that may have a bearing on timing on the reinstatement of fares in Dunedin and Queenstown.

BACKGROUND

- [12] As we entered COVID-19 Alert Level 4, the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) issued policy directing that fare collection on all public transport services in the country were to cease in order to maximise physical distancing and the safety of public transport workers and passengers.
- [13] Prior to that decision being made, concerns had been expressed on behalf of bus drivers as to the safety of collecting cash fares.
- [14] The policy had a life until 30 June 2020, whereby NZTA would meet 100% of fare revenue foregone by regional councils at least under Alert Levels 4 and 3 (as it subsequently transpired).
- [15] In early May 2020, NZTA issued a new draft policy for reinstating fare collection on public transport services post-alert Level 3, which stated that fare collection needs to be reinstated as soon as practicable after moving to Alert Level 2.
- [16] To do that, the Agency requires councils to prepare regional fare collection plans to outline how they will protect workforce and public health and safety, estimate fare revenue impact and provide a flexible response to future COVID-19 alert level changes.
- [17] It notes that:
- *“there may be an incremental return to full collection of cash fares across regions, when it is possible to do so in a safe manner consistent with Ministry of Health guidance ...*
 - *accelerating the implementation and use of electronic ticketing systems is strongly encouraged, and Waka Kotahi (NZTA) supports in-principle initiatives that will facilitate this, which may include a short extension to the COVID-19 fare-free policy in participating RITS regions to facilitate system changeover.”*
- [18] What a “short extension” means will need to be worked out with NZTA.
- [19] On 6 May 2020, the Council received an update on electronic ticketing and:
- *“approved the removal of the existing ETS hardware and the installation of INIT hardware on buses in both Dunedin and Queenstown ... and*
 - *noted that staff will ... report back with options including the potential for an interim simplified fare and concession structure.”*
- [20] This is that report.

COVID19 -2020/21 PATRONAGE & REVENUE FORECASTING

- [21] For forecasting future patronage and revenue, staff have based assumptions on two sources to provide a level of sensitivity testing. They are:

- COVID-19: Briefing Note prepared by McKinsey & Co in March 2020 (referred to at the Council meeting on 6 May); and
- Local Government Sector COVID-19 Financial Implications Report 2 – Alert Level Scenarios, which picks up on work done by the Ministry of Transport and aligns closely with alert level scenarios developed by Treasury.

[22] The modelling results for 2020/21 are shown below for both sources and represent the difference between pre and post COVID-19:

	Fare + SGC Revenue (GST ex, \$millions)			Patronage (millions)		
	Jan - Dec '20 Actual	Est 2020/21 McKinsey Scenario	Est 2020/21 LG Sector Scenario	Jan - Dec '20 Actual	Est 2020/21 McKinsey Scenario	Est 2020/21 LG Sector Scenario
Dunedin	\$5.2	\$3.9	\$2.9	2.6	1.9	1.5
Queenstown	\$3.1	\$1.8	\$1.4	1.5	1.0	0.8

Table 2: Patronage and revenue forecasts

[23] As can be seen in Table 2 above, the two modelling scenarios show a significant patronage and revenue impact for the forthcoming financial year.

[24] Both scenarios assume patronage will recover over time. The significant difference between the two scenarios relates to assumptions in the Local Government Sector report as to how long Level 2 lasts (and associated with that, capacity constraints due to on-bus physical distancing requirements under that level).

ISSUE – MINIMISING CASH

[25] Prior to COVID-19, Council expected to collect about \$8.3 million in fare revenue for the 2019/20 financial year.

[26] Council does have high rates of card utilisation (86% in Dunedin and 77% in Queenstown), however the system is still dominated by cash (see Figures below).

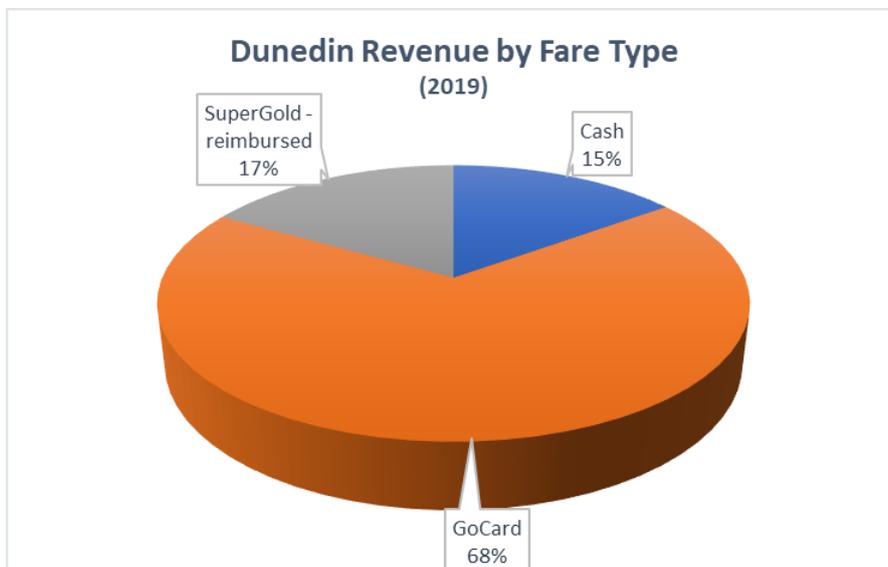


Figure 1: Dunedin Fare Revenue by Fare Type

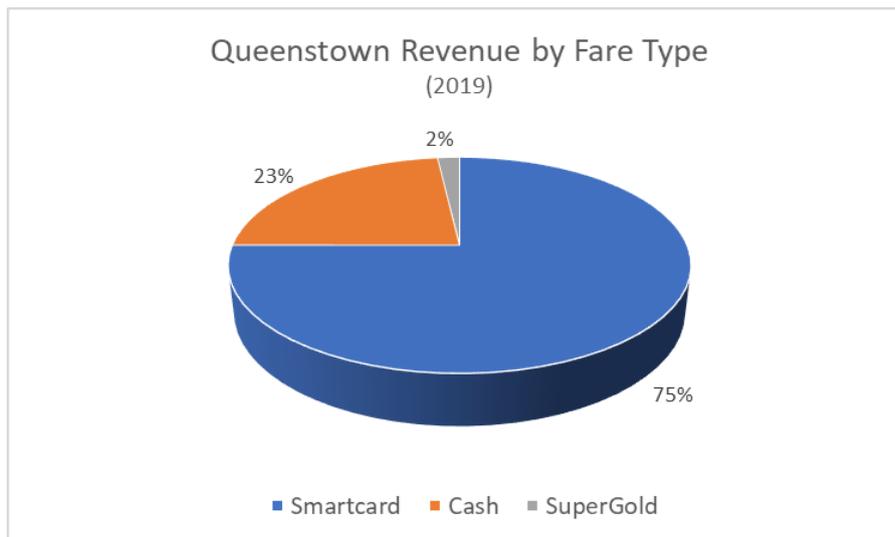


Figure 2: Queenstown Fare Revenue by Fare Type

- [27] This is because the current ticketing system does not have on-line top-up capability and Council has a limited face to face retail option. Therefore, there is a reliance on cash to top up cards on bus.
- [28] The presence of cash on buses does result in robberies and has been an ongoing health and safety risk for workers.
- [29] COVID-19 has resulted in additional concerns with respect to cash handling. There is a perception that cash handling places staff and passengers at greater risk of COVID-19 transmission.
- [30] These perceptions are strong and will have an influence on our contractor’s ability to attract and retain staff and grow patronage.
- [31] Council staff have received feedback from unions since moving to Level 2, that their members are reluctant to again handle cash unless it can be done in a way that is contactless. This would mean putting in place hardware to enable that collection and that no change would be given. Council, in collaboration with other Regional Council’s is investigating options to achieve these outcomes. If Council chooses to go down this path there will be an additional cost.
- [32] The reluctance to handle cash is primarily why Council staff are recommending simplifying cash fares in both Dunedin and Queenstown.
- [33] The new Bee Card system supports online card top-ups. This would enable the option in the future of no longer allowing cash card top-ups on bus. This in turn would significantly reduce on bus cash volumes and increase the actual and perceived safety of staff and passengers.

ISSUE – IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW ELECTRONIC TICKETING SYSTEM

- [34] As councillors are aware, our Council has jointly procured a new electronic ticketing system with a consortium of eight other councils in New Zealand (RITS Consortium). A

contract for provision of the new system has been awarded to INIT who is a specialist provider of technology solutions for public transport systems based in Germany. The solution will provide:

- a secure and proven platform for fare revenue and patronage data;
- tag-on/tag-off functionality using a new contact-less card the consortium has branded the Bee card, to enable improved reporting and network planning capability; and
- online smart card top-up capability.

[35] Giving effect to Council's May 2020 decision, we are in the process of implementing the new ticketing system. Key actions necessary to complete the system changeover include:

- removing old ticketing hardware and installing new hardware on about 100 buses (commenced the week beginning Monday, 11 May 2020);
- facilitating training for approximately 200 staff;
- swapping out Go Cards with new Bee Cards;
- facilitating the transfer of unused credit from old cards to new cards; and
- ensuring all concession entitlements are registered on new cards for eligible passengers.

[36] A number of those actions above have now become significantly more challenging in the current COVID-19 environment.

[37] The implementation approach prior to COVID-19 relied heavily on face to face customer service channels to swap out cards, register concessions and facilitate balance transfers as well as the ability to gradually run-down balances on existing cards.

[38] This approach is no longer appropriate considering the pandemic and is why staff are recommending a transitional change to fares.

[39] The revised implementation approach seeks to maximise contactless card distribution and balance transfers and ensure most passengers are not disadvantaged in the event they are unable to register concessions prior to the system going live.

[40] A key feature of the revised implementation approach is to introduce fares and concessions in two stages:

- Phase 1 (transitional) – implement discounted interim fares for all users such that high rates of concession registration and validation are not required prior to system launch (removes concession registration from the critical path).
- Phase 2 - implement normal fares and concession entitlements by January 2021, or such other time as agreed by Council.

- [41] The Figures below provide a better understanding of the significance of the issue around concession validation in Dunedin:

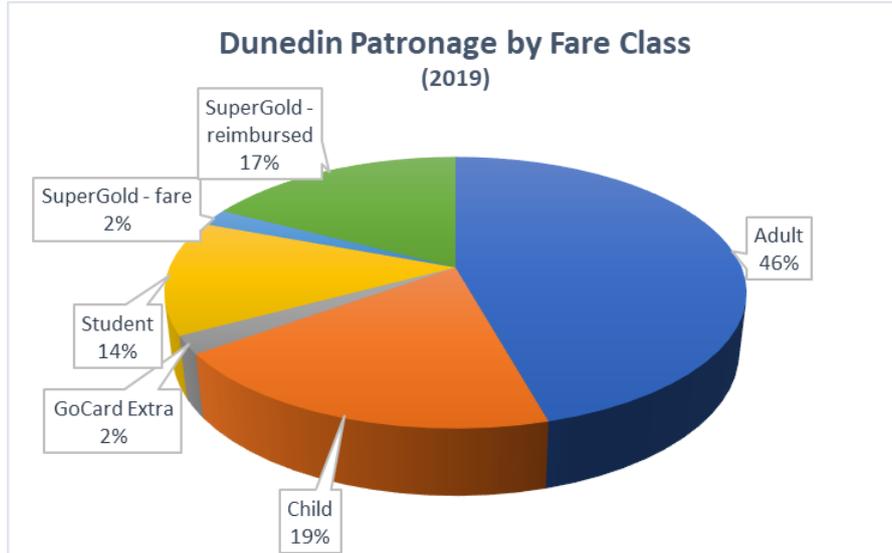


Figure 3: Dunedin Patronage by Class

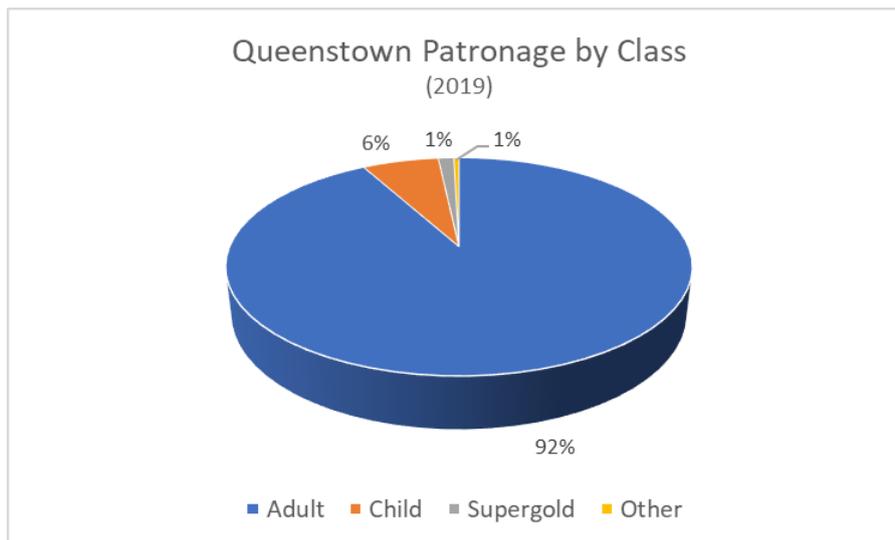


Figure 4: Queenstown Patronage by Class

- [42] As can be seen, 14% of current patronage in Dunedin is tertiary students and another 19%, SuperGold Card holders and retaining the current concessions in Phase 1 would require significant face-to-face interactions to validate those concessions.
- [43] To support better contact tracing, Phase 1 would require all cards to be registered from the outset (at least a name and contact information) as well as minimising cash use on-bus to increase the actual and perceived safety of bus drivers and passengers.

- [44] However, in order to implement Phase 1 and change fares (even for a transitional period), Council would also need to conduct a public consultation exercise to test the proposed changes.
- [45] Subject to that process and final system defects being resolved and implementation of the above measures, staff believe it is possible to safely reinstate fare collection under the new Bee Card ticketing system in Dunedin in mid-August and Queenstown in early-September 2020, although that has to be worked through with NZTA and Consortium partners.
- [46] The period between the ticketing hardware installation and the system going live in Otago is because:
- the system installers were local and could undertake the installation in both the Southland and Otago regions prior to moving to the North Island; and
 - the Consortium is trying to avoid all nine members going live with their systems at the same time by staggering the implementation. As such it has been agreed at Consortium level Otago’s place in that process.

OPTIONS - PHASE 1 -SIMPLIFIED INTERIM FARES

- [47] As noted previously in the report, the current COVID-19 environment essentially removes the ability for face to face customer interaction to swap out cards, register concessions and facilitate balance transfers. This offers an opportunity to provide simplified transitional fares in Dunedin and Queenstown.

Dunedin Options

- [48] There are a range of options that can be considered for Dunedin. Three key ones are:
- Option D1 – status quo (pre-COVID 19 fares):

Zones travelled	GoCard			Cash	
	Adult	Child	Tertiary student / other concessions	Adult	Child
1	\$1.92	\$1.15	\$1.72	\$2.60	\$1.60
2	\$2.53	\$1.52	\$2.28	\$3.40	\$2.10
3	\$4.44	\$2.66	\$4.00	\$6.00	\$3.60
4	\$7.58	\$4.55	\$6.82	\$10.20	\$6.10
5	\$11.41	\$6.85	\$10.27	\$15.30	\$9.20

Table 3: Option D1

- Option D2 – pre-COVID 19 GoCard fares for adults and children, removal of tertiary student GoCard and all cash fares except the zone 2 cash fares (which would be

Bee Card			Cash	
Zones travelled	Adult	Child	Adult	Child
1	\$1.92	\$1.15	\$3.00	\$2.00
2	\$2.53	\$1.52		
3	\$4.44	\$2.66		
4	\$7.58	\$4.55		
5	\$11.41	\$6.85		

Table 4: Option D2

rounded to the nearest dollar):

- Option D3 – remove all zones and replace with a single Adult and single Youth Bee Card fare and a single cash fare:

[49] In all three options, SuperGold Card travel would be free all day, with drivers recording SuperGold Card patronage manually on the ticketing machines (due to the challenge of validating the concession on the new card in the current environment). While this is proposed as an interim measure, there is a risk that Council may encounter resistance when the SuperGold Card peak time fare is reintroduced in the future. It should also be noted that SuperGold Card funding is now capped. There is already a shortfall in the amount received from NZTA for SuperGold compared to the actual cost of those fares. Any additional cost will increase this shortfall and will be fully funded by Council.

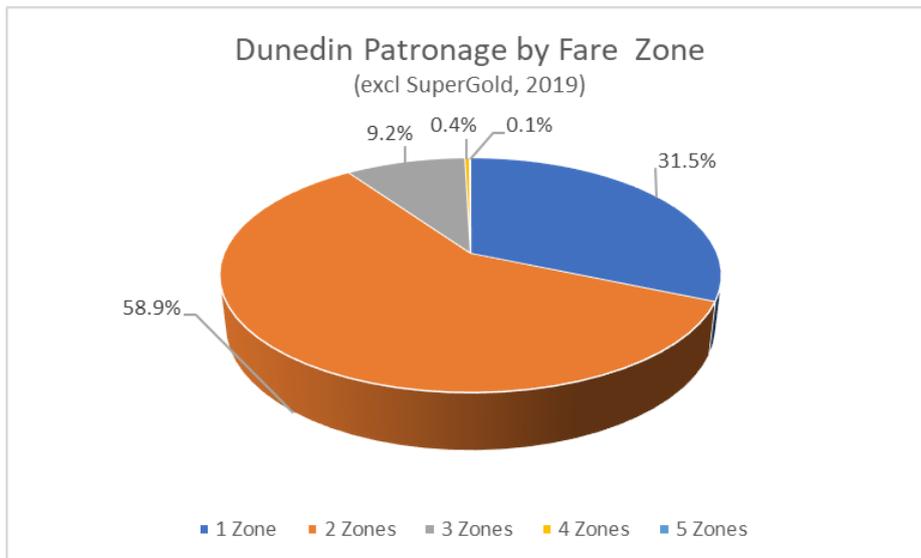


Figure 5: Dunedin Patronage by Fare Zone

[50] As can be seen in Figure 5 above, about 90% of the current Dunedin patronage is travelling either one or two fare zones. Put another way, about 70% of passengers

would benefit from implementing a flat fare that is cheaper than the current zone 2 fares.

Dunedin Option Analysis

[51] An analysis of the three options for Dunedin is shown in Table 9, below.

Option	Ease of Communication	Cost (additional to Option D1)	Minimises Phase 1 face-to-face interaction	Minimises cash handling	Encourages Patronage
D1	✓✓✓	-	xxx	xxx	-
D2	✓✓	x	✓✓✓	x	✓
D3	✓✓✓	xxx	✓✓✓	✓✓	✓✓

Notes:

Option D2 est per month	\$1K - \$2K	<1K
Option D3 est per month	\$20K - \$29K	2K - 3K

Table 6: Dunedin Option Analysis

[52] As can be seen, Option D3 scores better than the status quo and has the advantage of reducing cash handling and encouraging patronage growth above both other options. It does however, come at a greater revenue foregone cost of between \$20,000 – \$29,000 per month.

[53] That additional cost would be on top of the reductions shown in Table 2.

[54] Another advantage of implementing Option D3 is that it will give the Council the opportunity to trial what is effectively a flat fare and something that has been advocated in the public domain for some time.

[55] Option D3 is the preferred option. There is a risk however, that if Council chooses to implement this option as an interim measure it may encounter resistance to reinstating a zone fare structure and changing fare tariffs in the future.

Queenstown Options

[56] The options for Queenstown are:

- Option Q1 – status quo (pre-COVID 19 fares):

GoCard			Cash	
Zones travelled	Adult	Youth	Adult	Youth
1	\$2.00	\$1.50	\$5.00	\$4.00
Airport			\$10.00	\$8.00

Table 7: Option Q1

- Option Q2 – replace the four cash fares with a single cash fare:

Bee Card			Cash
Zones travelled	Adult	Youth	All
All	\$2.00	\$1.50	\$4.00

AGENDA Council Meeting 2020 Table 8: Option Q2

[57] The only difference between Options Q1 and Q2 is that the Airport zone is removed replacing four cash fares with (the lowest) one. The card fare stays the same.

[58] As for Dunedin, SuperGold Card in Queenstown travel would be free all day.

Queenstown Option Analysis

[59] An analysis of the two options for Queenstown is shown in Table 9, below.

Option	Ease of Communication	Cost (additional to Option Q1)	Minimises Phase 1 face-to-face interaction	Minimises cash handling	Encourages Patronage
Q1	✓✓✓	-	✓✓✓	xx	-
Q2	✓✓✓	x	✓✓✓	✓	✓

Notes:

Option Q2 est per month \$9K - \$13K 1K

Table 9: Queenstown Option Analysis

[60] As can be seen, Option Q2 scores better than the status quo and has the advantage of reducing cash handling and encouraging patronage growth above status quo. It does however, come at a greater revenue foregone cost of between \$9,000 – \$13,000 per month.

[61] That additional cost would be on top of the reductions shown in Table 2.

[62] Option Q2 is the preferred option.

CHANGING THE RPTP

[63] Policy 29B of the Regional Public Transport Plan (RPTP or Plan) enables the Council to set the maximum bus fares in the Annual Plan.

[64] Any increase in the maximum fares must be set by amendment to the Plan and requires consultation in accordance with the principles of the Local Government Act 2002.

[65] The recommended Option D3 would increase the maximum fare for Dunedin (but not Queenstown) and if adopted in principle by Council would require that it consult the Dunedin public before making a final decision.

[66] The consultation process must provide for those that are consulted to make submissions and be heard, if so desired. That means Council will need to establish a hearings panel/committee that may or may not need to meet (depending on submitters), with a view to making a recommendation back to Council to approve, or otherwise, the proposed variation.

[67] The indicative timeframe staff propose for the consultation exercise is:

- submission period – 1 June to 30 June 2020 (two weeks);
- hearing – 7 July 2020;
- deliberations – 14 July 2020;
- Council decision - 22 July 2020.

Risk Considerations

- [68] The risk considerations have been outlined in this paper.
- [69] The primary objective of the proposal is to safely return to charging fares by implementing earlier than had been scheduled the new ticketing system to help manage the risk associated with people interactions, both from accepting cash on buses and validating concessions.
- [70] The proposal creates implementation risk (changing the current roll out process) and revenue risk (not being able to charge fares).
- [71] Implementation risk already exists and was being managed in the current roll out process. That risk is not materially different, and it is still proposed to switch Council's on progressively which allows for ongoing testing and review as each Council is added.
- [72] The existing system readiness risk remains as it did previously, and regions would not be switched on until their specific requirements and testing are complete.
- [73] Revenue risk is mitigated by the expected low patronage and the forecast that revenue will be significantly down on pre COVID levels.

NEXT STEPS

- [74] The next steps are:
- Complete negotiations and agreement with NZTA on the fare reinstatement plan.
 - RITS staff will continue to work on the deployment schedule timeline and process.
 - Council staff will progress the consultation exercise on changing the fares for the transitional period (Phase 1).
 - Council staff will continue to work on the Bee card deployment process.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

10.3. February 2020 Flood Recovery - Progress and Estimated Costs

Prepared for:	Council
Report No.	OPS1006
Activity:	Flood Protection & Control Works - Unplanned Michelle Mifflin, Manager Engineering
Author:	Ken Tarboton, Flood Recovery Manager (Consultant) Jean-Luc Payan, Manager Natural Hazards
Endorsed by:	Gavin Palmer, General Manager Operations
Date:	27 May 2020

PURPOSE

- [1] To update Council on progress with recovery from the December 2019 and February 2020 floods and the financial implications for ORC.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [2] Between November 2019 and February 2020 two heavy rainfall events affected the Otago region and the Clutha River catchment particularly: the November/December 2019 event had a long duration and large amounts of rain falling on the headwaters of Otago during this period; the February 2020 event was shorter, more widespread with the largest amounts of rain falling in the headwaters and in the lower parts of the Clutha River catchment. This resulted in the 9th largest flow (3,175 cubic metres per second) since 1863 and the largest flow in the last 20 years in the Clutha River at Balclutha.
- [3] ORC's flood protection schemes provide flood protection to reduce flood risk for approximately 27,300ha of land. This includes approximately 18,000ha on the Taieri and 9,300ha in the Lower Clutha. Overall, the schemes performed to expected levels of service in the 2019/20 flood events, however some assets were damaged and require repair. Until flood damage repairs are completed, there remains a residual risk of breach of the flood defences, particularly in areas where damage has been sustained or the integrity of floodbanks compromised. Refer to Appendix 3 for maps and details of the Lower Taieri Flood Protection Scheme and the Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme, including flood flow records.
- [4] An initial assessment of flood damage to infrastructure was reported to the Infrastructure Committee on 11 March 2020. That report included flood damage requiring repair, prioritized into three levels based on risk as follows: Priority 1 to be repaired as soon as possible and before the end of June 2020; Priority 2 requiring investigation and design with work to be undertaken during the 2020/21 financial year; and Priority 3 which could be undertaken over a longer period to be planned for and funded through the 2021/31 Long Term Plan.
- [5] The initial assessment has been updated in Appendix 1 which also reports on progress since the 11 March 2020 report.
-

- [6] Flood response and Priority 1 flood repairs have proceeded primarily under the Lower Clutha Flood Protection & Drainage Scheme FY 2019/2020 budget which will result in an overspend of approximately \$0.65M compared to business-as-usual (BAU or planned) work activities.
- [7] Priority 2 flood repair work required in FY 2020/21 has been estimated to cost \$3.25M based on current knowledge and investigations to date. Due to timing, this sum has not been provided for in the Draft 2020/21 Annual Plan (or the 2018/28 Long Term Plan). Funding sources are being actively pursued to reduce the future impact that these flood damage repairs will have on targeted flood protection scheme and general rates. In the meantime, the work is being progressed.
- [8] Discussions have been held with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) regarding making an application for NEMA eligible funds for flood damage repairs. Based on estimated Priority 1 and 2 costs for flood damage repairs an estimated \$1.2M may be eligible to claim from NEMA (refer to details in Appendix 2).
- [9] ORC applied to central government for Crown Infrastructure Partnership (CIP) "Shovel Ready" infrastructure funding, set up to stimulate construction and economic growth as a result of the Covid-19 event. ORC submitted six projects for consideration (refer to details in Appendix 2).
- [10] A list of 802 Shovel Ready projects, out of the 1924 submissions with a combined value of \$136 billion, were selected and forwarded to the Economic Development Minister Phil Twyford and Infrastructure Minister Shane Jones on Monday 18 May 2020 for consideration for Government funding. Unfortunately, none of the ORC projects were included on that list. Unsuccessful projects have been forwarded to the Provincial Development Unit for consideration for funding through the Provincial Growth Fund, however there are no guarantees that the ORC projects submitted will receive support.
- [11] The Covid-19 event has had a significant impact on progressing flood recovery and repairs by limiting the ability to progress flood damage repairs and continued further investigations.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Notes** the overspend of \$0.65M of the FY 2019/2020 Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme and River Management, to pay for flood response and recovery costs expended in FY 2019/2020.
- 3) **Notes** the estimated unbudgeted expenditure of \$3.25M required in FY 2020/2021 for flood repairs, of which \$2.85M is for the Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme.

- 4) **Notes** that the application for National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) funding cannot occur until the repairs have been undertaken and the evidence of expenditure provided.
- 5) **Notes** the purpose and amount of the ORC Emergency Response fund.
- 6) **Notes** the forecast 30 June 2020 and 30 June 2021 reserve positions for the Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme.
- 7) **Requests** that staff develop options for addressing flood scheme reserves deficits, including use of the ORC Emergency Response Fund and the Kuriwao Fund, for consideration by Council.

BACKGROUND

- [12] ORC's flood protection schemes provide flood protection to reduce flood risk for approximately 27,300ha of land.
- [13] The Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme protects approximately 9,300 ha of agricultural land on the Clutha delta, the townships of Balclutha and Kaitangata and State Highway One from flooding (see Appendix 3 for detail).
- [14] The Lower Taieri Flood Protection Scheme protects approximately 18,000 ha of high value agricultural land and industrial land including the townships of Mosgiel and Outram and Dunedin International Airport (See Appendix 3 for detail).
- [15] Between November 2019 and February 2020 two heavy rainfall events affected the Otago region and particularly the Clutha River catchment.
- [16] Both weather events were independent, but their succession in a relatively short interval has brought to focus latent conditions of some of the flood protection assets which present damage.
- [17] Planned work programs for the current FY 2019/2020 and next FY 2020/2021 have been impacted due to the changed priorities for staff post-floods and effects on staff resourcing. Figure 1, (updated from a similar figure presented to the 11 March 2020 Infrastructure Committee) shows the location of areas where flood damage repair is needed. Damage sustained on the Lower Taieri Schemes in 2017, and on the Waitati River, have been included.

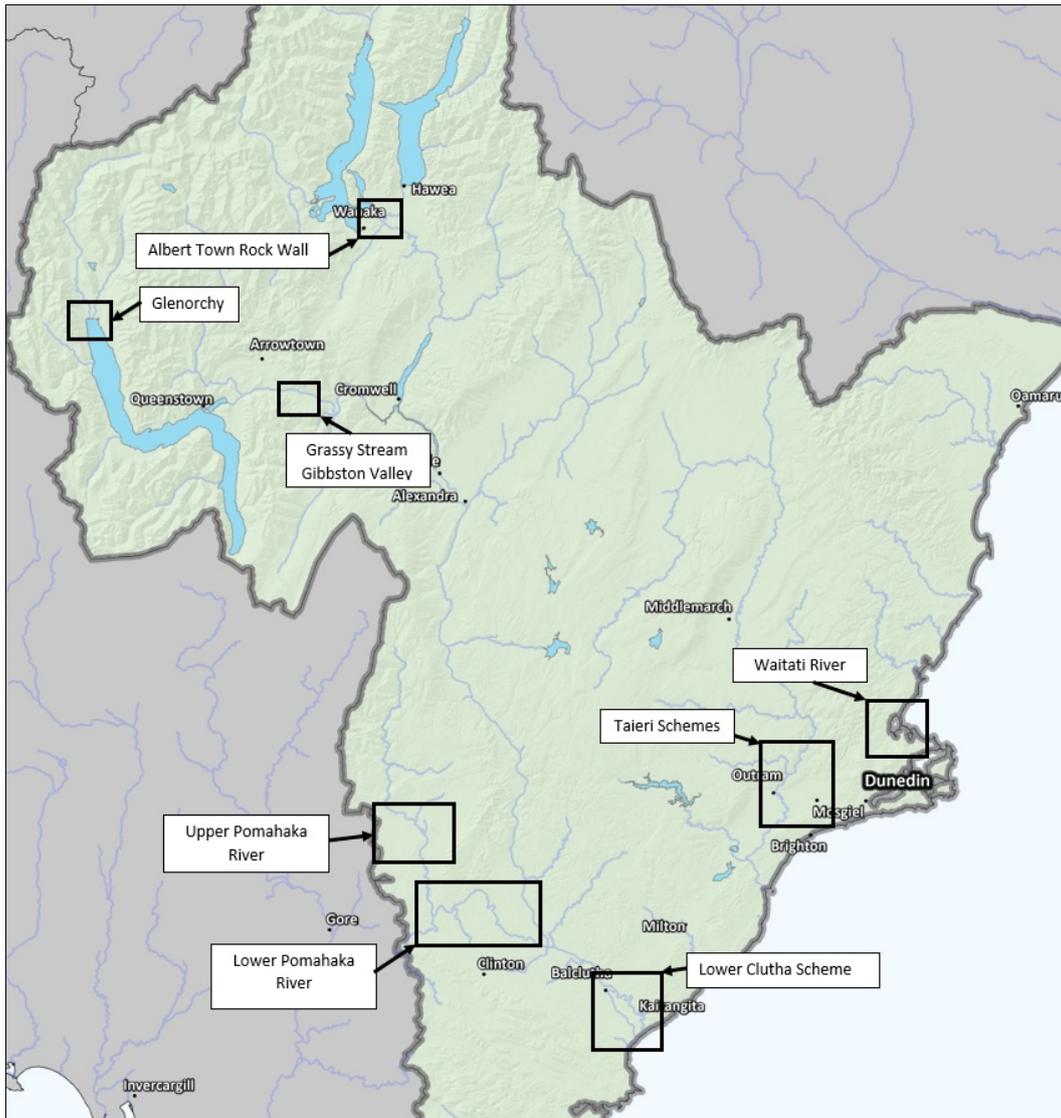


Figure 1. Overview of key locations needing repair as a result of flood damage from flooding in 2017, 2019 and 2020.

CLUTHA FLOOD FORECASTING CAPABILITIES AND OTAGO WEATHER RADAR

- [18] Improvements to the forecasting capabilities for the Lower Clutha catchment are continuing. Improvements to the hydrological monitoring network are being considered for inclusion in the Draft 2021/2031 Long Term Plan and current flood forecasting procedures and models are being prepared for the use of weather radar data when the Otago radar will be operative.
- [19] MetService is planning to install the Otago radar at Lamb Hill near Hindon, some 25 km northwest of Dunedin at an elevation of 750 m above mean sea level. It was planned to have the radar operative in June 2020. The project was progressing as planned until the level 4 Covid-19 restrictions were put in place. MetService has advised that the project will be delayed by some months due to the restrictions. Additionally, the location and

topography of the radar site means it is not possible for onsite groundwork to proceed in the winter months. MetService is planning to have the radar operational later in the year. This will make a valuable contribution to ORC’s flood forecasting activity.

FLOOD RESPONSE UPDATE

- [20] Details of the response to the February 2020 floods were presented in the 11 March 2020 report to the Infrastructure Committee. The response comprised a joined-up effort including ORC staff from Natural Hazards, Emergency Management Otago and Engineering. External contractors were retained for urgent flood response related work and equipment requisitioned.
- [21] The response included taking the opportunity to capture valuable post-event data to document the consequence of the events. Data was mainly collected through aerial reconnaissance, site visits and survey of debris marks and river cross-sections.
- [22] The costs associated with the flood response and Priority 1 flood recovery including urgent repairs as a result of both the December 2019 and February 2020 flood events are summarised below in Table 1.

Priority 1. Completed, underway or to be completed by 30 June 2020			
Priority 1 Action	Spent to Date	Estimate to spend	Details of action and location
Flood response and initial recovery	251,013	0	Flood response and initial recovery including urgent relatively simple repairs in Lower Clutha, debris removal and design investigations
Flood damage repairs & investigations in Lower Clutha, Albert Town, Pomahaka and Waitati	125,581	268,826	Completed: repairs to main Clutha stopbank, simple urgent repairs on Lower Clutha, investigations and design for Riverbank Rd, Waitepeka, and recovery coordination. Underway: investigation of pressure relief wells, river management investigation, Albert Town investigation and Waitati River bank repairs.
Subtotals	376,593	268,826	
TOTAL	645,420		

Table 1: Summary of Priority 1, flood response and repairs.

FLOOD RECOVERY AND REPAIRS UPDATE

- [23] The objective of the flood recovery and repairs is to reinstate the ORC’s infrastructure to its level of service functionality, where applicable. The priority to implement flood recovery (or damage repair) should ideally be undertaken based on the residual risk¹ the damage or impact raises.
- [24] Funding availability and the complexity of the repairs, of necessity, plays a part in the order in which repairs are undertaken. It was prudent to undertake some lower risk

¹ Residual risk is that part of the risk that is not mitigated and includes risks due to events larger than the assumed design event or failure before the design capacity is reached.

repairs ahead of higher priority work (with a high residual risk) simply because the work involved relatively simple repairs that could be completed at relatively low cost.

- [25] Priority 1 actions include investigation, coordination and design needed ahead of undertaking more complex flood recovery repairs. Costs for flood damage repairs and investigation, undertaken as part of Priority 1 actions, are included in Table 1 above. Details of the Priority 1 flood repairs completed to date are included in Appendix 4.
- [26] Priority 2 flood recovery actions include more significant flood damage that is more complex to repair and requires more detailed investigation and design. These works require more time and have a high importance and social value for the communities affected.
- [27] Priority 2 flood recovery actions are summarised in Table 2 below. Details of costs associated with flood recovery actions are included in Appendix 1. More detail on flood damage and repairs to be undertaken as part of Priority 2 works are included in Appendix 5.

Priority 2. Awaiting detailed design and/or funding approval. To be completed during FY2020/21		
Priority 2 Action	Cost or Estimate	Details of action and location
Lake Wanaka Outlet- Albert Town	300,000	Urgent repair awaiting completion of design in Priority 1. Risk of further slips and damage is imminent.
Burning Plain Rd. Pomahaka	100,000	Burning Plain Rd. Low risk. Awaiting CDC decision re Road close or not. Will require earthwork. Not likely eligible for NEMA cost share.
Lower Clutha	2,850,000	Includes repair to Waitepeka Floodbank, Riverbank Rd, slips and scour at a number of Lower Clutha locations and coordination of flood recovery.
TOTAL	3,250,000	

Table 2. Summary of Priority 2 flood repairs

COST IMPACTS

- [28] The costs required to progress Priorities 1 and 2 will require an overspend which will create a deficit to the schemes reserves as shown in Table 3. This deficit will carry through into financial years beyond 2020/2021.
- [29] The Lower Clutha Flood Protection & Drainage Scheme will be affected the most by these unbudgeted costs. The impact on this scheme’s 2019/2020 expenditure and forecast position at 30 June 2021 based on current estimates of expected expenditure for 2020/2021, assuming no further floods in 2020/2021, is summarised in Table 3.

Lower Clutha Flood Protection & Drainage Scheme (as at 19-05-2020)		FY 19/20 (\$000)		FY 20/21 (\$000)	FY 21/22	FY 22/23	FY23/24
		Actual	Forecast	Forecast	LTP (\$000)		
Opening Reserve Balance (carried from previous FY)		-197	-197	-685	-4263	-4,284	-4,192
Funding	General Rates	80	95	95	95	95	95
	Targeted Rates	585	700	750	750	750	750
	Rental Income	135	177	177	177	177	177
	Kuriwao Reserve Transfer	210	250	250	250	250	250
Total Funding		1,010	1,222	1,272	1272	1272	1272
Expenditure	Opex and Capex	1,109	1060	2,000	1,293	1,180	1,208
	Flood Event Damage	NA	650	2,850	TBC	TBC	TBC
Total Expenditure		1,109	1,710	4,850	1,293	1,180	1,208
Closing Reserve Balance		-295	-685	-4263	-4,284	-4,192	-4,128

Table 3. Example of the impact of the flood repair costs on scheme budget and reserves²

- [30] The application of the flood repair costs in Table 3 are to demonstrate the effect of reserves. The scheme reserve is the “bank balance” for that scheme. It is ring-fenced from the reserves of other schemes.
- [31] The reserve figure shown at the end of FY 2020/2021 of **-\$4.263M** is an extraordinary deficit and will require repayment through rates funding which may be reduced through external funding sources and grants where eligible.
- [32] The above cost impact to the Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme is based on current estimates of expected expenditure for currently planned activity for 2020/2021. It assumes no further flooding and associated flood damage in FY 2020/2021. Completion of the flood damage repairs, planned for 2020/2021, is also subject to weather, contractor and material availability and other unforeseen circumstances. The actual reserve balance at 30 June 2021 will depend on a number of factors including the actual costs of undertaking works.
- [33] The below graph in Figure 2 shows the effect of flood response on Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme Reserves for the Lower Clutha and Taieri Schemes over the last six (6) financial years. This shows the cumulative effect of the succession of recent floods.

² The values in Table 3 have been rounded and reflect known finance positions at date of paper.

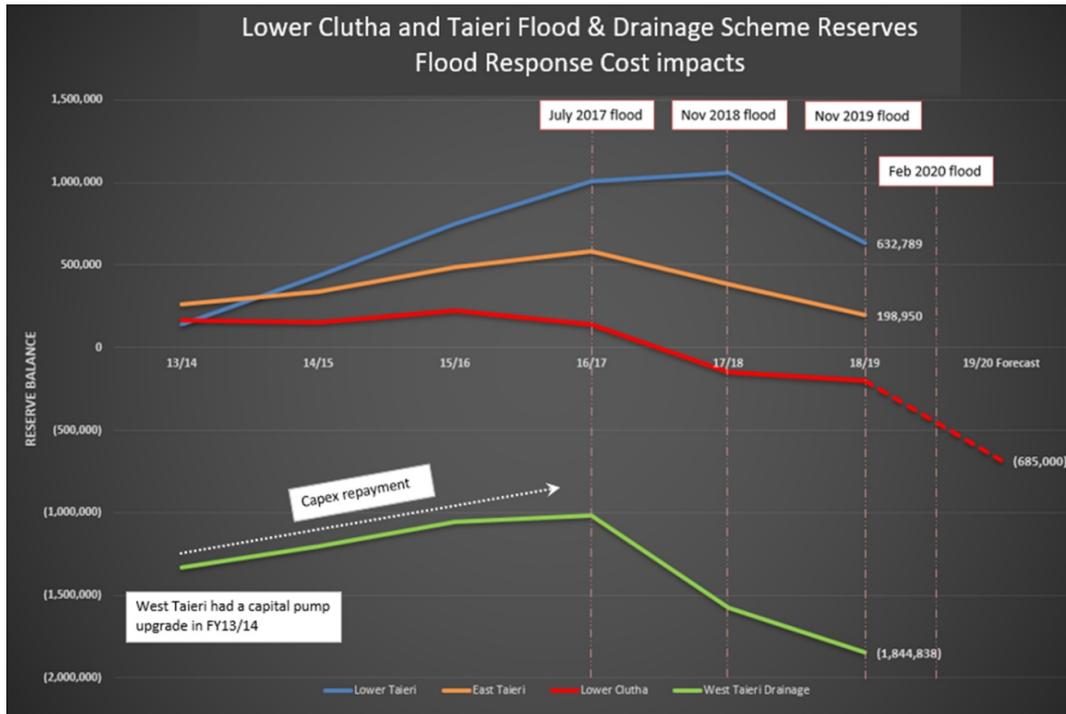


Figure 2. Flood Protection & Drainage Reserves Trend

- [34] The information in Figure 2 for the Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme has been projected to include the amount of \$0.65M to the end of FY 2019/2020, to show the impact.
- [35] The Flood & Drainage Schemes shown for the Taieri are not impacted by the December 2019 and February 2020 flooding. They do however reflect the impact of previous flood events on their reserves.
- [36] The schemes shown in Figure 2 also reflect major capital and operational expenditure movements throughout respective years.

FUNDING OPTIONS

- [37] The Lower Clutha infrastructure and river channels damaged by the floods outlined in this paper are not insured³ by the ORC. The flood protection and river management schemes are structured as self-insured funding models. The schemes and river management budgets fund additional and unforeseen events, such as flooding, from reserves⁴.
- [38] ORC has some choices available for funding to reduce scheme deficits. Funding may be available through accessing the ORC Emergency Response fund⁵ and/or borrowing against the Flood Protection and Drainage Schemes.

³ The ORC flood protection infrastructure insures; Pump Stations are insured, including pump station buildings, associated infrastructure and pump station foundations.

⁴ Reserves are the surplus or deficit associated with each scheme and/or river management budget. The reserve at the end of each Financial Year will rollover into the new Financial Year and Annual Plan.

⁵ As at 30th June 2019 the value of the fund equalled \$4.3M.

- [39] The ORC Emergency Response fund⁶ could potentially fund completion of Priority 1 and commencement (but not completion) of Priority 2 repair works. It is noted that Council approved approximately \$0.62M of works during the November 1999 floods, funded from this fund, primarily for river restoration works in Queenstown-Lakes and Central Otago districts. Further details on the establishment and purpose of the fund are presented in Appendix 6.
- [40] The option to apply for central government funding available through the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to repair essential infrastructure following emergencies is being actively pursued. If successful this may reduce the reserve deficit. The application itself cannot occur until the repairs have been undertaken and evidence of expenditure provided. Further information on NEMA funding is provided in Appendix 2.
- [41] It is noted that the Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme protects State Highway One. The highway through Balclutha is the primary road transport connection between Southland and Otago. Central government makes no funding contribution toward Scheme capital and operational activity.
- [42] There may be opportunities to receive further funding to reduce the deficits by:
- a. Accessing the Kuriwao Fund (for the Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme), and
 - b. Addressing deficits through an amendment to the 2020/21 Annual Plan (once there is more certainty around actual costs and the outcome of the NEMA application) or as part of preparation of the Draft 2021/31 Long Term Plan.
- [43] It would be prudent to undertake the flood damage repairs, to determine the actual repair costs, and await the outcome of the NEMA funding application before addressing funding deficits through the Annual Plan or Long Term Plan process.

The Kuriwao Fund

- [44] The Otago Regional Council (Kuriwao Endowment Lands) Act 1994 (“the Act”) was enacted to:
- a. Confirm the vesting of land in the Otago Regional Council (“Council”); and
 - b. Redefine the purpose for which the land is held by the Council; and
 - c. Recognise existing leases of the land; and
 - d. Transfer the lessor’s interest in leases of the land to the Council; and
 - e. Empower the Council to dispose of the land; and

⁶ Note any approval to use the Emergency Response fund needs to acknowledge who should replenish it. That is, should the general ratepayer pay for this or the targeted ratepayer. The Emergency Response fund was created in 1995 primarily as a self-insurance mechanism for flood response and repairs.

- f. Define the purposes for which any of the proceeds from the sale of the land may be used.

- [45] The Council holds income derived from leases⁷ and the proceeds from the sale of Kuriwao land, upon trust.
- [46] Council currently holds \$6.4M of Kuriwao funds.
- [47] The Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme receives an annual income of \$0.25M from the Kuriwao fund. This figure has not increased since 2011. The fund is being used to part-fund ORC's investigation of shoreline retreat and sea level rise impacts on the Clutha delta.
- [48] The Act defines the purposes for which any of the income (including the proceeds from the sale of land) may be used.
- [49] To enable the Lower Clutha Scheme to access additional resources from the Kuriwao fund requires:
 - a. the proposed use of the income to fall within the Acts purposes; and
 - b. the works must be for the benefit of the Lower Clutha District (as defined); and
 - c. Council to approve the use of income.
- [50] Increasing the annual Kuriwao reserve contribution to the Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme would allow a smoother approach to funding.

CONSIDERATIONS

Policy Considerations

- [51] Consideration of Council policy with respect to accessing the ORC Emergency Response fund and flood protection scheme specific reserves (Lower Clutha Scheme) to be considered in decisions to be made around funding of flood damage repairs.

Financial Implications and Considerations

- [52] Costs associated with the December 2019 and February 2020 floods including flood response and Priority 1 flood recovery actions are unbudgeted. The respective flood protection and land drainage schemes have been incurring the flood recovery and repair expenditure as an overspend.
- [53] The Priority 2 flood repair costs are estimated to have an impact of \$3.25M across Otago of which \$2.85M applies to the Lower Clutha Flood Protection Scheme and River Management budgets to reinstate key infrastructure and stabilise further river channel breach.
- [54] The current scheme structure and recovery of reserves will have an implication on the scheme rate payers.

⁷ There are six current Kuriwao leases in place

Significance and Engagement

[55] Based on the estimated costs, funding of the FY 2019/2020 flood response and recovery is significant to the schemes that have experienced the flooding and the resulting damage caused. Funding implications have been initially assessed and different funding options outlined above.

Legislative Considerations

[56] ORC is operating under the provision of the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Act 1941.

NEXT STEPS

[57] The next steps are:

1. Complete the Priority 1 flood damage repairs and investigations by **30 June 2020**.
2. Undertake to complete the Priority 2 flood repair actions in FY 2020/21.
3. Proceed with funding the repair works under ORC funding through scheme overspend and / or access to ORC Emergency response reserve.
4. Continue to collate NEMA eligible flood damage repair costs to submit claim when threshold is exceeded.⁸
5. Investigate an increase in the annual income received from the Kuriwao Reserve into Lower Clutha Scheme.
6. Continue engagement and support with Clutha District Council on its flood recovery actions.
7. Continue to incorporate information from flood recovery into scheme asset management plans, performance assessments and adaptation planning.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Appendix 1. Progress and Revised Flood Damage Priorities as at 15 May 2020 [**10.3.1** - 4 pages]
2. Appendix 2. NEMA and CIP Shovel Ready Funding Application Details [**10.3.2** - 7 pages]
3. Appendix 3. Flood Protection Schemes background and maps [**10.3.3** - 4 pages]
4. Appendix 4. Priority 1 Flood damage - location and selected completed repairs [**10.3.4** - 7 pages]
5. Appendix 5. Priority 2 Flood damage - location and details of repairs required [**10.3.5** - 8 pages]
6. Appendix 6. Emergency Response Fund creation [**10.3.6** - 5 pages]

⁸ The NEMA threshold for Otago Regional Council for FY 2019/20 is \$1.8M (refer to Appendix 2).

APPENDIX 1

PROGRESS AND UPDATED FLOOD DAMAGE ASSESSMENT SINCE 11 MARCH 2020 REPORT

1. Progress since 11 March 2020 Report to the Infrastructure Committee

Progress against the actions from the previous report to the Infrastructure Committee which were outlined as next steps, are summarised below in italics:

A. Continue the overall flood damage repair assessment to ascertain scope and costing of repairs.

This has continued with progress documented in Table 1 in Appendix 1. Cost estimates for Priority 1 and 2 flood damage repairs are included in Tables 1 and 2 in the main report.

B. Commence investigations and design into Priority 1 areas of repair for FY 2019/2020.

Flood recovery actions that have already been completed, are underway or likely to be completed by 30 June 2020 are updated in Table 1 below.

The actions have included easy to do flood damage repairs or debris removal that was able to be undertaken soon after the February 2020 floods or as soon as work recommenced under Covid-19 Level 3 restrictions. Actions also include design investigation and overall flood recovery coordination that continued during Covid-19 Level 4 lockdown.

Examples of the Priority 1 repairs completed are shown in Appendix 4.

C. Apply for the NEMA funding, if eligible.

The application for NEMA funding requires prior expenditure and completion of repairs as discussed further in Appendix 2.

D. Engagement with the Clutha District Council (CDC) on ownership of assets and collaborate on funding where relevant.

This has been completed and the ownership of the Hospital Creek Detention Bank confirmed as Clutha District Council. The cost of repairing this detention bank is the Clutha District Council's responsibility however ORC is collaborating with CDC on the repairs. ORC collaboration has included providing hydrologic modelling to inform options to repair the detention bank and assisting with the CDC application for CIP Shovel Ready funding described further below.

E. Develop mitigation/response plans for areas that may be deferred to FY 2020/2021 and the 2021/31 LTP.

This has been prepared and is presented in tables 2 and 3 below.

F. Proceed with investigations to refine costs and options for FY 2020/2021 repairs.

This has been completed and is presented in Table 1 and 2 in the main report.

G. Incorporate information from the floods into scheme performance assessments and adaptation planning for the Clutha and Dart/Rees deltas.

The flood protection scheme performance assessment and the adaptation planning for the Clutha Delta and the Dart/Rees rivers delta is underway and information collected during the recent flood events is being incorporated to inform this work.

2. Revised assessment of flood damage repairs as at 15 May 2020

This section revises the summary of flood damage repairs dated 28 February 2020 included as part of the 11 March report to the Infrastructure Committee. This update notes progress in Table 1 against each of the 12 issues previously presented. More detail on Priority 1 and Priority 2 repairs is provided in Tables 2 and 3.

Priorities for flood damage repair work are defined as:

- Priority 1: Further investigations and work (where feasible) to be undertaken as soon as possible and before the end of June 2020
- Priority 2: Investigation and work planned to be undertaken during the 2020/21 financial year, and
- Priority 3: To be undertaken over a longer period, possibly planned and funded through the Long Term Plan.

Table 1. Progress against issues previously presented to Infrastructure Committee on 11 March 2020

Issue no & Priority	Area / Description	Description & Size	Progress to 11 May 2020
Issue 1 Priority 1 By 6/2020	Lower Clutha. Riverbank Rd upstream of Renton Rd.	Collapse of 100-150 m of stopbank and public access road.	4 concept designs investigated and priced. Further holistic river management required before repair option selected.
Issue 2 Priority 1 By 6/2020	Lower Clutha Waitepeka stopbank.	Overtopped and piping failure of 430m of stopbank. Spillway to be reinstated.	Stopbank repair design complete with indicative cost estimate. Next step is tendering.
Issue 4 Priority 1 By 6/2020	Lower Clutha -Main stopbank. Pressure relief wells & scour	Sediment discharge & slumping – 2 relief wells require further investigation. Minor repairs to scour on stopbank requires fixing at several locations	Minor stopbank repairs completed Investigation into pressure relief well integrity under way with manual and CCTV inspection.
Issue 6 Priority 1 By 6/2020	Lower Pomahaka River. Burning Plain Road River bank and road collapse	Approx. 200m of river bank eroded and approx 100m of road washed out - requires rebuilding or closure (CDC decision).	Further coordination required with CDC on status of whether or not road will remain closed prior to designing repair.
Issue 3 Priority 2 In 20/21	Lower Clutha Hospital Rd Stopbank. Upstream of Balclutha	Piping failure along 250m of stopbank. Requires investigation and options. Rebuild or alternatives.	CDC ownership clarified. ORC assisting with catchment hydrologic modelling. Collaborated on CIP funding application.

Issue no & Priority	Area / Description	Description & Size	Progress to 11 May 2020
Issue 5 Priority 2 In 20/21 & LTP	Lower Clutha - river bank erosion, debris and gravel bank build up	Bank erosion at several locations, debris and tree removal. Gravel build up needs to be addressed as it places additional pressure on eroded/slumping areas. Further investigation required.	19 locations of bank erosion identified. Works are underway to repair erosion & scour at 6 locations. Further design and prioritization required for remaining areas together with development of holistic river management strategy
Issue 7 Priority 2 In 20/21	Albert Town rock wall collapse (2019 issue)	Approx. 40m of 230m rockwall upstream of SH6 eroded and peeled back. Needs rock repair before it gets worse	Stability investigation completed. Detailed design underway and due for completion by end of May 2020.
Issue 8 On going monitoring and communication with QLDC	Kawarau River Gibbston Valley – debris build up from Grassy Stream	Debris flow down Grassy Stream blocked channel – residents have cleared & are seeking cost recovery. Not an ORC issue	No progress currently, mainly due to Covid-19 restrictions. Plan to meet (jointly with QLDC) with the affected residents to explain the hazards, roles and responsibilities. Date of meeting to be determined.
Issue 9 Priority 2 In 20/21	Glenorchy - overflow of stopbank & town flooding	Glenorchy floodbank overtopped into flooding a few houses up to 30 self-evacuated. Ongoing issue noted in 2007 in flood hazard assessment ORC/QLDC to discuss/agree on responsibility.	ORC is investigating possible causes of blockage of the Glenorchy Lagoon channel and outlet. Coordinating with QLDC and DoC to agree on roles and responsibilities in for lagoon, rivers and floodbank. Water level recorder to be installed in lagoon to provide near real-time levels available to the public.
Issue 10 Priority 2 In 20/21	Glenorchy – flooding of Kinloch Rd	Large lengths (approx. 1km) of Kinloch Rd. flooded, in 2020 and previous 2091 floods. Morphology study initiated (ORC)/ Road options require investigation (QLDC)	Investigation of Dart and Rees river systems and their floodplains is underway to inform river and floodplain management plans. Results expected early July 2020.
Issue 11 Priority 2 In 20/21 if at all	Upper Pomahaka River. Camperdown S bends Bank erosion & debris build up	Pomahaka River eroding and eating into private farm land. Extensive deposition of tree debris on land in old floodplain.	Expert opinion of River Morphologist sought to provide strategic advice on most prudent way to address erosion through river management. Site visit to be undertaken in early June.
Issue 12 Ongoing BAU	Pomahaka – general debris with some location specific (MacFarlane Road) large piles requiring more urgent action.	Debris has deposited on river bank and terraces at a number of places. Land and forest owners as well as Some urgent debris removal required, remainder may be able to be undertaken as part of BAU	Urgent removal of large debris piles has been completed at Camperdown, Kelso (Winslade Rd) and Macfarlane Rd.

Table 2. Priority 1 actions and cost estimates

Priority 1. Completed, underway or to be completed by 30 June 2020	
Priority 1 Action	Details of action and location
Flood response and initial recovery	Flood response and initial recovery including urgent relatively simple repairs in Lower Clutha, debris removal and design investigations
Lower Clutha Scheme flood damage repairs	Includes repairs to main Clutha stopbank, urgent relatively simple repairs on Lower Clutha at 7 locations, repair to Barnego gravity culvert outlet, design investigations for Waitepeka, Balclutha Pressure relief wells, Riverbank Rd, and overall flood recovery management
River Management	Investigation into whole of river morphology, flood damage repair prioritization, debris removal at several locations, rock repair at Matau outlet, erosion repair on Waitati and Albert Town Rock Buttress detailed design
Natural Hazards Investigations	Stability assessment for Albert Town Rock Buttress and natural hazards investigation into rivers flowing into lake Wakatipu

Table 3. Priority2 flood damage repairs

Priority 2. Awaiting detailed design and funding. To be completed during FY2020/21	
Priority 2 Action	Details of action and location
Albert Town Rock Buttress Repair	Urgent repair awaiting completion of design in Priority 1. Risk of further slips and damage imminent. High community use and provides upstream protection to critical SH6 bridge.
Waitepeka stopbank repair. Lower Clutha	Repair urgent as there is a risk to the downstream Owaka Highway. Cost is latest T&T estimate. Tendering to find contractor before end June and work to commence in July 2020
Balclutha pressure relief wells repair	On hold. Awaiting completion of Priority 1 investigation above
Lower Clutha slips and scour @ 6 locations	Whole of Lower Clutha River investigation in 8 above will guide these repairs, which will still require bathymetric survey, detailed design & procurement. Cost estimate is indicative placeholder to be confirmed with tenders.
Lower Clutha. Riverbank Road slips at Lawson Rd & Renton Rd	Risk mitigated by temporary (possibly permanent) road closure by CDC. T&T investigation provided 4 concept designs with costs ranging from \$1M to \$10M. Whole of river investigation initiated to address cause of damage, reduce long term instability and determine most prudent long-term repair option.
Further investigations	Detailed design will still be required for Priority 2 damage repairs and flood recovery management will be required for coordination of works.
Burning Plain Rd. Pomahaka	Low risk. Awaiting CDC decision re Road close or not. Will require earthwork. Not likely eligible for NEMA cost share.

APPENDIX 2.

APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING THROUGH NEMA and the CROWN INFRASTRUCTURE PARTNERSHIP

This appendix provides information on central government funding available through the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the Crown Infrastructure Partnership (CIP).

NEMA provides central government funding available to repair essential infrastructure following emergencies subject to eligibility criteria discussed below.

The Crown Infrastructure Partnership administers a recent government initiative to provide economic stimulus funding for “Shovel Ready” projects following the Covid-19 event, referred to as CIP Shovel Ready funding.

Funding available through NEMA is totally separate from the CIP Shovel Ready funding, however it is highly unlikely that both sources of funding will be available for the same project. More details on each fund and the ORC applications for CIP Shovel Ready funds are described in more detail below.

1. National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) Funding

Government funding, available to repair essential infrastructure following emergencies, is administered through NEMA. Costs to repair essential eligible infrastructure, above a threshold are claimable at a 60% subsidy from Central Government.

The threshold is 0.002% of the Rateable Value of Council infrastructure in the financial year in which the damage occurred. For ORC the threshold for damage in 2019/20 is around \$1.8M.

Eligible infrastructure includes all constructed assets (stopbanks, pumps, pumphouses, culverts, etc) and willows planted specifically to provide flood protection. Flood management response costs (other than ORC staff), flood recovery coordination, flood damage assessment, investigation (external to ORC staff costs), contracting and construction to repair eligible assets are considered eligible.

Non-eligible costs include river management to address aggradation and remove excess of gravel, debris removal and repair to natural river banks.

Any improvement to the asset undertaken during the flood damage repair is considered to be a betterment, not eligible for NEMA funding.

The key to receiving central government funding through NEMA is for ORC to spend above its threshold (\$1.8M) on eligible flood response and recovery, before it can claim 60% of expenditure above the threshold.

Initial discussions have been held with NEMA representatives regarding ORC making a claim for flood damages from the 2019 and 2020 floods. Engagement with NEMA is ongoing, particularly with respect to clarifying eligibility of specific flood damage repairs for NEMA funding.

A claim for NEMA funds needs to be based on completed flood damage repairs supported with detailed invoices for eligible up to and above the threshold. ORC is closely tracking flood response and recovery expenditure to determine what can be claimed through NEMA.

The table below shows the current estimate of funds that may be able to be claimed through NEMA based on the flood response and recovery costs to date and estimated eligible Priority 1 and Priority 2 costs.

Table 1. Possible NEMA claimable funds based on estimated eligible flood damage repairs.

NEMA CLAIM SCENARIO *		
Description	Amounts	Comments
<i>Ratable Value of Otago</i>	\$ 90,000,000,000.00	<i>Estimated by Finance</i>
<i>NEMA Threshold Modifier</i>	% 0.00002	<i>Stipulated by NEMA</i>
<i>Calculated NEMA Threshold</i>	\$ 1,800,000.00	<i>\$90,000,000,000.00 x 0.00002%</i>
 <i>Estimate of Flood Repairs</i>		
<i>Actual Expenses Incurred</i>	\$ 376,593.46	<i>As at 12/05/2020</i>
<i>Commitments Outstanding</i>	\$ 68,485.66	<i>As at 12/05/2020</i>
<i>Additional FY19/20 Works</i>	200,340.62	<i>As at 12/05/2020</i>
<i>Subtotal</i>	645,419.74	<i>Priority 1, Table 1 - Council paper</i>
<i>Estimated Cost of FY20/21 Works</i>	\$ 3,250,000.00	<i>Priority 2, Table 2 - Council paper</i>
<i>Projected Total Spend Incurred by ORC</i>	\$ 3,895,419.74	
 <i>Estimate of NEMA Funding</i>		
<i>Less ORC Staff Time, Travel, & Overheads (not eligible)</i>	\$ - 102,887.26	<i>As at 12/05/2020</i>
<i>Less NEMA Threshold</i>	\$ - 1,800,000.00	
<i>Less Capital Works (not eligible)</i>	\$ - 250,000.00	
<i>Potential Claimable Overspend</i>	\$ 1,992,532.48	<i>Above NEMA Claim Threshold</i>
<i>Less Previously Claimed</i>	\$ -	
<i>Less ORC Funded Portion of Overspend</i>	\$ - 797,012.99	<i>40% of overage</i>
<i>NEMA Claimable Portion of Overspend</i>	\$ 1,195,519.49	<i>60% of overage</i>
* NEMA criteria apply as set out above * Estimated cost of FY20/21 Works is based on detailed estimates and eligible expenditure.		

2. CIP “Shovel Ready” Infrastructure Funding

In late March 2020, Crown Infrastructure Partners (CIP) was requested by Ministers Jones and Twyford to set up the Infrastructure Industry Reference Group (IRG) to advise the Government on issues arising as a result of Covid-19. They in turn invited industry, local bodies, consultants and asset owners to submit a list of “Shovel Ready” projects that would be truly ready for construction within 6 months, for consideration for Government funding to stimulate economic growth. These have since been referred to as CIP Shovel Ready Projects.

In the request for CIP Shovel Ready projects, it was indicated that there was a preference for the Government to fund projects of a significant size (>\$10M) or a package of projects of this size, while smaller projects would still be considered to get reasonable regional representation.

The timing of the call for CIP Shovel Ready projects at the end of March 2020 tied in with assessment of damage from the December 2019 and February 2020 floods that needed flood damage repair. Furthermore, several projects from earlier 2017 flooding were ready to implement.

Otago Regional Council staff worked collaboratively with the River Mangers Forum sector group to submit a combined “River Management and Flood Protection” package in the hope that this would be more favourably received, rather than many individual smaller submissions from individual local government bodies.

ORC selected projects that with the assistance of central government funding would:

1. Stimulate the local economy, especially for Clutha district;
2. Create jobs in the region
3. Distribute activity across three districts of Otago (Dunedin, Queenstown-Lakes, Clutha);
4. Benefit lifeline utility assets owned by or under the control of central government (State Highways, Dunedin International Airport);
5. Achieve immediate reduction in flood risk and increased resilience to future climate change;
6. Enhance water quality and ecosystem health in a regionally significant wetland (Robson Lagoon, South Otago).

ORC collaborated Clutha District Council (CDC) in the preparation of a submission for Hospital Creek Detention Area which was submitted on behalf of CDC with the ORC applications.

The joined-up River Management sector application was also submitted to the Provincial Growth Fund (PGF). In addition to the sector submission, ORC, along with other councils submitted their individual infrastructure projects to the IRG on 14 April 2020.

ORC submitted seven individual shovel ready infrastructure projects in Otago (1 on behalf of Clutha District Council). Six of these formed part of the combined proposal for the “River Management for Flood Protection Shovel Ready Projects” submitted by the River Managers’ Special Interest Group. The seventh was a submission for a Stock Truck Effluent Disposal Site, separate to the sector group submission.

A summary of the projects submitted and their benefits are presented in Table 2 below. More detailed information submitted as part of the River Managers Sector Group package for the six flood protection related projects is included thereafter.

Outcome of evaluation of projects

The Infrastructure Industry Reference Group (IRG) received submissions on 1924 projects with a combined value of around \$136 billion over a wide-ranging number of project types. It was tasked with finding projects that could be under way within 12 months, were of a minimum scale with material employment benefits and which provided national or regional public benefit. Prior to submitting their report the IRG indicated that most projects with a value of less than \$20M meeting the initial review criteria, would be forwarded to the Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) for its consideration for funding.

The IRG report was sent to the Economic Development Minister Phil Twyford and Infrastructure Minister Shane Jones on Monday 18 May 2020, together with a list of 802 projects for consideration for funding by the Government.

ORC received notification on 21 May 2020 that none of the projects that it had submitted had been included on the list of 802 sent to the Government for funding consideration.

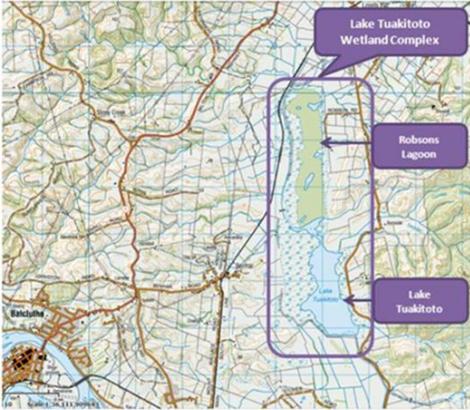
The IRG has forwarded each of the ORC projects to the Provincial Development Unit for consideration for funding through the Provincial Growth Fund, however could not guarantee that these projects would receive any further support.

Table 2. ORC Prioritised CIP Shovel Ready Projects

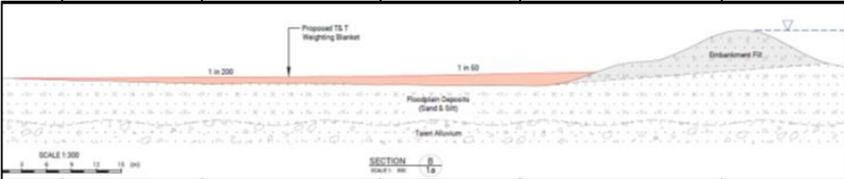
CIP Shovel Ready Project and ORC Priority	Public/Regional Benefit	Value (\$M)
Priority 1. West Taieri Contour Channel Upgrade	Provides flood protection to large area (7,300 ha) including high value agriculture & Dunedin International Airport.	6.5
Priority 2. Albert Town Rock Buttress	Public at risk from current instability. Repair stabilises area and protects downstream SH6 bridge. Provides stability to well used public/tourist cycle & walking track. Long term protection & stabilisation	0.3
Priority 3. Robson Lagoon, Tuakitoto Wetland	Environmental benefit allowing sustainable habitat levels during floods and passage of native fish.	0.75
Priority 4. Outram Floodbank Weighting Blanket	Provides flood protection to large area (4,000 ha) including high value agriculture, Outram & Dunedin International Airport. Reduces significant flood risk to community.	1.5
Priority 5. Riverbank Road Flood Slip Repair	Public benefit is reinstatement of flood protection to productive farming community and protection of > 800ha of low-lying productive farmland.	6.0
Priority 6. Stock Truck Effluent Disposal (STED)	Additional STED in network of STED's to reduce stock effluent on roads and reduce safety and environmental issues caused by stock effluent.	0.875
CDC Project. Hospital Creek Detention Area	Critical infrastructure, providing flood protection Balclutha and critical transport routes	1.1
Total Value		17.0

Regional Sector River Managers' SIG Flood Protection Infrastructure Covid-19 Recovery Projects Government Co-Investment Potential Request Estimates

No.	Council	Project Name/Scheme Location/Contact Details	Value to Region/NZ Key Points	Possible Start Date	Project Duration (up to 3 years)	Jobs	Govt Co- invest Request Est. \$M	Total Cost Est. \$M	Consents position – Any special Requirements	Procurement process incl. availability of Contractors/Suppliers	Value to the well-being of economy
1	Otago Regional Council	<p>Project Name: West Taieri Contour Channel Upgrade 2,820m (Stages 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10)</p> <p>Location: West Taieri, Dunedin, OTAGO</p> <p>Contact details: Gavin Palmer 027 493 3960 Gavin.palmer@orc.govt.nz</p> <p>Michelle Mifflin 027 216 0091 Michelle.mifflin@orc.govt.nz</p>	<p>Renewal of aging infrastructure built in 1950's.</p> <p>Contour channel renewal/upgrade including bridge replacement</p>	Oct 2020	3 years +	<p>Construction involving, earthworks, culvert structures and bridge installation.</p> <p>Construction jobs:</p>		<p>\$6.5M</p> <p>(\$5.5M – Contour Channel and \$1.0M Bridges/Structures)</p>	Consent in place until 2028 for all Stages)	Contract Awarded – Currently suspended due to Covid-19 Event and Flooding February 2020	Provides key infrastructure improvements to protect property and people including Dunedin International Airport.
											
2	Otago Regional Council	<p>Project Name: Riverbank Road Flood Slip Repair</p> <p>Location: Lower Clutha, OTAGO</p> <p>Contact details: Gavin Palmer GM Operations 027 493 3960 Gavin.palmer@orc.govt.nz</p> <p>Ken Tarboton Flood Recovery Manager 029 368 9512 Ken.tarboton@orc.govt.nz</p>	<p>Part of critical flood protection infrastructure draining and protecting approximately 9,300 ha covering the Clutha delta. A district road has been cut off through flood erosion and scour and requires reinstatement</p>	July/Aug 2020	12 months	170m of stopbank stabilisation on steep bank then reinstatement of road		\$6.0M	Replacement work. Consented	Design to be completed May 2020 Contractors to be procured – June 2020	Part of critical flood protection system. Road provides access to local residents.
											

No.	Council	Project Name/Scheme Location/Contact Details	Value to Region/NZ Key Points	Possible Start Date	Project Duration (up to 3 years)	Jobs	Govt Co- invest Request Est. \$M	Total Cost Est. \$M	Consents position – Any special Requirements	Procurement process incl. availability of Contractors/Suppliers	Value to the well-being of economy
3	Otago Regional Council	<p>Project Name: Albert Town Rock Butress</p> <p>Location: Lake Wanaka Outlet, Albert Town, OTAGO</p> <p>Contact details: Gavin Palmer GM Operations 027 493 3960 Gavin.palmer@orc.govt.nz</p> <p>Ken Tarboton Flood Recovery Manager 029 368 9512 Ken.tarboton@orc.govt.nz</p>	<p>Critical infrastructure to provide protection upstream of the SH6 Bridge abutment. Protects lifeline transport route. Cycle & walking path impacted by flood damage.</p>	August 2020	4 months	<p>Reinstate 40m of 230m rock butress.</p> 		\$0.3M	Replacement work. Consented	Geotechnical investigation to be fast tracked and design-build methodology used to accelerate procurement and construction.	Protection of critical infrastructure
4	Otago Regional Council	<p>Project Name: Upgrade and Installation of ORC Flow Management Structures at Robson Lagoon (part of Lake Tuakitoto Wetland)</p> <p>Location: Lower Clutha, Balclutha, OTAGO</p> <p>Contact details: Gavin Palmer GM Operations 027 493 3960 Gavin.palmer@orc.govt.nz</p> <p>Michelle Mifflin Manager Engineering 027 216 0091 Michelle.mifflin@orc.govt.nz</p>	<p>The Otago Regional Council (ORC) currently operates and maintains several flow-control structures on the Robson Lagoon.</p> <p>Robson Lagoon is a part of the Lake Tuakitoto wetland, a significant wetland.</p> <p>The flow management structures will allow sustainable habitat levels and flows during flood events. The control structures will provide for the passage of fish.</p> <p>These lakes and lagoon for part of the catchment of the Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme.</p>	June 2020	12 months	<p>Civil construction works.</p> <p>Estimated workforce: 10</p>  		\$0.75M	Consent in progress, expected by May 2020.	<p>Tenders received in 2018.</p> <p>Post Tender closing – some design changes from consenting.</p> <p>Tenders to resubmit pricing and award to follow.</p>	<p>Critical to preservation of the natural values of Robsons Lagoon and the lake Tuakitoto.</p> <p>This will ensure that the increased flow control, will allow for habitable levels in the lake and lagoon seasonally.</p> <p>The Lower Clutha have a high community value and care on the Lake and Lagoon.</p>

Council Meeting - 27 May 2020 - MATTERS FOR COUNCIL DECISION

No.	Council	Project Name/Scheme Location/Contact Details	Value to Region/NZ Key Points	Possible Start Date	Project Duration (up to 3 years)	Jobs	Govt Co-invest Request Est. \$M	Total Cost Est. \$M	Consents position – Any special Requirements	Procurement process incl. availability of Contractors/Suppliers	Value to the well-being of economy
5	Otago Regional Council	<p>Project Name: Outram Floodbank Weighting Blanket</p> <p>Construct Weighting Blanket, seal or replace culvert, construct bottom stormwater drains and refill weak zones caused by tree roots.</p> <p>Location: Outram, West Taieri, Dunedin, OTAGO</p> <p>Contact details: Gavin Palmer 027 493 3960 Gavin.palmer@orc.govt.nz</p> <p>Michelle Mifflin 027 216 0091 Michelle.mifflin@orc.govt.nz</p>	<p>Critical infrastructure, providing protection to people and property of Outram</p> 	October 2020	2 years	<p>Civil Construction works, earthworks and some culvert/structure works.</p> <p>Estimated Workforce: 10 -15</p>		\$1.5M	RMA Consent requirement to be confirmed, but Land Owner access required.	Design to be completed and tendered (3-month process)	High value, critical to community protection.
											
6	Clutha District Council	<p>Project Name: Hospital Creek Detention Bank Mitigation</p> <p>Implement mitigation for damage to Hospital Creek detention bank from February 2020 flooding</p> <p>Location: Balclutha, Clutha, OTAGO</p> <p>Contact details: Jules Witt, Group Manager Service Delivery 021 02 577 570 Jules.witt@cluthadc.govt.nz Or Ken Tarboton Flood Recovery Manager 029 368 9512 Ken.tarboton@orc.govt.nz</p>	<p>Critical infrastructure, providing flood protection Balclutha and critical transport routes</p>	October 2020	9 months	<p>Civil Construction works, earthworks a</p> 		\$1.1M	Replacement work. Consented	Detailed design to be completed by July 2020, accelerated procurement and construction by October 2020.	Critical to protection of the community from flooding
TOTALS FOR ORC								16.15M			

APPENDIX 3**FLOOD PROTECTION SCHEME MAPS AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Otago Regional Council owns, operates and maintains infrastructure across Otago in Flood Protection and Drainage Schemes as shown below Table 1. Further detail and background on the Lower Clutha and Taieri Schemes is provided thereafter.

Flood Protection and Drainage Schemes								
Region	Location	Flood Protection Schemes		No. of Floodways (F) and Ponding (P) Areas	Scheduled Drains		No. of Pump Stations	
		No.	Length of Floodbanks (km)		No.	Length (km)		
Central Otago	Alexandra	1	1	0	0	-	3	
Dunedin	Taieri Plain	1	107	7 (5 x F, 2 x P)	170 (WT 95, ET 75)	269	6	
	Dunedin City	1	0	0	0	-	0	
	Tokomiro	0	-	-	66	110	0	
Lower Clutha	Balclutha to sea	1	110	1	0	153	5	
Waitaki	18km to sea	-	-	3	0	-	0	
Queenstown Lakes District	Shotover Delta	One training line – to control the direction of the Shotover River						

Table 1. ORC Flood Protection and Land Drainage Infrastructure

1. Lower Clutha Flood Protection Scheme

The Clutha River is New Zealand's second longest river and largest river by volume of flow. The Lower Clutha Flood Protection Scheme (Figure 1) protects and drains an area of approximately 9,300 ha in the Clutha delta from high Clutha River flows, downstream of Balclutha. The majority of the protected area is farmland but also includes the towns of Balclutha and Kaitangata.

Different flood protection standards specified in terms of Clutha River flow at Balclutha are provided within the Scheme as shown in Figure 1.

The Lower Clutha catchment has historically been at risk of flooding, with the Clutha River/Mata-Au delta area particularly vulnerable to flooding. The February 2020 peak flow ranked as the 9th highest flow on record as shown in Table 2 below.

Rank	Flood Date	Peak flow at Balclutha (m ³ /s)
1	September 1878	5,600
2	October 1978	4,580
3	November 1999	4,160
4	January 1919	3,950
5	January 1866	3,700
6	December 1995	3,420
7	May 1917	3,350
8	November 1957	3,190
9	February 2020	3,175

Table 2. Clutha River flood history (recording started in 1954, peak flows prior to 1954 are estimated)

The February 2020 flood event came soon after the November/December 2019 flood event. The Scheme performed very well providing the design level of flood protection, however flood damage was sustained in a number of areas.

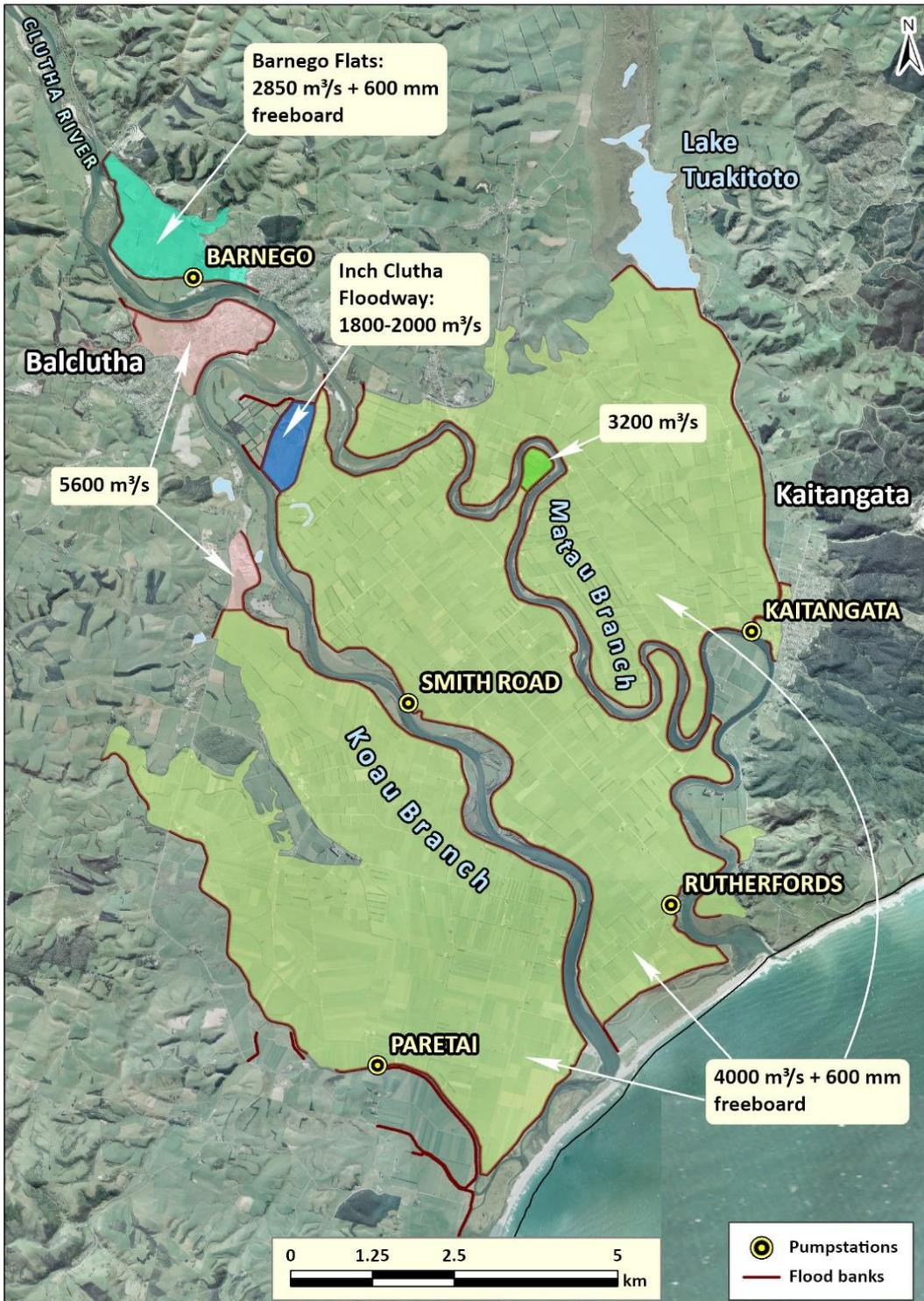


Figure 1. Lower Clutha Flood Protection Scheme

2. Taieri Flood Protection Scheme

The Lower Taieri Flood Control Scheme (Figure 2) provides flood protection to an area of approximately 18,000 ha of the Taieri Plain. The Scheme provides important protection to the predominant Taieri farming area, along with the townships of Mosgiel, Outram, Momona, Outram, and the Dunedin Airport.

The land is very low-lying, with some West Taieri farmland being slightly below mean sea level. Dunedin Airport is about one metre above sea level, and Mosgiel some 15 m above sea level.

The Scheme includes the Taieri River and several tributaries. Scheme assets include 107km of flood protection banks (floodbanks), 2 major flood ponding areas, 269km of drains, 6 pump stations, and a number of outfall structures, bridges, and numerous culverts.

The Lower Taieri Plain has a long history of flooding, and development of drainage and flood protection works goes back to the early 1900's. The largest 7 recorded peak flows are shown in Table 3 below.

Rank	Flood Date	Peak flow at Outram (m ³ /s)
1	June 1980	2,520
2	February 1868	2,200
3	May 1957	2,000
4	May 1940	1,800
5	April 1944	1,750
6	May 1923	1,750
7	July 2017	1,690

Table 3. Taieri River flood history (recording started in 1968, peak flows prior to 1968 are estimated)

Recent flooding on the Taieri Plains, particularly in July 2017, significantly tested the Scheme flood and local drainage systems, and highlighted concerns on the performance of the Scheme and local drainage networks. A full review of the Scheme is currently being undertaken, and will be further reported to Council next month.

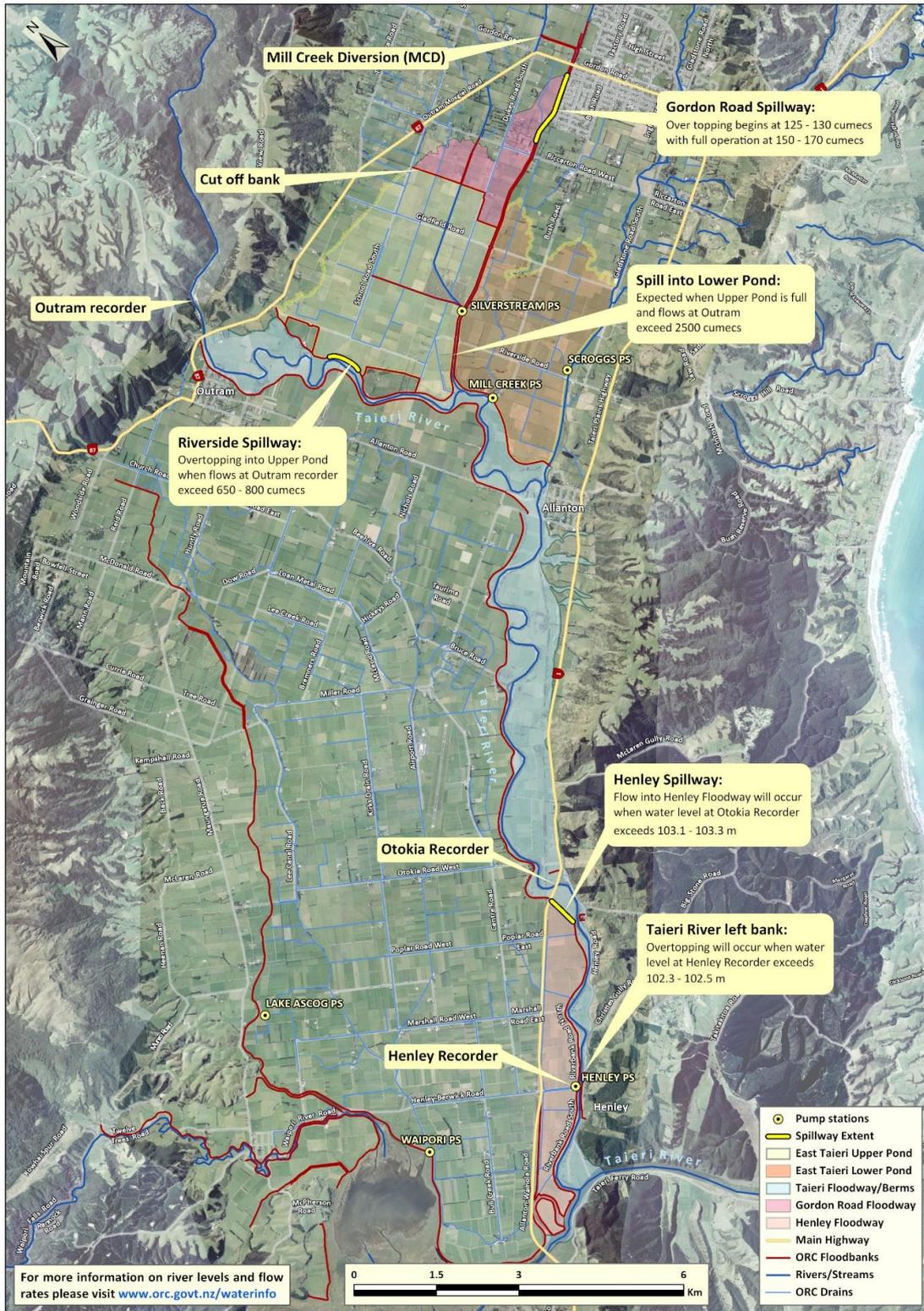


Figure 2. Taieri Flood Protection Scheme

Appendix 4.

Priority 1 Flood Damage – Location and Selected Completed Repairs

This appendix shows the locations of Priority 1 flood damage repair work either completed or underway, followed by examples of some of these works. Priority 1 works include relatively easy to undertake flood damage repairs, debris removal and design investigations. These actions have been undertaken across the region as indicated by the locations in the regional map in Figure 1 below and the Lower Clutha map in Figure 2.

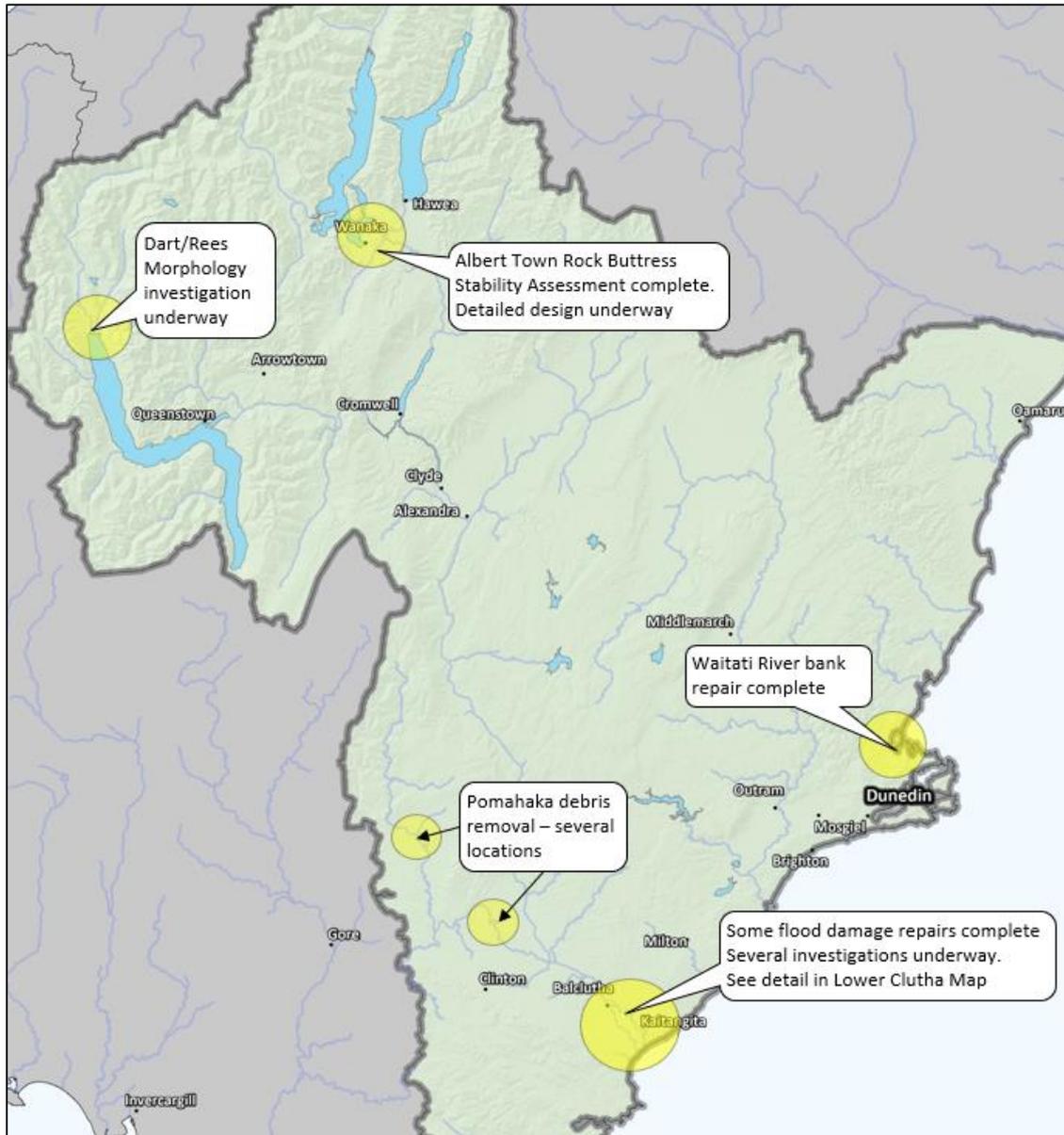


Figure 1. Location of Priority 1 Flood repair work underway or completed across the Otago Region

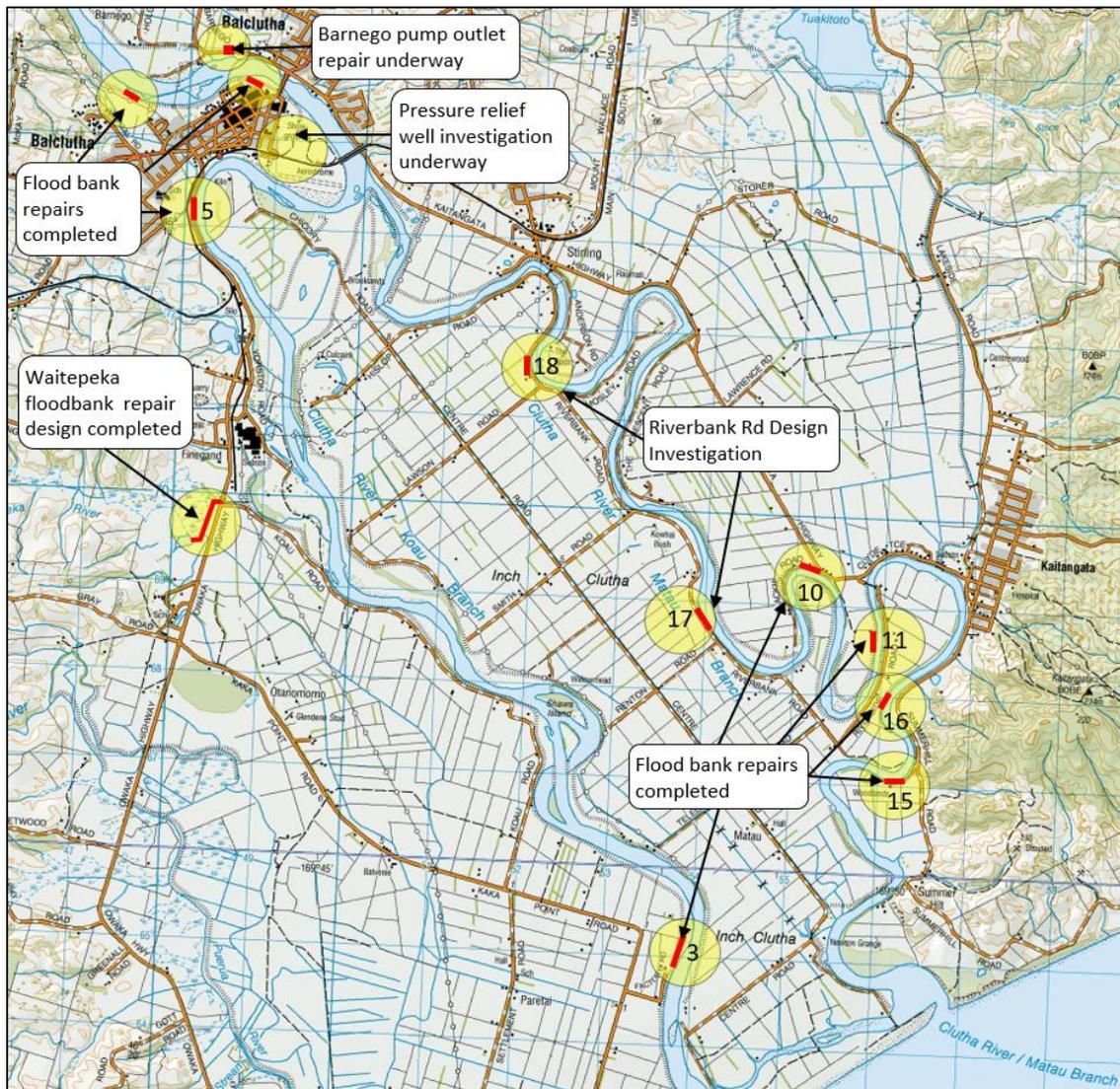


Figure 2. Location of Priority 1 Flood repair work underway or completed in the Lower Clutha.

1. Flood Repair – Balclutha Stopbank, Upstream of SH1 Bridge

Earthwork repairs were undertaken to repair scour on the main Clutha stopbank at the four locations shown Figure 3. Before and after repair is shown in Figure 4 at location 1.



Figure 3. Location of repairs to main Balclutha stopbank



Figure 4. Main Balclutha stopbank (location 1, Figure 3) before (left) and after (right) repair.

2. Bank Erosion Repair Near Summer Hill Road (location 15)

Approximately 40m of scour and bank collapse near Summer Hill Rd (#15, Figure 2) has been successfully repaired through battering back of the bank. It is still to be re-grassed and willows planted to provide further bank protection. Before and after repair photos are shown in Figure 5 below.



Figure 5. Repair of bank collapse near Summer Hill Rd before repair (above) and after repair (below).

3. Waitati River Bank Repair, Dunedin

Approximately 70m of river bank collapse has been repaired with rockwork at 4 locations on the Waitati River as shown in Figure 6 below.

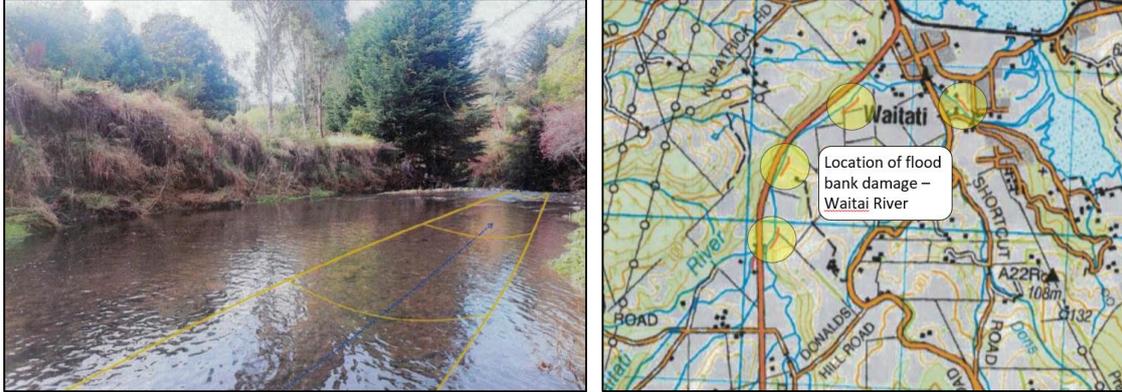


Figure 6. Waitati River Bank flood damage - 2017 floods (left) and location of repairs (right).



Figure 7. Waitati River Bank – during repair, and completed May 2020.

4. Debris Removal – Pomahaka River

Debris from 2020 flood has been removed from several locations on the Pomahaka River as shown in Figure 8 below.

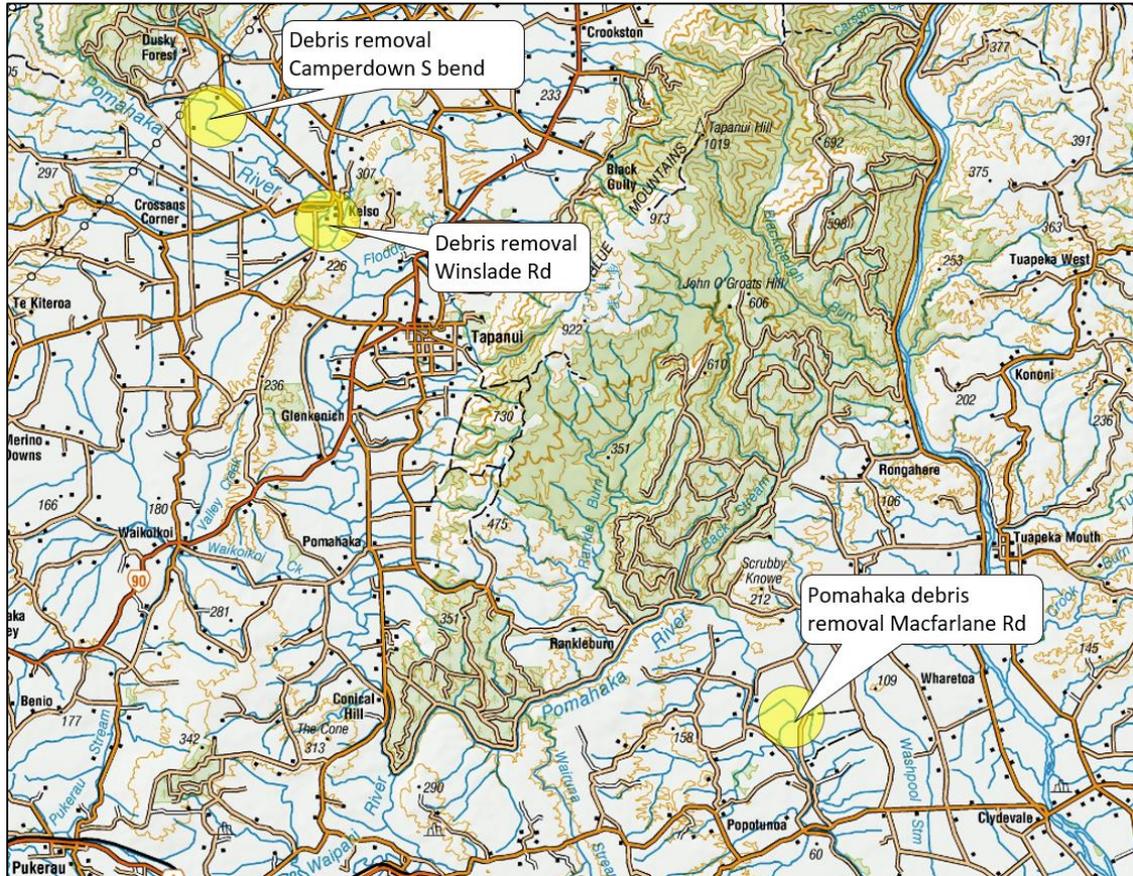


Figure 8. Location of areas from which debris has been removed on the Pomahaka River.

4.1. Debris removal – Camperdown S-Bend, Pomahaka River



Figure 9. Removal of debris from Camperdown S-Bends, Upper Pomahaka River.

4.2. Debris removal - Winslade Rd, Pomahaka Rlver



Figure 10. Debris before, during and after removal from Pomahaka River, near Winslade Road, Kelso.

Appendix 5.

Priority 2 Flood Damage -Location and Details of Repairs Required

This appendix shows the locations of Priority 2 flood damage, and gives details of the repair work to be undertaken at selected locations. Priority 2 works are larger and more complex than the Priority 1 works and have required investigation and design prior to undertaking the repairs.

Priority 2 repair works are all located as shown in Figure 1 below with a more detailed location map for the Lower Clutha repair works provided in Figure 2.

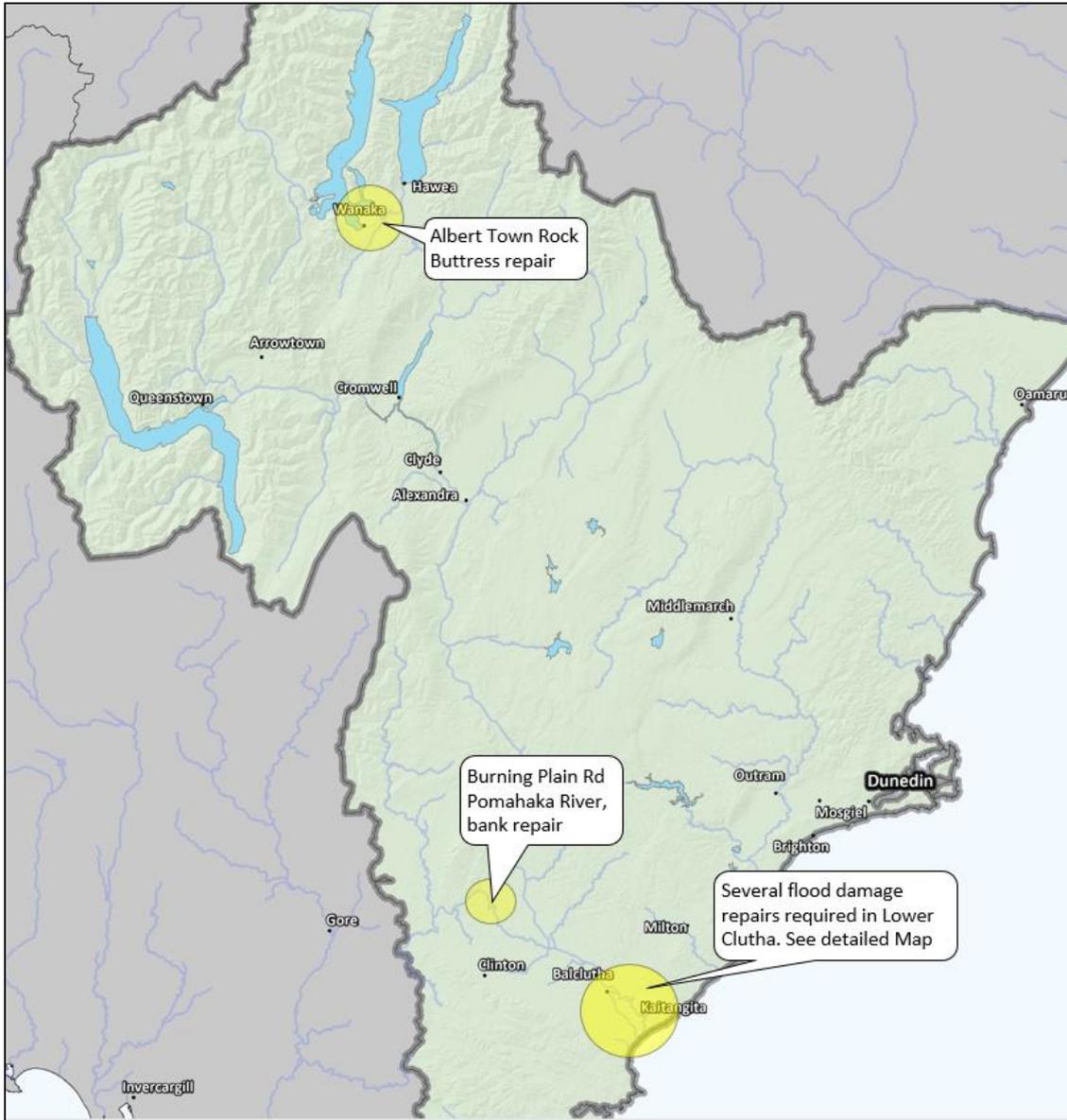


Figure 1. Location of Priority 2 flood damage repairs across the Otago region.

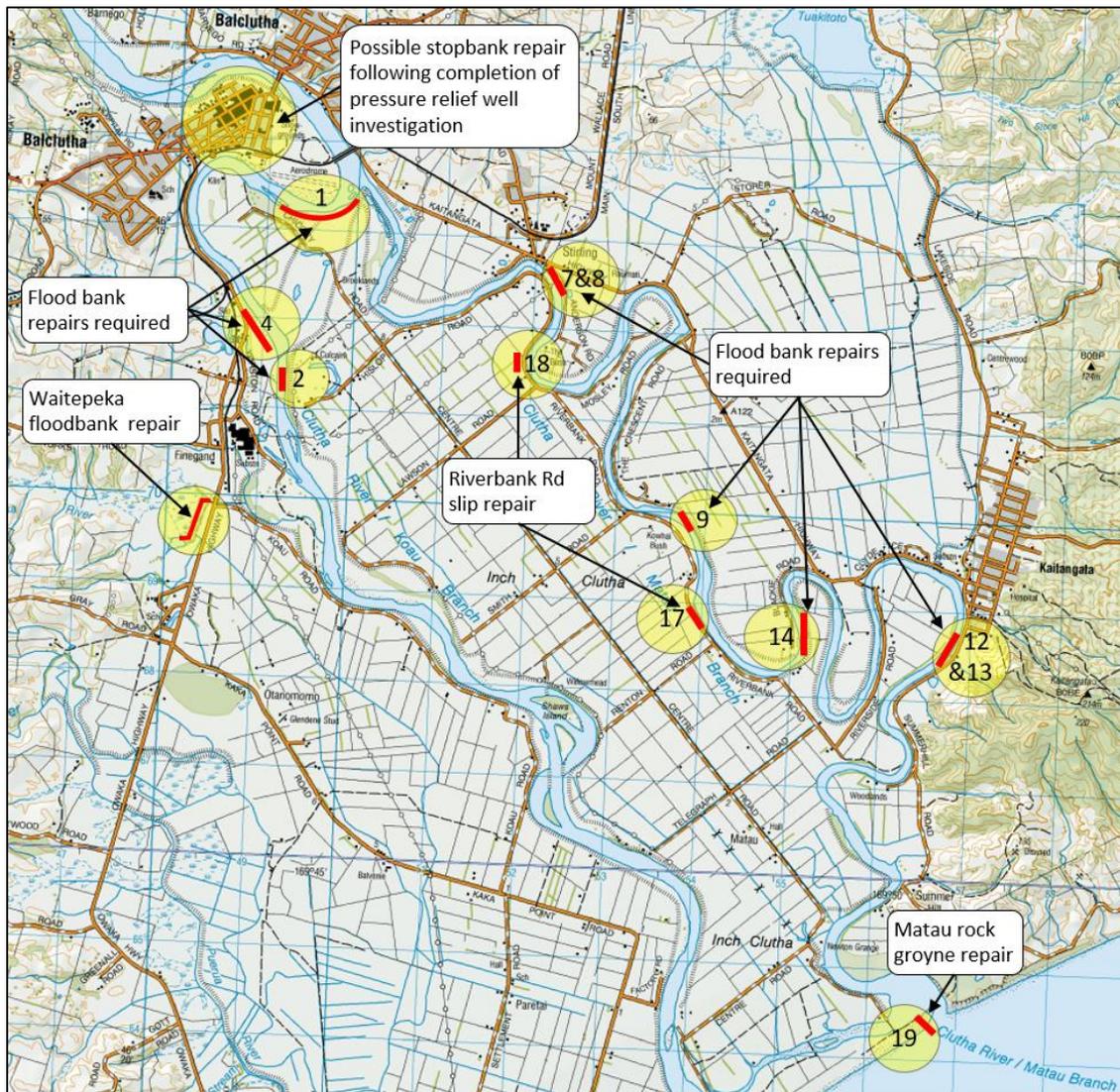


Figure 2. Location of Priority 2 flood damage in the Lower Clutha.

1. Lower Clutha Priority 2 Flood Damage Repair Details

1.1. Riverbank Rd. Slips at location 17 and 18

At Riverbank Rd on the Inch Clutha, severe slips occurred near Lawson Rd (location 18) and near Renton Rd (location 17). Damage from the 2017 flood with a slip of approximately 65m, was exacerbated in the 2020 flood to a slip length of approximately 120m. Figure 3 below illustrates the slip which has now extended beyond the 2017 extent (demarcated by the white wooden barriers). During the February 2020 flood, Riverbank Rd was completely inundated for much of its length where it runs on the river side of stopbank.

The Riverbank Road slip was identified in the March 2020 report to the Infrastructure Committee as one of the highest risk areas due to the public safety hazard. This risk has been mitigated due to temporary closure of Riverbank Rd by Clutha District Council (CDC). There is currently some consideration by CDC to possibly keep the road permanently closed.



Figure 3. Slip damage on Riverbank Rd (left) and inundation of Riverbank Rd at the height of the 5 February 2020 Flood.

Four concept designs for the repair of the Riverbank Rd slips have been investigated. These include:

- a) Long term stabilisation of the riverbank over 170m using sheetpile (cost approx. \$10M),
- b) Rock revetment using large rocks (650-1100mm) for bank stabilisation (cost approx. \$6M)
- c) Rockfill buttress with smaller (200-400mm) boulders to provide nominal stability (cost approx. \$1M). This option requires ongoing maintenance of rockwork, and
- d) Realigning the stopbank to provide more room for the river (cost approx. \$4M, excluding land purchase and other costs).

A river morphology expert has been engaged to investigate the possibility of managing the Lower Clutha River more holistically and to provide strategic guidance on other methods to repair the

Riverbank Rd slips and to prioritize the remainder of the Lower Clutha food damage repairs in conjunction with long term river management practices.

This approach of looking at a mix of soft (river management) and hard (flood protection) engineering, has a better likelihood of being more sustainable long term. It is not sustainable to provide hard rock protection to parts of the flood protection banks without addressing the underlying cause of the damage as the latter approach would likely result in high ongoing long-term maintenance costs.

1.2. Location 4, near Finegand.

An example of more extensive flood damage requiring repair is the 400-500m of bank scour near Finegand shown in Figure 4 below. This is the type of flood damage that will be investigated by the river morphology expert. A mix of soft (river management) and hard engineering will most likely be the mitigation solution at this and the other Priority 2 flood damage areas.

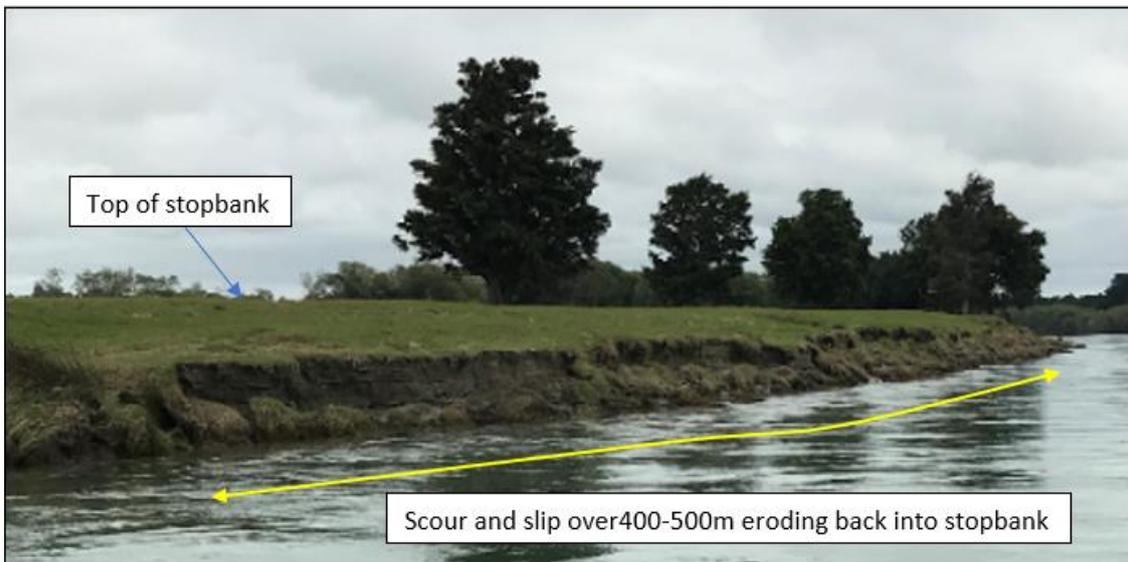


Figure 4. Erosion on Clutha true right bank near Finegand. An example of extensive erosion at several locations on the Lower Clutha.

1.3. Waitepeka floodbank repair

Overtopping, slumping and piping of the Waitepeka floodbank occurred during the February 2020 flood (Figures 5 & 6). The spillway was lowered with an excavator during the event to relieve pressure on the floodbank and prevent it from breaching.

Investigation and preliminary design to repair and reinstate the floodbank has been undertaken. The estimated cost to repair the Waitepeka floodbank, including engineering oversight and contact management is \$1.3M.

Repair of the Waitepeka floodbank is critical as it protects the Owaka Highway from flooding.



Figure 5. Waitepeka floodbank overtopping during February 2020 flood event.



Figure 6. Slumping and toe bulging on landside toe of Waitepeka floodbank.

1.4. Balclutha pressure relief wells

A series of pressure relief wells are located on the landward side of the main Balclutha stopbank. These provide pressure relief when floodwaters are high reducing the build-up of excess water pressure within the stopbank that could lead to failure.

Figure 7 shows slumping of a well located near the Balclutha swimming pool and sediment discharge from a well near the recreation hall. An investigation is underway to determine the cause of these issues and inspect all 46 pressure relief wells. Following the completion of the investigation, mitigation will be undertaken as a Priority 2 repair.



Figure 7. Balclutha stopbank pressure relief wells; near swimming pool (left) and near recreation hall (right)

2. Lake Wanaka. Albert Town Rock Buttress.

The Albert Town Rock Buttress located at the outlet to Lake Wanaka (Figure 1) provides protection to the right bank of the Clutha River a short distance downstream of the lake outlet. It provides riverbank protection upstream of the SH6 bridge and also riverbank stability for a regularly used cycle and pedestrian pathway.

In the December 2019 flooding, approximately 40m of rock peeled off the middle section of the buttress (Figure 8). At the upstream end, both the end of the buttress and the unprotected riverbank upstream have scoured and slumped. Further damage to the rock buttress occurred in February 2020 and slumping is ongoing.

An urgent investigation to assess the stability of the buttress has been completed by Geosolve (at the end of April 2020) providing recommendations to stabilise the bank and rock buttress. Detailed design of the mitigation solution is underway as a Priority 1 action.

Repair of the rock buttress, estimated to cost \$300,000 is planned as a Priority 2 repair to be undertaken as soon as possible. Completion is expected before by December 2020. The Albert Town Rock Buttress repair was submitted as a Shovel Ready project for possible government funding.



Figure 8. Albert Town Rock Buttress providing protection upstream of SH6 (left) and damage to rock and slumping (right).

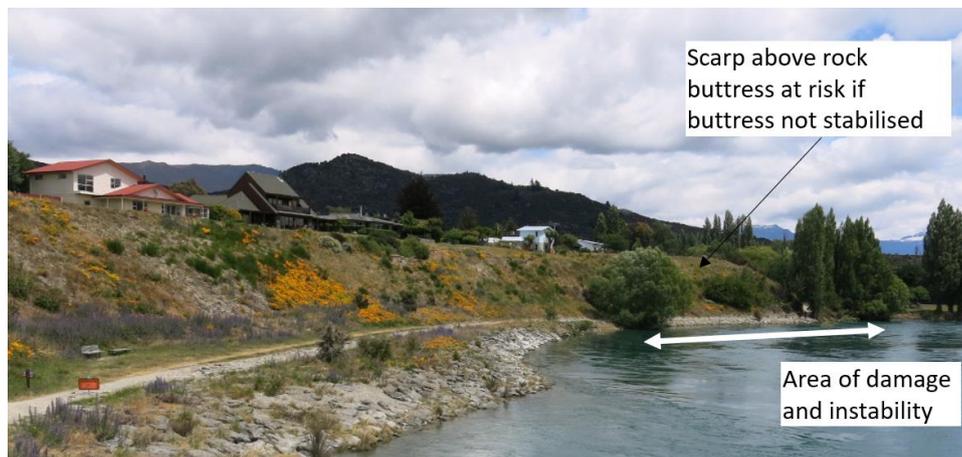


Figure 9. Albert Town – area of instability and scarp at risk above rock buttress.

3. Burning Plain Rd, Pomahaka

Extensive erosion and bank slip occurred during the February 2020 flood at Burning Plain Rd on the Pomahaka River (Figure1). The road is impassable and has been temporarily closed by CDC. It is uncertain as to whether or not the road will reopen. Reopening the road is not critical as it essentially only services two properties which still have access, one from the north and the other from the south, but not both from north and south. North to south access is available to both properties via Pomahaka Downs Rd approximately 1.5km to the west.

Some damage has occurred on the farm on the landward side of the road (where the vehicle is parked in Figure 9).

Mitigation is required to stabilise the bank and prevent further erosion of private property. ORC does not have a formal asset (stopbank) at this location, so NEMA has indicated that repair in this area is most likely not eligible for government subsidy.

Whether the road is reinstated or not, the erosion needs to be repaired to prevent further erosion. If the road is reinstated more substantial work will be required with CDC cost share.



Figure 9. Burning Plain Rd on Pomahaka River

Presented to Finance and Public Affairs Committee 1.2.95
Decision: Recommendation approved.

REPORT

File No.

Report No.: 95/38
Prepared for: Finance and Public Affairs Committee
Prepared by: Director Corporate Services
Date: 28 January 1995

Subject: Emergency Response Fund

Background

At the time of the withdrawal of insurance cover over the Council's infrastructural assets, Council confirmed a preferred interim option to "self insure" such assets through the provision of a reserve fund.

Subsequent to this consideration, Council considered and endorsed the principle that such a fund should also provide for other emergency response funding requirements and responsibilities of Council.

Discussion

1. Infrastructural Risk

The risk assessment exercise conducted by International Risk Managers NZ Ltd in respect of the Council's infrastructural assets, examined both earthquake risk and flood risk to the assets. The assessed earthquake exposure was not significant (less than \$350,000), leaving the flood risk a far greater potential and proven dollar loss.

The consultants concluded that a disaster funding reserve of \$750,000 should be the absolute minimum based on flooding associated with either the Taieri or Clutha but not both.

It is noted that the above assessment assumes the availability of the full Central Government contribution of 60% for disaster damage costs, with allowance also for the threshold contribution of 0.002% of net equalised capital value.

2. Other risks

Given the nature of the Council's roles, responsibilities and activities, it has been noted by Council that there are other potential risks for emergency response requirements. As previously noted to Council, it is considered desirable to extend the purpose of the emergency funding provision to the wider range of risks associated with Council activities.

3. Disaster Damage Funding Policy

Comment is made that in assessing any applications for assistance under the national disaster damage funding policy, Central Government does look for a

local authority to have made positive moves towards providing for the balance of funding.

4. Fund Guidelines

In establishing an emergency response fund, guidelines for the use of the fund and the replenishment following use are required.

Given the general nature of the fund purpose, it is considered appropriate to retain flexibility for calling on the fund, and for its replenishment.

It is recommended that the fund be available for responding to emergency situations and effects where, in the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer, it is considered appropriate.

It is further recommended that the consideration for the replenishment of the fund, including funding sources and timing, be considered on a case by case basis in accordance with standard or special policy of the time.

5. Extent of fund

As previously noted, the suggested absolute minimum fund to cover potential costs from one river system was \$750,000. It is suggested that an initial fund of \$1m would be appropriate, with a maximum fund requirement of \$1.5m.

Accordingly it is recommended that the initial fund of \$1m be established, the fund to attract interest and to have a cap of \$1.5m. Should the fund reach this level, any earnings in excess of this figure to be credited to general reserves.

6. Source of Initial Funding

Presently the Council's working capital provides the "insurance" against potential funding for emergency purposes. The working capital position is adequate to provide the source of funding for the Emergency Response Fund.

7. Investment of Funds

It is recommended that the Emergency Response Fund be invested as part of the Council's invested reserve funds, and attract interest.

8. Recommendation

- (a) That an Emergency Response Fund be established.
- (b) That the fund be available for responding to emergency situations and effects where in the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer such funding is appropriate.
- (c) That the replenishment of the fund, including funding sources and timing, be considered on a case by case basis by Council.
- (d) The fund be established with an amount of \$1m to be funded from working capital reserves.

- (e) That the fund attract interest.
- (f) That the fund be reviewed at \$1.5m or such other appropriate time.

R W Scott
Director Corporate Services
95-38

Presented to Corporate 26.1.00
Decision: Recommendation approved

REPORT

File:

Report No.: 2000/024
Prepared for: Corporate Committee
Prepared by: Corporate Analyst
Date: 20 January 2000

Subject: Emergency Response Fund

1. Précis

During 1995, Council resolved to establish an emergency response fund to be available for responding to emergency situations such as earthquake and flood risk. It was agreed that a fund be established using \$1 million from working capital, which would attract interest earnings, but have a cap of \$1.5 million. The fund was to cover more than earthquake and flood, it would cover the wider range of risks associated with Council activity where in the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer such funding is appropriate. It was also agreed that the fund would be reviewed at the time of reaching \$1.5 million, or at any other time necessary. It is considered that a review is appropriate at this period, as the likelihood of central government assistance previously assumed is less certain. As at 30 June 1999 the fund balance was \$1.44m, however Council approval to utilise an estimated \$620,000 to fund flood repairs associated with the November 1999 flooding will reduce this balance.

2. Risk

At the time of establishing the emergency response fund, a risk assessment of the Council's infrastructural assets was completed by International Risk Managers NZ Ltd. The assessed earthquake risk was not significant (less than \$350,000), however the flood risk was far greater. At that time, the consultants concluded that a disaster funding reserve of \$750,000 should be the minimum based on flooding associated with either the Taieri or Clutha, but not both. This assessment was also based on the assumption that full Central Government contribution of 60% for disaster damage cost would be available, with allowance also for the threshold contribution of 0.002% of net equalised capital value.

Council staff consider that the risk profile of Council has not changed over the last four year, however the assumption that a Central Government contribution would be available is no longer relevant. If an event were to occur, this Council is likely to have to meet the full response cost.

3. Fund Issues

There are two matters which presently require consideration by Council. The first is a review of the level of the fund, and the second the appropriate funding to re-finance the amount being used to fund the flood damage expenditure.

4. Fund Level

At the time of establishment of the fund analysis of the appropriate level took account of the availability of central government assistance of 60% above a base level of 0.002% of the region's net equalised capital value. The assessment given at that time was that a fund level capped at \$1.5m would provide an adequate reserve.

The revised fund level taking account of the risk protection for flood and earthquake events, and including a factor for other risks associated with the Council's activities, but without assuming central government support, is \$2.5 million.

5. Repayment of Flood Damage Draw

The Emergency Response Fund provided immediate funding for the flood response expenditure associated with the November 1999 event. The original assessment of this requirement was \$620,000, primarily for river channel restoration work in the Queenstown-Lakes and Central Otago districts.

Note is made of flood related costs in the Lower Clutha area, where most of the Council associated costs relate to the restoration of the scheme infrastructure funding for which is available from scheme reserves. Costs not specifically relating to scheme infrastructure, but related to channel restoration will be treated the same as the Upper Clutha works, with funding from the Emergency Response Fund.

It is proposed that the Emergency Response Fund be reimbursed for expenditure related to the flood response from the general rate over the next three years. In this regard an amount of \$200,000 has been included in the 2000/2001 estimates.

An additional \$250,000 has been included in the estimates to provide funding towards the increased level of funding in the Emergency Response Fund. Interest will continue to be accrued on the fund balance.

6. Recommendations

1. That the proposed level of the Emergency Response Fund be \$2.5 million.
2. That provision be made in the 2000/2001 estimates to provide a transition to the revised funding level from general rates.
3. That the funds from the reserve used for the November 1999 flood event be reimbursed over a three year period from general rates.

R W Scott

Director Corporate Services

1 r:\r2000\1-200\2000-024.doc

10.4. Proposed Governance Structure for developing a new Land and Water Regional Plan

Prepared for: Council
Report No. P&S1854
Activity: Governance Report
Author: Peter Constantine, Acting Principal Planner
Endorsed by: Gwyneth Elsum, General Manager Strategy, Policy and Science
Date: 27 May 2020

PURPOSE

- [1] The purpose of this paper is to provide further detail on the proposed governance structure for the Land & Water Regional Plan (LWRP) following the discussion at the Strategy and Planning Committee meeting on 13 May 2020.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [2] A key component of the development of the Land and Water Regional Plan is an appropriate, engaged and adaptable governance model.
- [3] Any governance structure should recognise and provide for:
- council ownership of the project;
 - fulfilment of Council's Treaty of Waitangi obligations;
 - differing types of engagement in the project at different times; and
 - the timeframe within which development of the LWRP must be completed.
- [4] The governance structure proposed in this paper provides for appropriate governance and policy input by councillors and iwi, engagement by councillors with their communities of interest, certainty of direction for staff, and enables flexibility for operational decision-making during the drafting of the LWRP.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Adopts** the proposed governance structure for developing a new Land and Water Regional Plan.
- 3) **Appoints** two permanent Councillors to the LWRP Governance Group.

BACKGROUND

- [5] At the Strategy and Planning
- [6] Committee meeting on 13 May 2020 a paper was presented, and discussed, that set out an outline of the proposed approach for developing the proposed new Land and Water Regional Plan (LWRP), to be notified by 31 December 2023.

- [7] During that meeting, Committee members raised a number of issues around some of the detail of the governance structure proposed in the report.
- [8] To achieve the notification date of 31 December 2023 it is imperative that work on this project commence immediately. For that to occur, and to provide certainty for all involved, it is important that Council agree and implement an overall LWRP governance structure.

ISSUE

- [9] Undertaking a full review of the operative Regional Plan: Water for Otago and operative Regional Plan: Waste for Otago under Section 79 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), as approved by Council on 31 October 2018, and developing a proposed new LWRP for notification by 31 December 2023 requires planning, co-ordination and control of a large number of complex and diverse activities across different internal stakeholders (ORC governance, executive leadership, staff from various teams), ORC's iwi partners and external stakeholders (consultants and contractors, relevant industry sector and community groups, and the wider public).
- [10] It also requires clarity and understanding of the different inputs to the plan development process, the different obligations on and opportunities available to Council during that process, and certainty of decision making along the way.

DISCUSSION

- [11] A tiered governance structure is proposed for the development of the new LWRP. The proposed governance structure has been discussed with iwi partners and an overview of the structure, reflecting the outcome of that discussion, is shown in Figure 1 below.
- [12] It is critical to note that the proposed governance structure does not alter the statutory role of Council in the plan development and adoption process. The RMA requires Council to adopt the proposed plan prior to public notification. To facilitate a smooth plan development process, the proposed governance structure requires regular progress updates to be provided to Council. This will be done through the Strategy and Planning Committee. In addition, there will be topic specific workshops at the various critical points in the plan development process. From both the regular updates and the workshops there is an opportunity for the full Council to provide direction to staff.

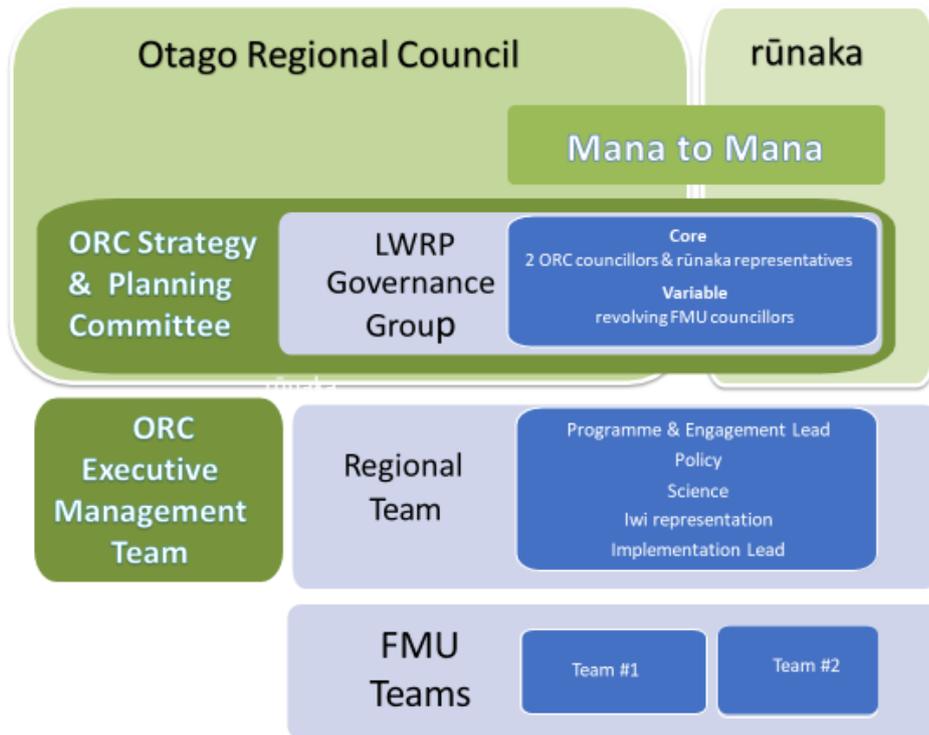


Figure 1: Proposed governance structure for the Land and Water Regional Plan

- [13] The governance structure proposed below has been designed to achieve the following outcomes:
- Enable iwi to appropriately resource their engagement with the LWRP development process while ensuring Council is able to fulfil its Treaty of Waitangi obligations;
 - Providing for direct engagement between councillors and their communities
 - Providing clarity and certainty as to responsibility for decision-making during the development of the LWRP; and
 - Providing clarity of purpose at each level and avoidance of overlap.
- [14] In the spirit of partnership, the LWRP governance model will include the Mana to Mana forum, which comprises rūnaka chairs and managers and ORC’s Chair, Deputy Chair, appointed councillors, and CEO and Senior Management. The existing Mana-to-Mana agreement, and the obligations and responsibilities within it, remain applicable and will be delivered through the proposed LWRP governance structure.
- [15] Except in respect of providing clarity of understanding of tangata whenua values, aspiration and priorities, Mana to Mana has no decision-making functions within this governance structure.

LWRP Governance Group (Sub Committee of Strategy & Planning Committee)

- [16] The LWRP Governance Group is proposed to be a sub-committee of Council’s Strategy and Planning Committee. It will consist of 4 ORC councillors (2 Councillors permanently appointed, plus revolving FMU councillors who will form part of the governance group

when staff are consulting in the FMU they represent), and rūnaka representatives, selected by Kai Tahu Papatipu Runanga ki Otago. The “revolving” councillors will only attend in respect of matters specific to the FMU they represent. ORC is likely to be engaging with communities in 2-3 FMUs at any one time.

- [17] The LWRP Governance Group will provide for discussion around values, aspirations and priorities at a region-wide and FMU level and for the resolution of issues that might arise as Council seeks to develop a relevant and forward looking land and freshwater environmental management regime that fulfils all the requirements of the RMA.
- [18] Key roles and responsibilities of the LWRP Governance Group, to be set out in Terms of Reference, include:
- Championing the development of the LWRP project;
 - Ongoing monitoring of consistent alignment with policy guidance provided by the Strategy and Planning Committee and the Mana to Mana Group throughout the different stages of the project;
 - Championing the development of the strategic approach to addressing key freshwater and land use management issues in the region;
 - Quarterly update reporting to Strategy & Planning Committee, and “as required” reporting on the various components of the programme;
 - Ensuring the Regional Team is aware of tangata whenua values, aspirations and priorities in respect to the environment and that these are clearly expressed and considered; and
 - Contributing to thinking and general content of the proposed new LWRP.

Regional & FMU Teams

- [19] The operational elements of the overall governance structure comprise the Regional Team and the individual FMU teams. Guidance and oversight over the day to day functioning of these teams will be provided by the ORC’s Executive Leadership Team, which comprises the Chief Executive and General Managers.
- [20] Logistical support for the FMU teams will be provided by communications and administration staff.

Councillor FMU Role

- [21] It is proposed that the involvement of individual councillors (the “revolving” councillors on the LWRP Governance Group) at the scale of the individual FMU processes will be focussed on:
- Contributing to the knowledge building phase of the project through being a source of knowledge and a conduit between the community and the FMU Team for local knowledge;
 - Providing guidance or governance direction on "local" issues;
 - Fulfilling the role of Council’s representative for community engagement in their FMU;
 - Facilitating local liaison and community engagement;
 - Sponsor their FMU on the Governance Group (rotating role); and
 - Champion their FMU at the Council table.

[22] Table 1 below sets out the FMUs and the councillor responsible

Freshwater Management Unit/Rohe	Councillor
Upper Lakes Rohe	Alexa Forbes
Dunstan Rohe	Michael Laws
Manuherekia Rohe	Andrew Noone
Lower Clutha Rohe	Gretchen Robertson
Taieri FMU	Carmen Hope
Dunedin Coast FMU	Gary Kelliher
North Otago FMU	Kevin Malcom
Catlins FMU	Kate Wilson
Roxburgh Rohe	Michael Deaker
Arrow and Cardrona (part of Dunstan Rohe)	Bryan Scott

Table 1: Overview of FMUs/Rohe and councillor responsible

Time Commitment

[23] It is anticipated that the following meeting/work schedules would be necessary for the governance of the LWRP project:

Mana to Mana:	three-monthly, unless specific issues arise
LWRP Governance Group:	anticipated to be 2 meetings per month
FMU ¹ :	continuous, but particularly frequent during consultation

CONSIDERATIONS

Policy Considerations

[24] Council’s resource management planning framework is not fit for purpose. Development of a new and fit for purpose planning regime is a critical piece of policy work in front of Council. Delivery of a new LWRP by 31 December 2023 is a significant undertaking.

[25] To meet that project timeline and to fulfil Council’s obligations to iwi (as Treaty of Waitangi partner) and the Otago community, a strong and focussed governance structure is essential.

Financial Considerations

[26] The development of the LWRP will be funded from Council’s existing budgets.

Significance and Engagement

[27] Development of a new LWRP will trigger ORC’s Significance and Engagement Policy (SEP) as this project is likely to have potentially significant impacts on industry and sector groups, agencies, environmental groups and local communities across the Otago region

¹ An engagement model specific to each FMU will be developed to accommodate the diverse range of issues and community/stakeholder make-up across FMUs in Otago.

and beyond. Because the LWRP will go through full public notification, it will satisfy the requirements of the SEP.

Legislative Considerations

- [28] The proposed governance structure will enable Council to fulfil its obligations under the RMA in respect of developing a fit for purpose land and freshwater resource management planning regime for Otago and to meet the timeframe obligation established by the Minister for the Environment (and agreed to by Council).

Risk Considerations

- [29] Developing a new fit for purpose LWRP is a complex process requiring a well-planned, coordinated and managed programme. Having a clear and agreed governance structure in place that sets out roles and responsibilities is a first important step towards reducing the risk of the programme failing to be completed by the set deadline or not achieving its objectives.
- [30] A second step towards reducing this risk is the development of a more detailed project management plan for carrying out the different components of the programme. Staff are currently working on the development of this project plan for some programme components and the full project plan will be finalised once the proposal for undertaking the technical work supporting the delivery of the FMU processes is completed in July 2020.
- [31] A final risk emanates from decisions being made by Council in the absence of a comprehensive understanding of the full context within which the LWRP must be developed. Additional councillor involvement through the proposed Sub Committee LWRP Governance Group and FMU representatives as well as frequent involvement of councillors to ensure timely decision making, will addresses this risk.

NEXT STEPS

- [32] With regard to project governance for the LWRP, the next steps are:
- Development of the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the LWRP Governance Group;
 - Appointment of Councillors and iwi to the various governance roles
 - Appointment of people to the various project team roles
 - Development of a comprehensive project plan, including risk management plan; and
 - Undertake a review to see whether adoption of the governance approach, in part or whole, for the Arrow, the Cardrona and the Manuherekia Rohe is appropriate.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

11.1. RPS Consultation Summary

Prepared for:	Council
Report No.	P&S1848
Activity:	Regulatory: Policy Development
Author:	Liam Glading, Policy Support Officer and Lisa Hawkins, Team Leader, RPS, Air and Coast
Endorsed by:	Gwyneth Elsum, General Manager Strategy, Policy and Science
Date:	27 May 2020

PURPOSE

- [1] To provide council with a summary of the data collected from the completed phase one, and partially completed phase two, pre-notification community consultation programme for the RPS Review 2020 undertaken across February and March 2020.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [2] The summary of consultation reflects the original RPS consultation programme presented to Council in January 2020. Phase one of the community consultation programme involved an online survey which had a total of 304 respondents across the Otago region, and eight respondents from outside Otago. Phase two of the community consultation programme involved consultation roadshows planned around the region. The programme of the roadshows was interrupted due to the COVID-19 restriction resulting in some roadshows not being undertaken. Despite this, both Phase one and Phase two proved to be important exercises for the RPS review and provided quality community feedback.
- [3] The most significant outcomes of the community consultation were the following:
1. The online community consultation programme confirmed the relevance of the key issue statements, based on the areas of concern identified at the workshop with Council in January 2020.
 2. The community consultation programme has resulted in the identification of two new standalone issue topics that will be included in the revised RPS. Whilst both areas were previously included in other issues statements, the consultation has highlighted they should be identified as issues in their own right. These issue topics are 'water quality' and 'biodiversity loss'.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Notes** the attached consultation summary report.

BACKGROUND

- [4] In January 2020, Council agreed to a workplan for the review of the RPS, which included consultation early in the programme, to receive input on the key themes and policy direction which would guide the preparation of the RPS. The two phases of this consultation were designed to enable identified issues to be further explored. The intention of the upfront consultation was to provide an opportunity for community and stakeholders to take part in the RPS review early rather than just relying on the formal First Schedule of the Resource Management Act 1991 process once the RPS had been notified. The work programme included a report back to summarise the outputs from the first phases of consultation.

ISSUE

- [5] A key part of the RPS programme is to provide a summary of the information received during the consultation to Council and to make it available to the public on Council's website. It is also important for Council and staff to have good clarity around the issues that the RPS should focus on. The consultation undertaken was intended to enable this.

DISCUSSION

- [6] The upfront consultation was separated into two distinct phases, each with a separate specific outcome. Phase one of the consultation process involved online surveys examining respondents' key values, concerns and views on the key issue statements.
- [7] The level of engagement in the consultation process, particularly for phase one was very encouraging, with over 300 survey responses received.
- [8] The survey yielded important feedback on the existing issue statements and confirmed that the community identified the key issue statements as significant. The information collected on the areas of value and concern has enabled staff to fine tune the issues statements for the RPS, along with providing guidance on policy direction.
- [9] The Phase two consultation consisted of two primary tasks. The first was to identify how permissive or prescriptive the policy approach should be in relation to an outcome. The second was to identify the degree of environmental improvement sought. For more information on the process see section 5.2 of the Consultation Summary Report.
- [10] Four facilitated consultation sessions were held in Balclutha, Dunedin, Oamaru and Tapanui. However, the roadshow was unable to progress further due to the Covid-19 restrictions, resulting in session planned for Queenstown and Alexandra being cancelled, along with the second planned stakeholder session. However, the information received at the sessions which were held has been valuable to the process.
- [11] The value of the first two phases of consultation was highlighted by the addition of two new issue topics - water quality, and biodiversity loss. These two issues were incorporated into other issue statements, but it became apparent at all sessions held that they should stand alone issues in their own right.
- [12] The feedback the policy team received from both the phase one survey and phase two roadshows provided enough detail to confidently confirm the existing issues and identify the two additional Issue topics for the RPS.

OPTIONS

[13] There are no options that require Council's consideration.

CONSIDERATIONS

Policy Considerations

[14] The consultation summary report attached provides an overview of the information received which will be used to guide the drafting of the RPS.

Financial Considerations

[15] There are no financial considerations associated with presenting this summary report.

Significance and Engagement

[16] The two phases of consultation undertaken and summarised in the attached report has been undertaken in accordance with the Significance and Engagement policy of Council. The consultation summary report will also be made available to the public via the website. The consultation was undertaken in accordance with the Communication and Engagement Plan prepared to support the RPS programme.

Legislative Considerations

[17] The consultation provided the opportunity for the community and stakeholders to be involved in the process prior to the formal feedback process which occurs once the RPS is notified. This consultation is additional to any of the requirements contained in the First Schedule to the RMA 1991.

Risk Considerations

[18] The COVID-19 epidemic resulted in the premature cessation of phase two of the community consultation programme, and that creates a risk of an incomplete consultation programme. This has been managed by an update in the RPS programme recently approved by Council, which includes setting up reference groups. There is still a residual risk that some members of the community do not feel they had an opportunity to engage in pre-notification consultations. However, this risk is mitigated by the fact that, once notified, any person is able to submit under the process of the First Schedule to the RMA.

NEXT STEPS

[19] The policy team will use the findings presented in the consultation summary to help shape the policy direction of the RPS review.

ATTACHMENTS

1. RPS Community Consultation Summary Report [11.1.1 - 40 pages]

RPS Review 2020

Community Consultation Summary Report

February – March 2020



Table of Contents

1. Acknowledgements	3
2. Executive Summary	3
3. Summary of Key Findings.....	4
4. Background.....	5
5. Consultation Approach and Methodology	6
5.1 Phase One.....	6
5.2 Phase Two.....	6
6. Summary of consultation findings: Phase one Consultation	7
6.1 Locational Data	8
6.2 Values	8
6.3 Concerns	11
6. 4 Key Issue Statements	13
7. Summary of consultation findings: Phase two Consultation	24
7.1 Task One Summaries	24
7.2 Task Two Summaries	28
8. Next steps.....	30

1. Acknowledgements

Otago Regional Council wishes to acknowledge all those who have contributed to the RPS consultation process as survey respondents and / or workshop attendees.

The ideas gathered, and discussion generated through both Phase One (survey) and Phase Two (workshops) of the consultation process have been valuable and insightful for the ORC policy team. The information is an important part of the overall picture that will inform the direction and shape of the new Regional Policy Statement. The Council sees the number of respondents who participated, particularly to the Phase One Survey, as an encouraging example of the region coming together to provide input for the betterment of Otago.

Thank you to the community members and stakeholders who have participated and engaged so far, your involvement is greatly valued.

2. Executive Summary

- The Otago Regional Council (ORC) adopted the Minister for the Environment's recommendation to review the current Regional Policy Statement (RPS) within a clear timeframe.
- Community consultation was undertaken to inform the early stages of the RPS Review and policy development.
- Consultation was carried out in two phases to engage both the wider Otago community and stakeholders on regional resource values, concerns and significant resource management Issues.
- Phase One involved a public survey advertised to the entire Otago region. 312 responses were received.
- A set of values, concerns and issue statements were developed from the data analysed from Phase One responses.
- Phase Two involved four community and stakeholder workshops held around the Otago region. Participants reflected on the findings from Phase One and workshopped outcomes and policy directions.
- The outcome and policy direction ideas for each issue statement have been summarised from the workshop findings.
- The information gathered from both Phase One and Two will inform the direction ORC takes in developing the new RPS.

3. Summary of Key Findings

The summary of consultation reflects the original RPS proposal presented to Council in January 2020. Phase one of the community consultation programme involved an online survey which had a total of 312 respondents, including eight respondents from outside Otago. Phase two of the community consultation programme involved consultation roadshows planned around the region. The programme of the roadshows was interrupted due to the Covid-19 restrictions, so some roadshows were not undertaken. Phase one and Phase two both proved to be important exercises for the RPS review and provided quality community feedback.

The most significant findings of the community consultation were the following:

The online community consultation programme confirmed the relevance of the key issue topics, based on the areas of concern identified at the workshop with Council in January 2020. These issues topics were:

- Natural Hazards and Resilience
- Climate Change
- Coastal Pressures
- Pests and Weeds
- Urban Growth
- Water Demand
- Big Lakes Growth and Infrastructure Pressure
- Impacts from Economic Activities

The community consultation programme has resulted in the identification of two new standalone issue topics that will be included in the revised RPS. Whilst both areas were included in other issues statements, the consultation has highlighted they should be identified as issues in their own right. These issue topics are:

- Water quality
- Biodiversity loss

Additional key findings were:

- Precautionary approaches to policy that enable environmentally sustainable outcomes for both Urban and Rural activities with the support of both public and private sectors.
- Upgrading Infrastructure, particularly waste, wastewater, and stormwater management infrastructure. This was a strong theme across issues related to Urban Growth, Natural Hazards and Resilience, Economic Impacts, and Coast.
- Tighter regulations on Urban Development, ceasing developments on productive land, ceasing developments in known flood risk areas, and reducing urban sprawl in favour of high-density urbanised areas

- Increasing water storage capabilities for the region was a strong outcome for Water Demand issues.
- The Otago Regional Council to be more active in biodiversity loss issues and pest control management through regulation and incentives for landowners and community groups.
- Investing in alternative public transport options to reduce car-based emissions and incentivise alternative heating sources for residential developments to reduce wood or coal burning. These were to improve air quality and help mitigate climate change effects.
- Increased collaborative research and education outcomes across all the issue topics made available to the community. This outcome was particularly relevant for issues relating to Coastal Pressures, Climate Change and Biodiversity Loss.

4. Background

ORC committed in November 2019 to a work programme determined by the Minister for the Environment, to address its Resource Management Act (RMA) planning framework. The work programme requires a complete review of the RPS, and notification of a new RPS, to be operative ahead of the development and notification of a Land and Water Regional Plan. ORC must also implement new National Planning Standards which were introduced into legislation in April 2019, and require all RPS's to be in the prescribed format by 2022.

ORC is aiming to notify a new Regional Policy Statement (RPS) by November 2020, to be operative by 1 April 2022 in time to guide the Water and Land Plan review.

The following principles guide the RPS Review:

- Clear direction on outcomes sought
- Vertically and horizontally integrated
- Consistent approach
- Regime that addresses increasingly complex issues and is flexible to changes in the statutory environment
- Focusses on key issues
- Plain language and ease of use for all
- Policies direct resource management outcomes
- All the answers are to be in the RPS.

ORC's work programme included the phase 1 and 2 consultation, in addition to the mandatory consultation required under the First Schedule to the RMA. The intention was to engage a wider representation than those parties that are involved in the First Schedule consultation.

To guide that consultation process, ORC developed a set of consultation objectives.

- To provide iwi, key stakeholders and the community with the opportunity to have input on the scope and content of the new RPS, through face-to-face meetings and feedback online prior to the formal engagement required by the Resource Management Act.
- To engage effectively and early in the process, to reduce the number of submissions made at notification stage, and therefore streamline the process.
- To deliver a new RPS that is in line with new national direction, National Planning Standards and proposed national policy statements for Highly Productive Land, Urban Development, Freshwater Management and Indigenous Biodiversity.

5. Consultation Approach and Methodology

5.1 Phase One

Phase one of the community consultation process involved distributing an online survey using 'YourSay'. The survey was distributed via a boosted Facebook campaign, regional newspapers and embedded in the February edition of the On-Stream newsletter. Additional advertising of the survey was via regional newspapers and an ORC media release.

Communities throughout Otago were encouraged to identify values, concerns and general comments relating to nine issue statements which had been drafted following a workshop with Councillors in January 2020. The nine issue statements were: Natural Hazards and Resilience, Climate Change, Pests and Weeds, Urban Growth, Water Demand, Coastal Pressures, Big Lakes Growth and Infrastructure Pressures, and Impacts from Economic Activities, and Resilience.

Respondents were also asked to indicate how significant they felt the issue statement was and to comment on why. The data gathered from the Survey was then coded and thematically analysed.

5.2 Phase Two

Phase two of the consultation process involved five facilitated workshops held in March 2020. Four of these were public, and one was for invited stakeholders. Workshops were held in Oamaru, Dunedin (two meetings – one of which was for stakeholders), Tapanui and Balclutha.

Two further events were also planned for Queenstown and Alexandra. However due to the Covid-19 epidemic, these workshops were unable to proceed.

The workshops included two main activities.

Task One: Identifying Outcomes

Attendees mapped the future resource management outcomes that they wished to see achieved in relation to the issues from Phase one of the consultation process.

Method:

Attendees wrote their ideas on sticky notes and placed these on a map of Otago in the relevant location. Region-wide ideas were placed to the side.

Task Two: Identifying Policy Approaches

Attendees discussed and plotted potential policy approaches to achieve the outcomes identified in task one, using some example scenarios. The aim of this activity was to provide guidance in two respects:

- The first was how permissive or prescriptive the policy approach should be in relation to an outcome.
- The second was the degree of environmental improvement sought. The range provided was from meeting national environmental bottom lines (minimum standards) through to achieving (or maintaining) a high level of environmental quality (a more natural state).

Method:

Attendees wrote each policy idea for an outcome on a sticky note, and plotted it as follows:

Along the X axis as relevant between 'permissive' and 'directive,' and

Along the Y axis as relevant between meeting environmental minimums and a high level of environmental quality (a more natural state). The data, as plotted to these axes are included in Appendix 1.

Two additional issues identified

At the Oamaru workshop, two more themes were identified in addition to the nine themes developed during the phase one consultation. These were Improving Water Quality and Protecting Biodiversity. These were added to the subsequent workshops and feedback sought in the same manner as for the other issues.

6. Summary of consultation findings: Phase one Consultation

Data Analysis Method:

The data collected from the survey was analysed by a process of coding and thematic analysis. The process of coding involved identifying key words used to identify the value or concern topics in each response. These codes are built up over the course of reviewing all comments, and the overall code list becomes more concise as more comments are coded. After all the

community comments were coded, we identified the themes that multiple codes would broadly apply to and grouped them into these themes.

This process provided insight on which natural or physical resources were ‘valued’ or ‘of concern’ and the percentage of respondents who identified them. This process was also used to thematically summarise the responses to the 9 issues and indicate the general themes associated with each issue.

6.1 Locational Data

A total of 312 responses were received to the community consultation survey. This number was made up of respondents from all over the Otago region. Figure 1 below shows, in percentage terms, where in the region the survey respondents came from. The largest number were from Dunedin (DCC) at 41% followed by Central Otago (CODC) at 27%, Queenstown Lakes Area (QLDC) at 15%, North Otago (WDC) at 8%, South Otago (CDC) at 5 %, and ‘Outside Otago’ at 3%. All the respondents were from within New Zealand.

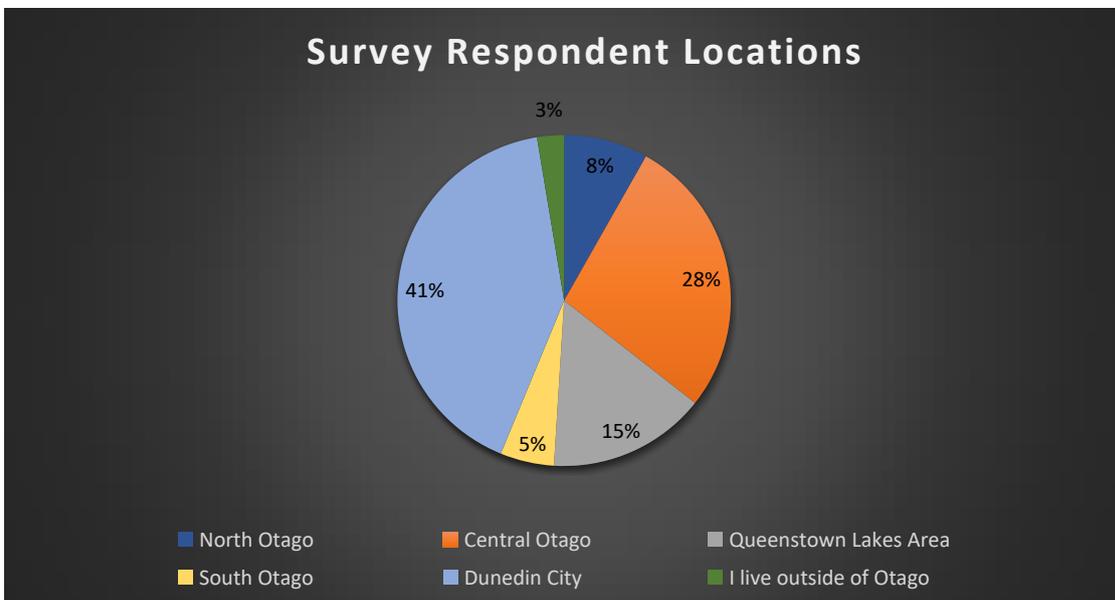


Figure 1: Survey Respondent Locations

6.2 Values

For the values section of the survey, respondents were asked to identify what natural or physical resources they valued most in the Otago region. Respondents had the opportunity to write freely in this section of the survey. To give a sense of the relative importance of the values, the data collected has been represented in two ways:

First, in Figure 2 below, it has been visually represented as a ‘wordle’ or ‘word cloud’. The size of the word represents the words’ importance as indicated by the number of times it was mentioned in the coded responses.



Figure 2: Values Wordle

Second, Table 1 shows the raw data for the values obtained from the coding process, presented as a table. The coded survey responses were used to build the themes presented in the above table. The count shows the number of responses that related to each respective theme. Each survey response had the potential to address values or concerns across a range of different themes, therefore the total percentage of responses does not equate to 100%.

Value	Count	% of points	% of respondents
Healthy lakes & rivers	212	28.5	68.6
Landscapes	130	17.5	42.1
Access to the natural environment	60	8.1	19.4
Biodiversity	56	7.5	18.1
Native bush	56	7.5	18.1
Coastal Areas	53	7.1	17.2
Clean air	37	5.0	12.0
Productive land	29	3.9	9.4
Water use	14	1.9	4.5
Wetlands	13	1.7	4.2
Minerals	12	1.6	3.9
Built Heritage	9	1.2	2.9

Healthy marine environment	8	1.1	2.6
Transport infrastructure	8	1.1	2.6
Renewable energy infrastructure	8	1.1	2.6
Climate	6	0.8	1.9
Soils	6	0.8	1.9
Urban areas	6	0.8	1.9
Estuaries	5	0.7	1.6
Groundwater	3	0.4	1.0
Lifeline infrastructure	3	0.4	1.0
Rural Landscapes	3	0.4	1.0
Surf breaks	3	0.4	1.0
Takata Whenua values	3	0.4	1.0
Residential infrastructure	2	0.3	0.6
Total	744		

Table 1

Value Summaries:

The following are brief summaries of the common values described by the community.

Healthy lakes and rivers:

Healthy lakes and rivers were valued by 68% of respondents, making it the most valued natural resource associated with this survey. This included the quality and quantity of water accessible to the Otago communities, the accessibility of these resources for recreation, and the health of native flora and fauna associated with Otago's rivers and lakes.

Landscapes:

The second most valued resource were Otago's distinct and diverse natural landscapes. Respondents value natural open and rugged landscapes, particularly around the lakes district. Value was placed on the unique accessibility Otago communities have and the ability to enjoy vast mountainscapes, open grasslands, and idyllic coastlines.

Access to the natural environment:

A key theme that connected most of the values was accessibility. Respondents indicated they valued being able to freely access the natural environment. This was indicated in valuing access to healthy lakes and rivers, as well as access to Otago's unique landscapes. Increased and sustained accessibility to Otago's natural resources was highly valued for recreation and economic benefit.

Second, table 2 shows the raw data for the concerns obtained during the coding process, presented as a table.

Concern	Count	% of points	% of respondents
Water Health	219	23.1	70.9
Agricultural Practices	110	11.6	35.6
Pollution and Waste	109	11.5	35.3
Residential Growth	74	7.8	23.9
Native Flora and Fauna	56	5.9	18.1
Water Use	48	5.1	15.5
Coastal Health	41	4.3	13.3
Invasive Flora	35	3.7	11.3
Invasive Fauna	31	3.3	10
Tourism and Freedom Camping	29	3.1	9.4
Recreation and Public Access	26	2.7	8.4
Land Quality and Use	20	2	6.2
Exploitation	18	1.9	5.8
Degradation	18	1.9	5.8
Air Quality	15	1.6	4.9
Economy	14	1.5	4.5
Road Quality and Use	13	1.4	4.2
Climate	12	1.3	3.9
Infrastructure	11	1.2	3.6
Wetlands	10	1.1	3.2
Sustainability	9	0.9	2.9
Flooding	7	0.7	2.3
Noise and Light Pollution	6	0.6	1.9
Heritage Buildings	3	0.3	0.9
Total	948		

Table 2

Concern summaries

The following are brief summaries of the main concerns described by the community.

Water health:

A total of 70% of respondents indicated that water health was of concern. This included the quality of water, lakes, rivers and waterways. Respondents described the degradation of these natural resources as a priority concern. Algae, intensive agricultural practices and waste/ wastewater management infrastructure were identified as being associated with the degradation of Otago's water health.

Agricultural practices

35% of respondents indicated that agricultural practices were of concern. Intensive land use and irrigation practices were indicated as responsible for effluent and other run off into water ways. Respondents associated these practices with the degradation of both water health and water quantity.

Pollution and waste

35% of respondents indicated that general pollution and waste management was of concern. The pollution of waterways and coastal environments by poor waste management infrastructure were described, particularly around urbanised areas with larger populations. Urban run-off into the harbour and into coastal marine areas was also identified as a concern.

Residential growth

23% of respondents indicated residential growth as a concern. Associated concerns highlighted were population growth, urban development, loss of landscapes, loss of productive soil and strain on infrastructure. Respondents were concerned that urban sprawl and growth would negatively impact access to healthy water, beautiful landscapes, the loss of productive soil and lead to increased pressure on waste and water infrastructure.

Invasive Flora and Fauna

The community identified rabbits, wallabies and possums as pest species they are concerned about. The community identified concerning weed species, including gorse, broom, wilding pines and algae responsible for degrading water quality.

6. 4 Key Issue Statements

The following section outlines the nine key issue statements as put forward in the survey. Respondents were asked to indicate how significant they felt the issue statement was and then comment on why. For each of key issue statements, a summary of the overall commentary and any identified solutions provided by the community have also been provided

Issue Statement 1: Natural Hazards and Resilience

Natural hazards pose a risk to many Otago communities. An earthquake on the Alpine Fault would cause potentially catastrophic effects for the entire region. There are particular areas in Otago which are prone to flooding. A major hazard event could isolate Otago, or parts of it, for an extended time. How significant do you think this issue is for Otago?

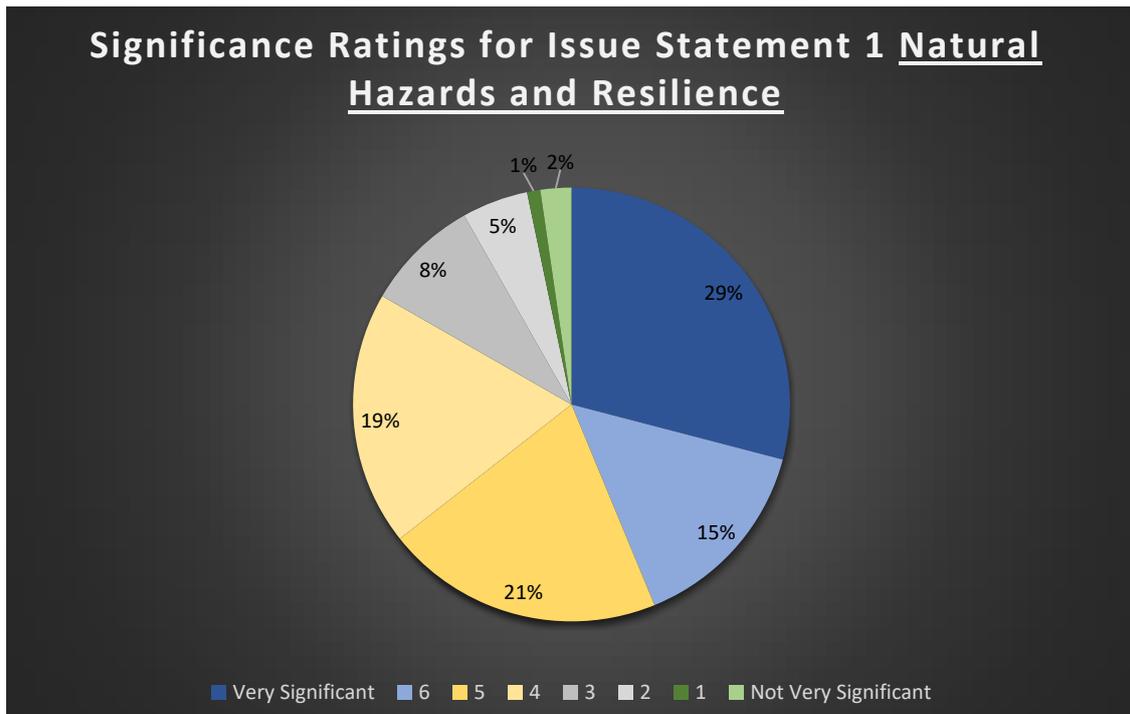


Figure 4

Comments Summary:

Respondents considered flooding to be a more significant issue than earthquakes for the Otago region due to prevalence, ability to predict and inform, as well as potential for control through infrastructure planning. It was suggested that resource allocation for earthquake related hazards should be for response efforts, while resource allocation for flooding should be into upgrading wastewater /stormwater infrastructure. Excess water from floods could be utilised for water demand needs such as irrigation. Isolation of communities from supply routes was also of some concern, particularly for some communities where there are limited options to respond. South Dunedin was considered at risk due to the forecasted rise in sea levels. Suggestions to respond to the risk included an early retreat of South Dunedin and requiring properties to raise their foundations.

Issue Statement 2: Climate Change

Climate change is likely to damage our economy and environment. In Central Otago, we're likely to see more varied rainfall, leading to increased flooding and less water reliability. This will be compounded by stronger winds, increased temperatures and longer dry periods, which may affect the number and types of crops and animals that the land can sustain. On the coast, low lying areas like South Dunedin are at risk of inundation from rising sea levels. This will also exacerbate coastal erosion, which could damage coastal infrastructure (including roads) and expose old waste dumps (e.g. at Middle Beach). Climate change will also affect native animals and plants, compounding the effects of pests and stresses from human use. Some climate change threats are unpredictable. How significant do you think this issue is for Otago?

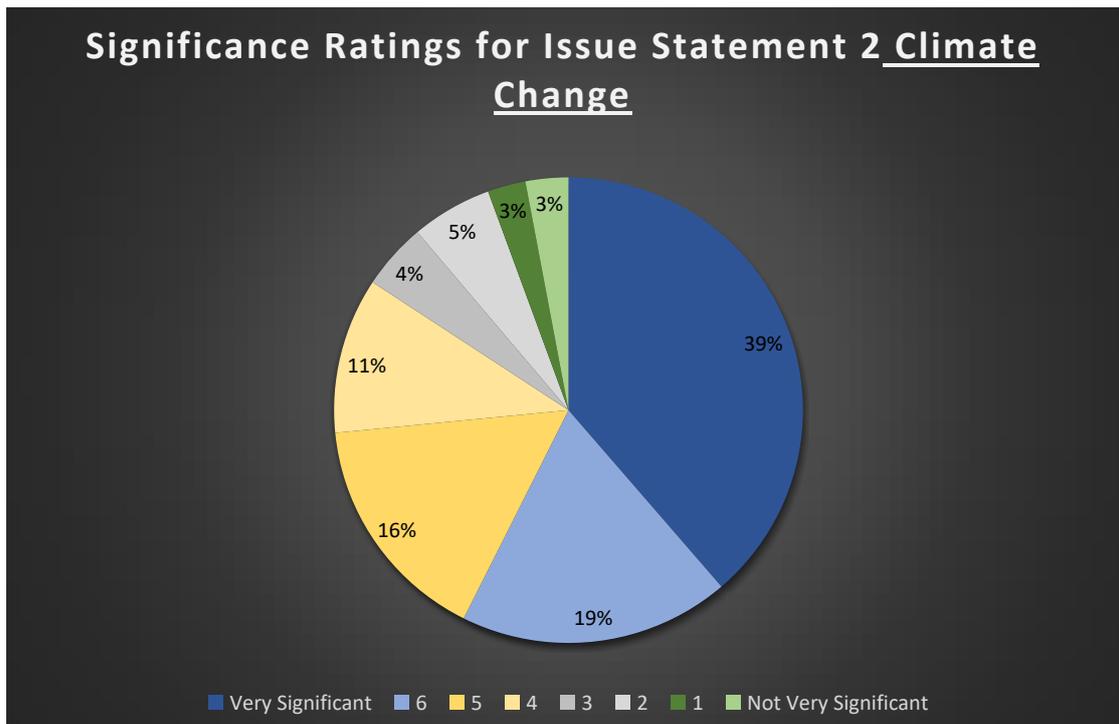


Figure 5

Comments Summary:

Climate change was considered a significant or moderate concern by most of the respondents, however there was significant division around how it should be approached in Otago. There was division between whether people thought the best approach to tackling climate change was adaptation, or mitigation. Division existed around how to best allocate resources to tackle the effects of climate change. Some of these varied solutions suggested by respondents included:

- Increase water storage to continue existing land use practices
- Retreat from certain land and intensive land use practices altogether
- Switch to more resilient crops to utilise a changing climate.

Issue Statement 3: Pests and Weeds

Pest species pose an ongoing threat to indigenous biodiversity, economic activities and landscapes. Pest species can be found throughout Otago, from alpine regions to marine environments. Rabbits are changing Central Otago’s landscape, eroding soils and affecting agriculture. Wilding pines threaten high country and tussock grassland, changing the landscape and impacting on our recreational, hydrological and conservation values. Didymo,

Lake snow and Lagarosiphon affect our lakes and rivers. Native aquatic plants are displaced, impacting ecosystem health and recreation activities. How significant do you think this issue is for Otago?

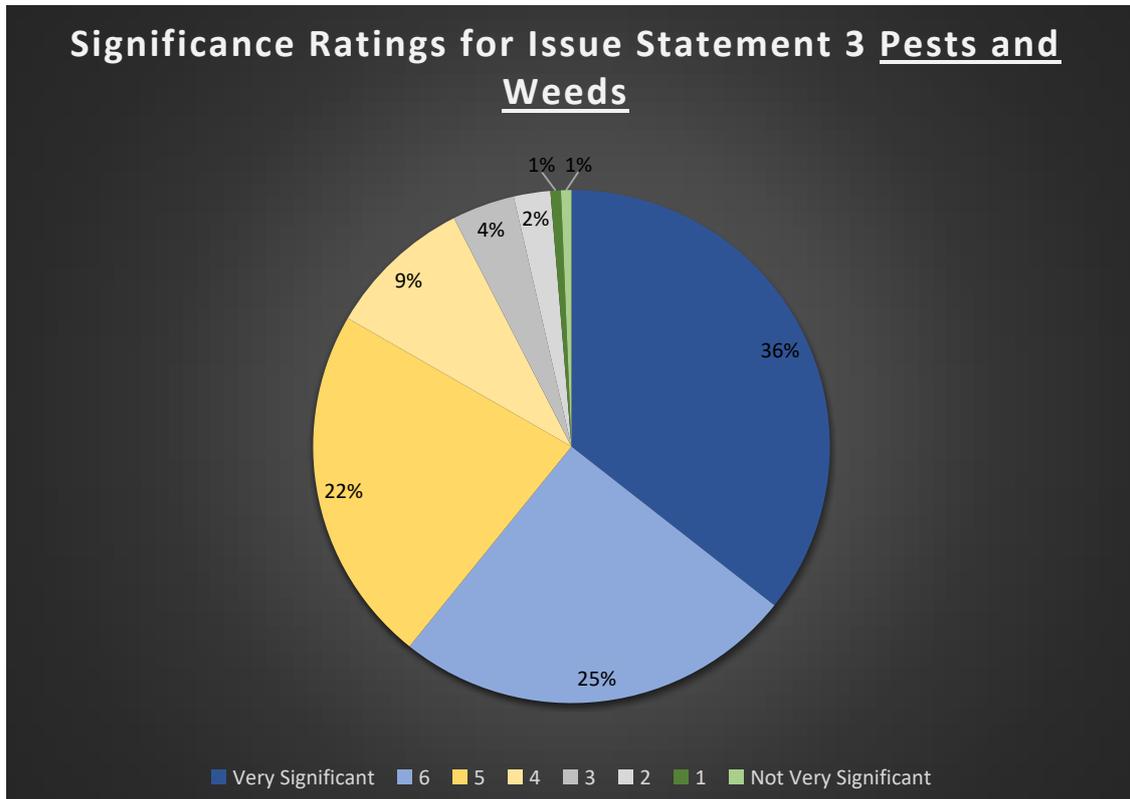


Figure 6

Comments Summary:

Rabbits affecting landscapes, tussock land, and soil quality followed by algal blooms in lakes and rivers were the primary concerns. There were a diverse range of solutions put forward by respondents for pest control, however there was division among respondents about how to consider and approach wilding pines as an invasive species. Effluent runoff was identified as a key issue and was perceived to provide and sustain the conditions for algal blooms in waterways. Suggested solutions by respondents included:

- Community groups and landowner initiatives combined with funding and leadership support from the ORC
- Introducing fines for landowners who were not managing pests on their property
- Reintroducing the rabbit board
- Utilising control viruses
- Placing bounties on pest species
- Reintroducing value on pest species' fur, meat and skin for economic usefulness to the community and self-funding the control initiative.

Issue Statement 4: Urban Growth

Urban growth affects productive land, treasured natural assets, infrastructure and community wellbeing. Natural resources lost to urban growth are gone forever. Frequently, places that are attractive for growth also have landscape and productive values. The growth of Wanaka and Queenstown is changing the natural landscape. Mosgiel’s growth is occurring on some of Otago’s most highly productive soil, which takes away the option for agriculture. Towns like Arrowtown, Clyde and Milton experience poor air quality in winter, while experiencing pressure to grow. How significant do you think this issue is for Otago?

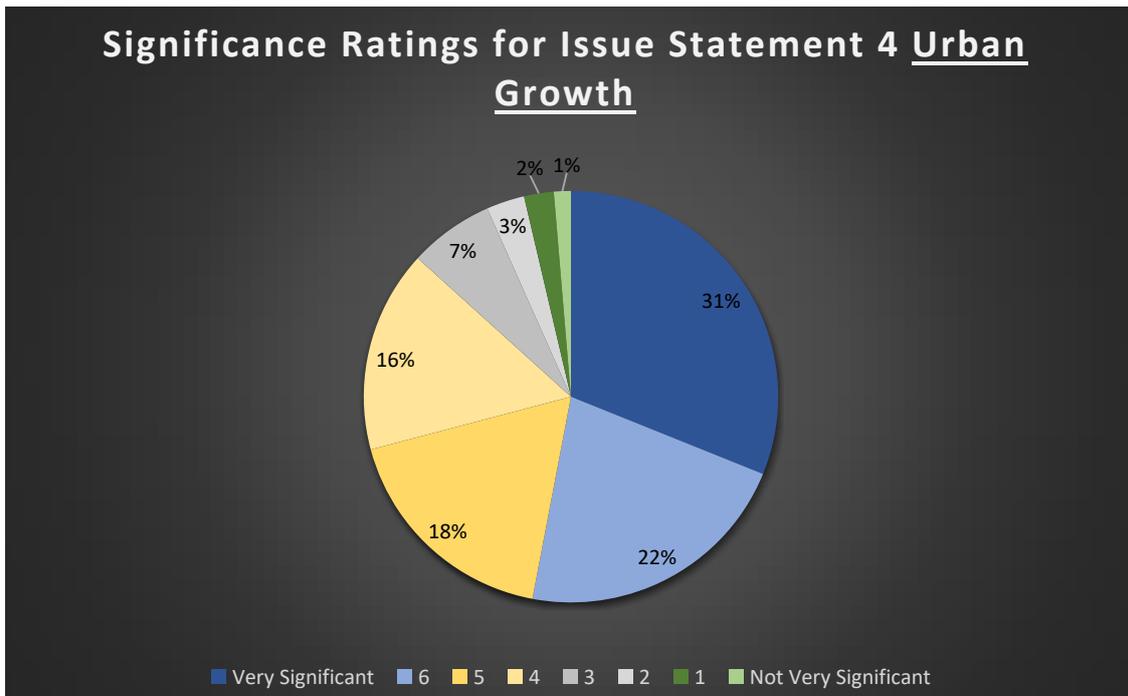


Figure 7

Comments Summary:

Inappropriate urban development was identified as a concern amongst respondents. The effect on productive soil, infrastructure, resource availability, and landscapes were identified. In addition, there was a desire to stop developments that would disrupt the natural character of landscapes, particularly around the Lakes District. Slowing down urban growth and development to better control it was considered an appropriate approach. There was support for long term urban development strategies, along with planning and investment into residential waste and water infrastructure to better manage urban growth. Solutions suggested by respondents included:

- Restricting consents for urban development to ensure development does not commence without first considering the strain on existing infrastructure
- Thorough land evaluations to ensure that strategic and productive land is not residentially developed

- High density housing in urbanised areas
- Developing centralised green spaces with high density residential dwellings to limit urban sprawl
- Local glass recycling plants
- Not consenting developments on flood plains or equally hazardous land
- Allocating mandatory garden blocks per square/km
- Upgrade transport infrastructure
- Ensure new developments are appropriately insulated and incorporate alternative heating sources to reduce wood burning
- Increase localised self-sufficiency of communities to reduce dependency on external supply routes.

Issue Statement 5: Water Demand

Water demand exceeds capacity in some places. In water-short catchments, water availability cannot meet competing demands from agriculture, hydro-electric generation, the community and the environment. Many of these catchments are also experiencing urban growth, increasing the demand on water supply. Some catchments are complex, making it challenging to identify or mitigate these effects. How significant do you think this issue is for Otago?

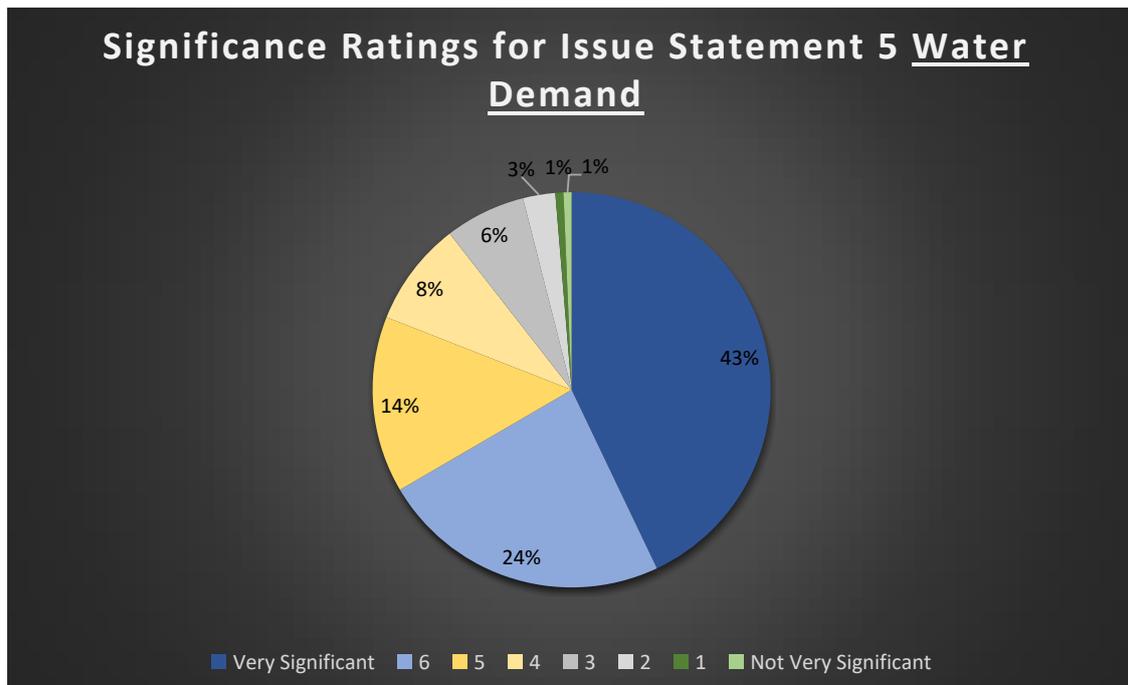


Figure 8

Comments Summary:

The primary concern was that existing water allocations had not appropriately taken community and environmental needs into account. Industries practising intensive land uses

were perceived to have been allocated too much water, and there was support for an increase in water storage infrastructure to support existing industries and the community. In addition, there was support for ensuring appropriate water supply is available as part of planned urban growth. Suggested solutions by respondents included:

- Increasing water storage
- Appropriately considering existing water infrastructure before consenting new developments
- Improving land infiltration
- Ensuring all new houses have mandatory water tanks in their plans to ease pressure on central water supplies
- Researching the best uses for water based on where the water is, which should influence consents for water usage and land development
- No more water bottling for export overseas
- Reconsider consents for extensive irrigation of inappropriate land uses.

Issue Statement 6: Coastal Pressures

Otago's coast is a rich natural, cultural and economic resource that is under threat from a range of terrestrial and marine activities. Otago's coast provides habitat for rare species (including toroa and hoiho), outstanding landscapes, a rich food source, recreation, industry and potential for further economic use (aquaculture). Threats to it are not understood and not always well managed. From the sedimentation effects of inland development to waste disposal, human activity puts stress on the marine and coastal environment. Some of those activities, like Port Otago and tourism, are vital to our economic wellbeing. How significant do you think this issue is for Otago?

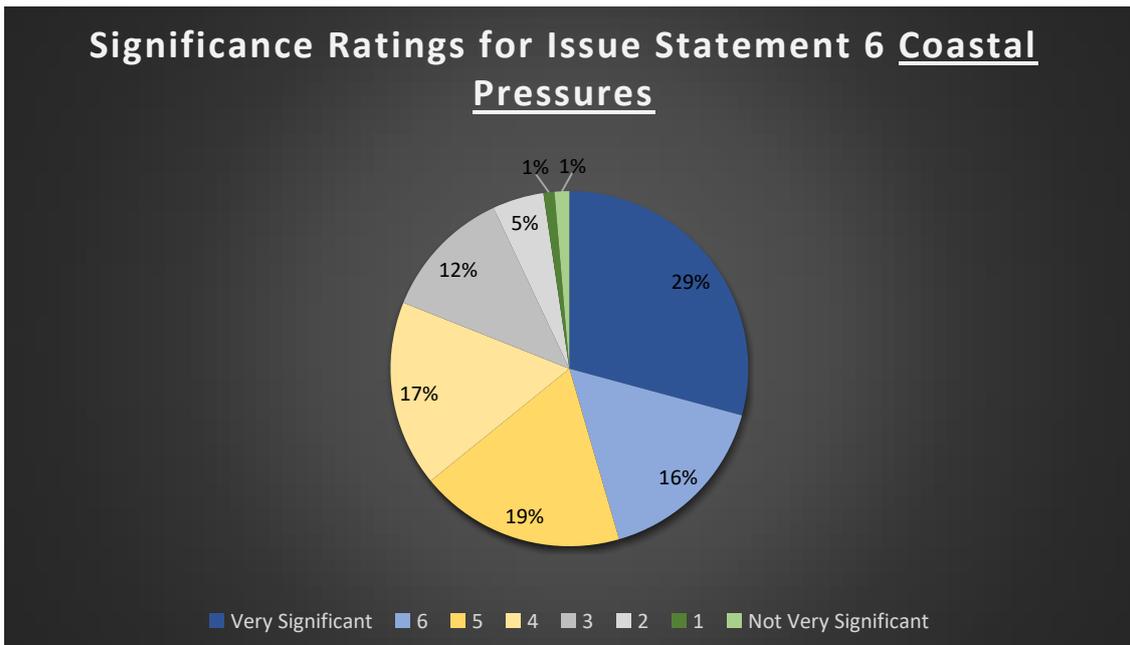


Figure 9

Comments Summary:

Overall coastal pressures were not rated as highly as matters of priorities compared to other issues. This was indicated by the significance being more evenly spread across the scale. However, pre-emptive measures to avoid future degradation were considered important for coastal health. There was a desire for collaboration between the ORC and key agencies to produce science driven, long term management strategies and to better understand the key specific pressures associated with Otago’s coastline. It was suggested that ORC could work more closely with the University of Otago Marine Sciences to achieve a better understanding of coastal pressures faced by the region. A precautionary approach to coastal health is desired that prioritises positive environmental outcomes, whilst considering economic impacts. Current aquaculture practices are perceived to be a concern, and there was a desire for more marine reserves along Otago coastlines. Tourism was of some concern relating to coastal pressures, particularly the strain increased tourist numbers are putting on the coastal environment and associated infrastructure.

Issue Statement 7: Big Lakes Growth and Infrastructure Pressures

Lakes Wanaka, Wakatipu, Hawea and Dunstan attract visitors and new residents, putting pressure on their unique environment. The beauty, opportunity and climate of these lakes attract visitors and residents from the around Otago, New Zealand, and the world. This influx brings economic opportunity, but activities and services created to support it can degrade the environment that underpins the area’s attractiveness. How significant do you think this issue is for Otago?

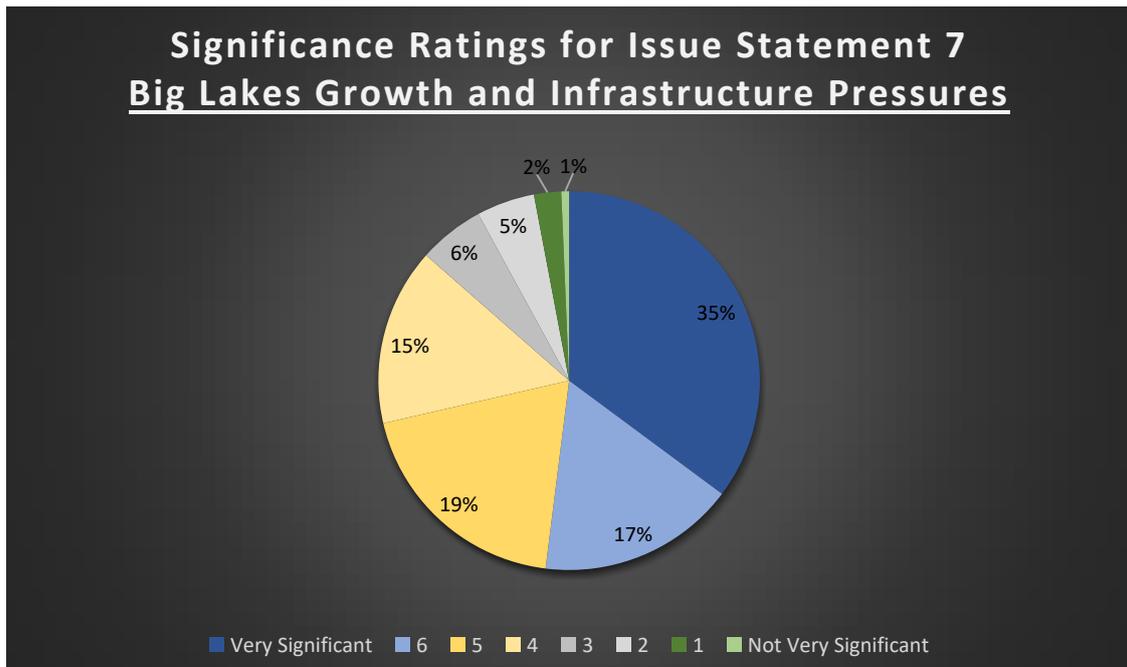


Figure 9

Comments Summary:

The most significant concern identified for this issue was the strain that increased tourism is having on existing waste management infrastructure. In addition, some respondents indicated in the ‘Urban Growth’ section that they wanted to cease or slow down developments affecting the natural character of landscapes around the lakes. There was a desire for the tourism industry to support the affected local communities in maintaining and upgrading waste management infrastructure. Tighter regulations of freedom camping was identified as sought, as was a consideration of a ‘user pays’ model. This was seen to help avoid the degradation of local landscapes due to waste dumping. Some suggestions by respondents included:

- Increasing minimum costs for tourists
- Increasing taxes or rates paid by the tourism industry
- Tighter regulations on freedom camping
- Slowing down developments to allow planning and management strategies to catch up
- Ensuring foreign operated tourism companies who profit off regional natural attractions pay accordingly.

Issue Statement 8: Impacts from Economic Activities

Economic and domestic activities use natural resources, but do not always properly account for the environmental stresses and future effects they cause. Sedimentation from development and forestry flows into streams and builds up in the coastal environment,

smothering kelp forests and affecting rich underwater habitats. Water abstraction and waste water and stormwater discharges risk degrading the natural environment, cultural and amenity values, and recreation. Mining and agriculture support employment and economic wellbeing but can also change landscapes and habitats. Otago’s port moves freight to and from Otago and Southland, but operates alongside sensitive environments, including the Aramoana saltmarsh. Tourism, which relies on the environment, can also add to degradation. How significant do you think this issue is for Otago?

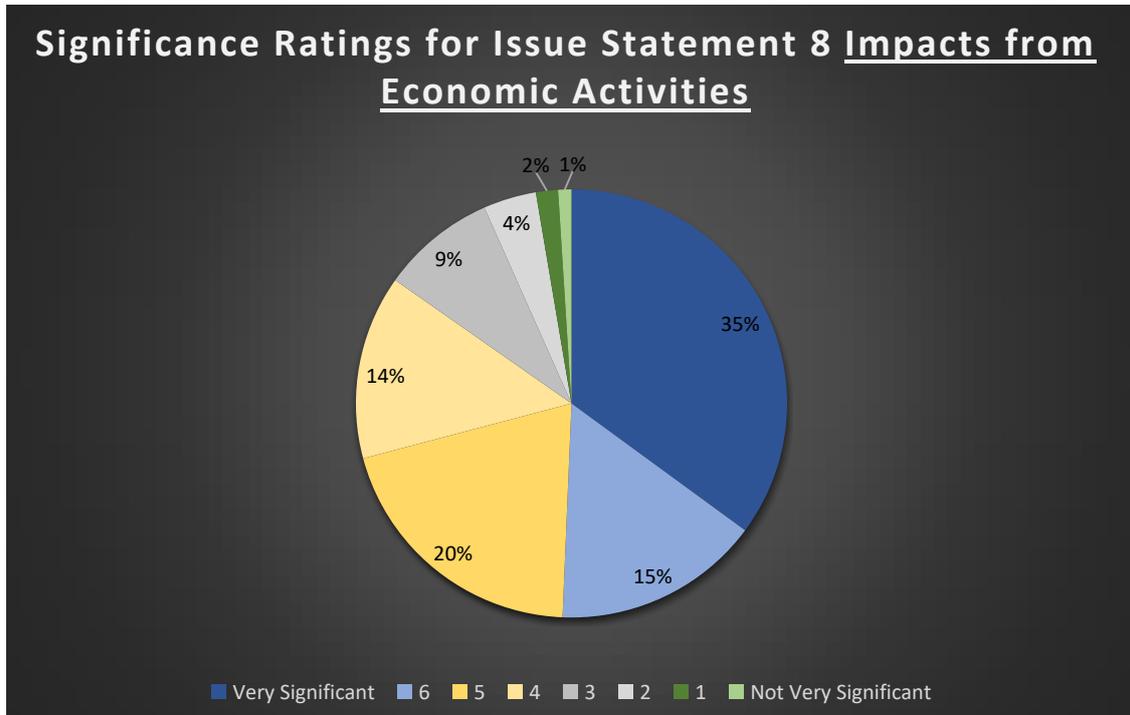


Figure 10

Comments Summary:

A precautionary approach to support positive environmental outcomes was desired by most respondents. More research into the true costs associated with environmental impacts should be driving long term strategies. Changes to more intensive land uses was a concern for many, and should only be supported where environmental impact is low. A strict ‘polluter pays’ consequence model was put forward by a number of respondents. Suggested solutions included:

- Research into true cost assessment, accurate representations of environmental damage and what issues are caused by which activities
- Education for both community and private sector based on the true cost assessment outcomes and further environmental harms research in order to positively influence community lifestyle and business practices

- Regulation and clear guidelines based on the true cost assessment outcomes and research in order to protect the environment while providing the private sector the means to achieve reasonable economic growth
- Establish consequences for not following regulation which includes a stricter ‘polluter pays’ approach and is harsh enough that it is only as a last resort for both the private and public sectors.

Issue Statement 9: Resilience

The environmental costs of our activities are stacking up and may soon reach a tipping point. How and where we currently live is likely to change significantly in coming years. To respond to all the issues identified in this RPS, we will need to consider changes to how we travel, the industries our economy relies on, and how we provide for good lives while protecting our natural environment. How significant do you think this issue is for Otago?

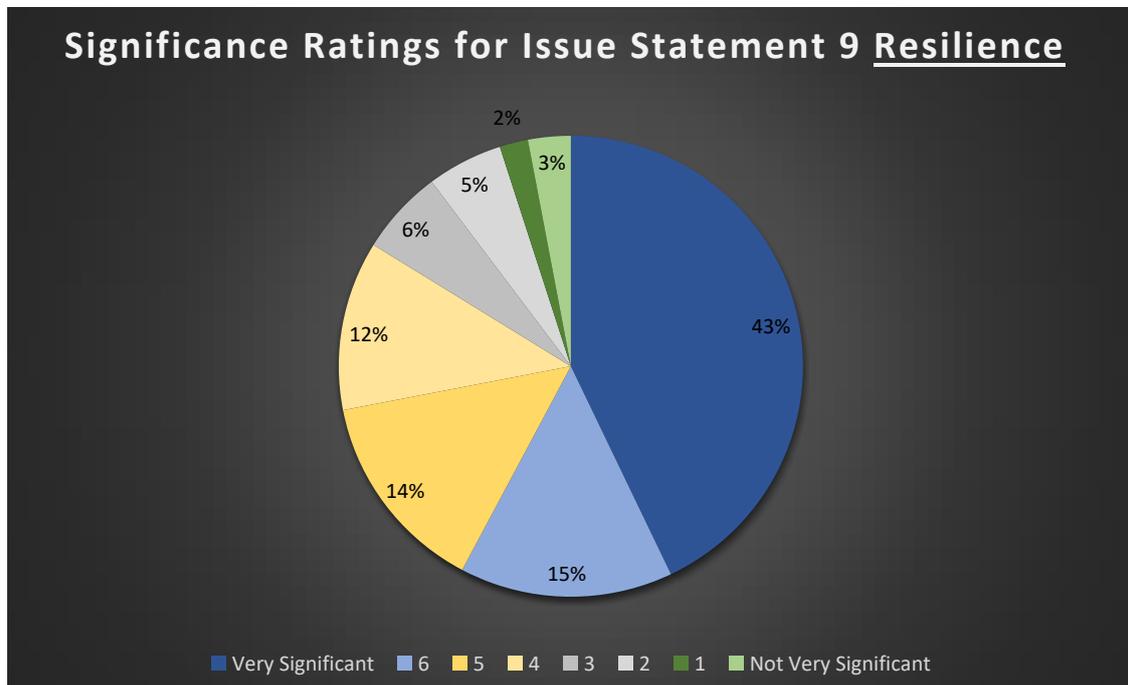


Figure 14

Comments Summary:

There was division between respondents as to where the tipping point lies for the environment in Otago and a call for more research and education to address this. However, consideration of both the environment and economy was important to many. Upgrades and investment into public transport infrastructure was greatly desired as a means to minimise environmental impact. Suggested solutions by respondents included:

- Upgrading and investing in public transport infrastructure such as buses and trains

- Developments making use of solar and/or wind energy should be enabled or subsidised by council
- Investigating trains for transport and supply routes
- Reducing cars in favour of public transport
- Upgrading and investing in existing infrastructure
- Consider renewable power subsidies for both residential and businesses
- Recognition that change and adaptation is necessary for both lifestyle on a small scale and how the private sector is operated on a larger scale

7. Summary of consultation findings: Phase two Consultation

7.1 Task One Summaries

The following section summarises the desired outcomes identified in Task One of the phase 2 consultation process. Where there were overlaps in the outcomes put forward by attendees, these have been condensed into a theme and summarised into a dot point.

Natural Hazards and Resilience:

The desired outcomes from the consultation sessions were:

- Upgrade stormwater and flooding infrastructure in flood prone areas
- Identify and support communities vulnerable to significant power loss or supply route isolation, such as Queenstown and the Catlins
- Maintenance of groundwater tables (inferred context is for protection from flooding)
- Remove sediment from waterways (inferred context is for waterway resilience and protection from flooding)
- Identify Otago based communities most vulnerable to isolation due to ruptures along the alpine fault.

Big Lakes and Infrastructure Pressure:

The desired outcomes from the consultation sessions were:

- Allow for flexibility in residential growth yet limit current rate of seemingly unchecked expansion
- Regulate tourism more restrictively
- Upgrade waste and sewage management infrastructure in Queenstown
- Cease the dumping of sewage into water bodies, including Lake Wakatipu
- Clean up Lake Snow and other algae from water bodies, including Lake Hayes
- Provide for flexibility, adaptation and protection of existing agricultural practices operating in natural landscapes
- Ensure urban areas are held to the same discharge standards as rural areas and businesses, including Dunedin and Queenstown.

Climate Change:

The desired outcomes from the consultation sessions were:

- Increasing water storage capacity to increase resilience (*This was the most sought-after outcome*)
- Increase adaptability of rural communities and mitigation of climate change effects
- Increase public transport options for the region
- Reduce emissions region-wide
- Regulate residential insulation to reduce energy wastage
- Support transition to alternative residential heating sources to reduce coal and wood burning
- Retreat from flood prone areas across the region, including South Dunedin
- Increase research into regional effects of climate change.

Coastal Pressures:

The desired outcomes from the consultation sessions were:

- Upgrade wastewater and sewage infrastructure connected to the coast
- Cease dumping waste into the ocean
- Identify and protect significant biodiversity from fishing and off-shore drilling
- Identify and reduce sedimentation affecting marine and coastal areas
- ORC should support and enable private coastal protection initiatives, such as re-planting in coastal zones
- Cease developments in coastal areas prone to erosion and flooding.

Economic Impacts:

The desired outcomes from the consultation sessions were:

- Establish strict environmental protections from harmful economic practices
- Provide policy pathways for economic activities to follow and demonstrate positive environmental outcomes without precluding economic opportunity
- Enable waste reprocessing to support a circular economy
- Increase investment into infrastructure related to tourism such as waste management and transport
- Identify and address the negative economic and environmental effects of tourism
- Regulate freedom camping
- Consistent rules for rural and urban landowners, private and public bodies around accountability of environmental impacts

- Irrigation and agricultural practices need to be regulated to protect water quality and water consumption

Water Demand:

The desired outcomes from the consultation sessions were:

- Increase water storage capacity
- Ensure urban expansion considers existing water supply infrastructure and does not impact rural water access
- Increase water access and supply for stock drinking
- Support and enable easier mitigations such as constructed wetlands and sediment traps
- Support and enable grey water recycling
- Enable and support the building of dams to capture and store winter water flows.

Pests and Weeds:

The desired outcomes from the consultation sessions were:

- ORC to support landowners and enable them to control weeds and pests
- Utilise stock grazing as a weed control method in areas where spraying is not an option
- Control rabbits, possums, wallabies (Kurow bridge), weasels, stoats, rats, mice, cats and dogs
- Reinstate the Rabbit Control Board
- Place bounties on pests and utilise furs, skins and meats
- Control gorse, broom, *Didymo*, *Lagarosiphon*, ragwort and wilding pines
- Use incentives rather than punishments for pest and weed control.

Urban Growth:

The desired outcomes from the consultation sessions were:

- Stop urban developments on highly productive land
- Intensify existing developments and build high density urbanised areas before developing outward
- Upgrade waste management infrastructure and invest in alternative waste disposal methods
- Upgrade and invest in alternative regional transport options such as rail for both passengers and supply routes
- Upgrade and invest in public transport options for urbanised areas
- Reduce impacts from urban run-off into waterways

- Regulate urban growth appropriately to meet the varying needs of different regional communities.

Biodiversity Loss:

The desired outcomes from the consultation sessions were:

- Set up and fund more parks like Orokanui
- Plan for the effects of unpermitted land use activities on biodiversity and threatened species e.g. illegal bike tracks through endangered snail habitats
- Provide research-based education, clear goals, and assistance on biodiversity practices to the community
- Protect biodiversity through both regulation and incentives
- Reduce the impacts pine forests are having on native bush
- Establish regional parks
- Restore indigenous habitats as a buffer for existing indigenous habitats
- Provide non regulatory support, partnerships, incentives and advice
- Create an urban ecological network in Dunedin by 2030
- Establish increased collaboration with DOC, TAs, Mana Whenua and communities
- Provide for existing use and acknowledge the importance of the primary industries' social, economic and cultural wellbeing
- Enable biodiversity banking as an incentive for landowners
- Identify which indigenous habitats are threatened and which are thriving.

Water Quality:

The desired outcomes from the consultation sessions were:

- One standard of water quality regulation for urban, rural, private and public sectors
- Water quality standards need to reflect both ecological and human needs
- No consenting for water bottling companies
- Remove silt from waterways
- Require 20m minimum riparian areas by all waterways
- Protect riparian areas and allow for grazing to control weeds
- Divert sewage to land instead of waterways
- Allow for innovation and flexibility in the farming sector by reducing restrictions
- Reward landowners who are low nutrient emitters
- All implementation of water quality management should be through partnerships to reduce strain on Council while additionally having greater social and environmental gains
- Provide research-based education on water quality improvement to the community
- Ensure water quality is suitable to drink and swim in throughout the region.

7.2 Task Two Summaries

The following section summarises the preferred policy approach identified in Task Two of the phase 2 consultation process. The consultation axis (see Appendix 1) showed the desired policy directions for each issue statement as indicated by community and stakeholder representation.

Natural Hazards and Resilience

The overall policy direction indicated by community workshop participants for natural hazards and resilience sought a balance between prescriptive and permissive approaches, and between environmental baselines and a return to a more natural state. Participants wanted to see a more prescriptive approach to avoid the consenting of developments on flood plains or in other hazardous areas. This also included the retreat of South Dunedin in preparation for rising sea levels.

Stakeholder workshop participants wanted to ensure flexibility in economic opportunity and innovation, and for the consideration of existing rights with any re-consenting related to land use.

Climate Change

There was an overall leaning towards environmental minimums in respect of climate change. However there was a division among workshop participants between prescriptive and permissive policy direction. Overall, participants sought an increase in climate understanding and research, increased water storage and public transport options, and reduced private car use to cut emissions.

Coastal Pressures

There was preference toward natural state among workshop respondents, with a division between respondents when it came to whether the policy approach should be prescriptive or permissive. Those seeking a prescriptive approach to policy direction sought restrictions on developments along or near coastal areas, the retreat of residential development from at risk coastal areas, and reduced waste disposal to the ocean. Those seeking a more permissive approach suggested responding to the natural effects of coastal erosion when they happen. Stakeholder workshop participants preferred a permissive approach to policy with outcomes more at the environmental minimum end of the spectrum to allow for flexibility in coastal land use, particularly related to coastal development.

Big Lakes Growth and Infrastructure Pressure

Community workshop participants sought outcomes towards a more natural state with prescriptive policy approach to regulating urban sprawl, development, upgrading infrastructure and water bottling around the big lakes. Stakeholder workshop participant indicated a desire for a permissive approach, with outcomes more toward the environmental

minimum end of the spectrum and flexibility for innovation in both the agricultural and development sectors.

Pests and Weeds

Workshop participant sought a prescriptive policy approach to pest control and outcomes towards a more natural state. The key points were a desire to eradicate wilding pines and create new eco sanctuaries; holding landowners accountable for pest control; and reintroduction of the Rabbit Board. The highlighted pest and weed species were rabbits, wallabies, possums, gorse and broom.

Urban Growth

There were no clear patterns overall in workshop participants' responses for urban growth. Oamaru respondents showed a preference for a prescriptive policy direction and outcomes towards a more natural state. The Stakeholder workshop participants favoured a more permissive policy direction and outcomes at the environmental minimum end of the spectrum. Dunedin community workshop participants were divided across both axes. The overall themes were:

- Policy direction should consider the location of urban growth, where it is taking place, and reflect accordingly;
- Consents need to consider existing infrastructure before developments take place;
- Air quality needs to be considered and new developments should be required to have alternative heating options and insulation to avoid wood burning;
- Urbanised areas should move to high density living where applicable to avoid sprawl and increase public transport options to support this.

Water Demand

Overall the emphasis was towards a permissive policy direction for water demand, with a division on the outcomes sought: some wanted outcomes closer to a natural state whilst others sought outcomes closer to environmental minimums in managing water demand. The key themes were supporting access to clean drinking water for everyone, agricultural uses, supporting flexible economic access to water, and increasing water storage for the region.

As mentioned previously the following two issues were added during the consultation sessions.

Water Quality

Overall the emphasis was towards a permissive policy direction for water quality, and a preference that they be closer toward the environmental minimums end of the spectrum. Some water bodies were singled out for being of concern. These were the Pomahaka River, Taieri River, great lakes and South Otago water bodies. It was suggested that locally managed or farmer-led catchment groups should be set up with ORC support. West Otago (Tapanui) and Balclutha workshop participants showed strong engagement with the water quality issue during Task One and Task Two, providing suggestions for outcomes. Some of the desired outcomes related to water quality were:

- Rewarding, not penalising, land users that are low nutrient emitters
- Allowing farmers to be innovative, not consent based
- Regulation should lead to direct environmental benefit
- Implementations should be through a partnership
- Stop grandparenting of nutrients

Biodiversity Loss

Overall, a more prescriptive policy approach with outcomes more at the environmental minimum end of the spectrum. Integrating native flora with urban development was a key theme, as well as general preservation of native flora. Maintain areas of native bush through regulation, implement controlled burning and grazing to reduce wildfires.

8. Next steps

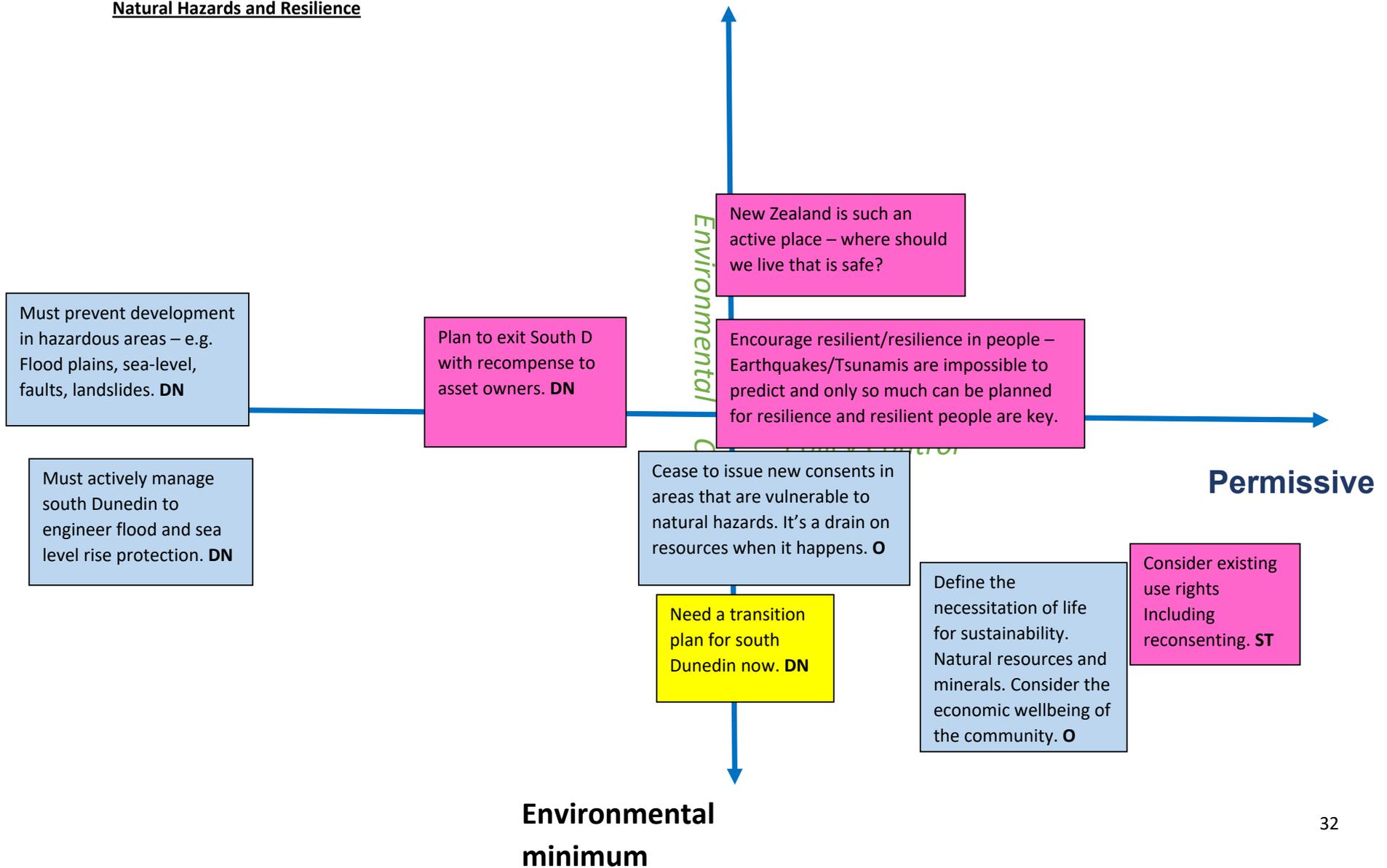
The information gathered from the consultation process will be used to help define the key resource management issues and the policy direction for the RPS. The information from phase one will help the ORC policy team describe the key values and concerns held by the community, and the relative significance of the various issues. The information from phase two will help the policy team develop proposed outcomes and policy approaches to achieve these, guided by the directions signalled by community and stakeholder respondents.

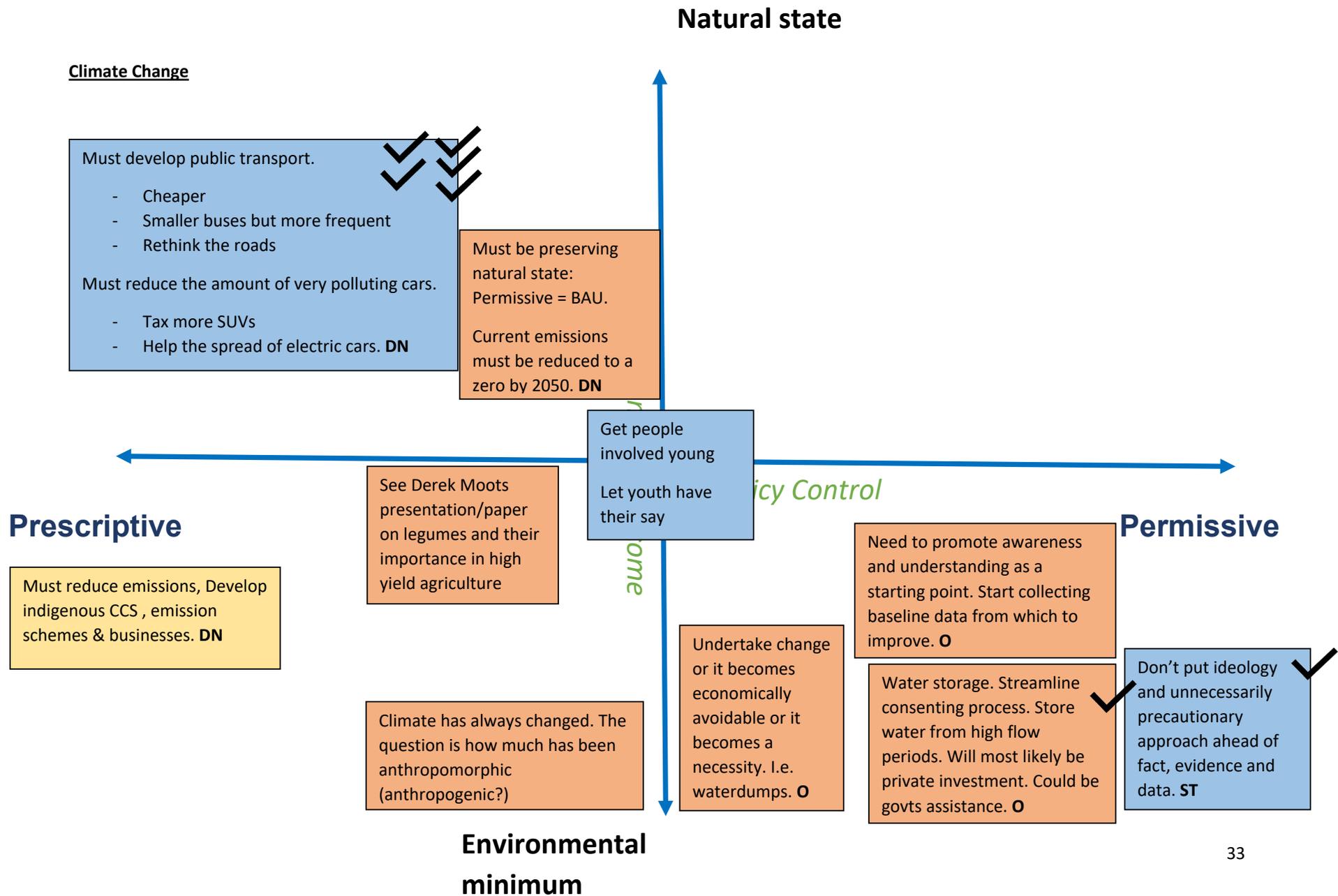
Further, Reference Groups are currently being set up for each of the topic chapters for the RPS. The Reference Groups will provide comments on the policy direction papers being prepared by staff. Phases 1 and 2 consultation have fed into the content of the policy direction papers, and the reference groups will provide the opportunity for input into the drafting stages of the RPS.

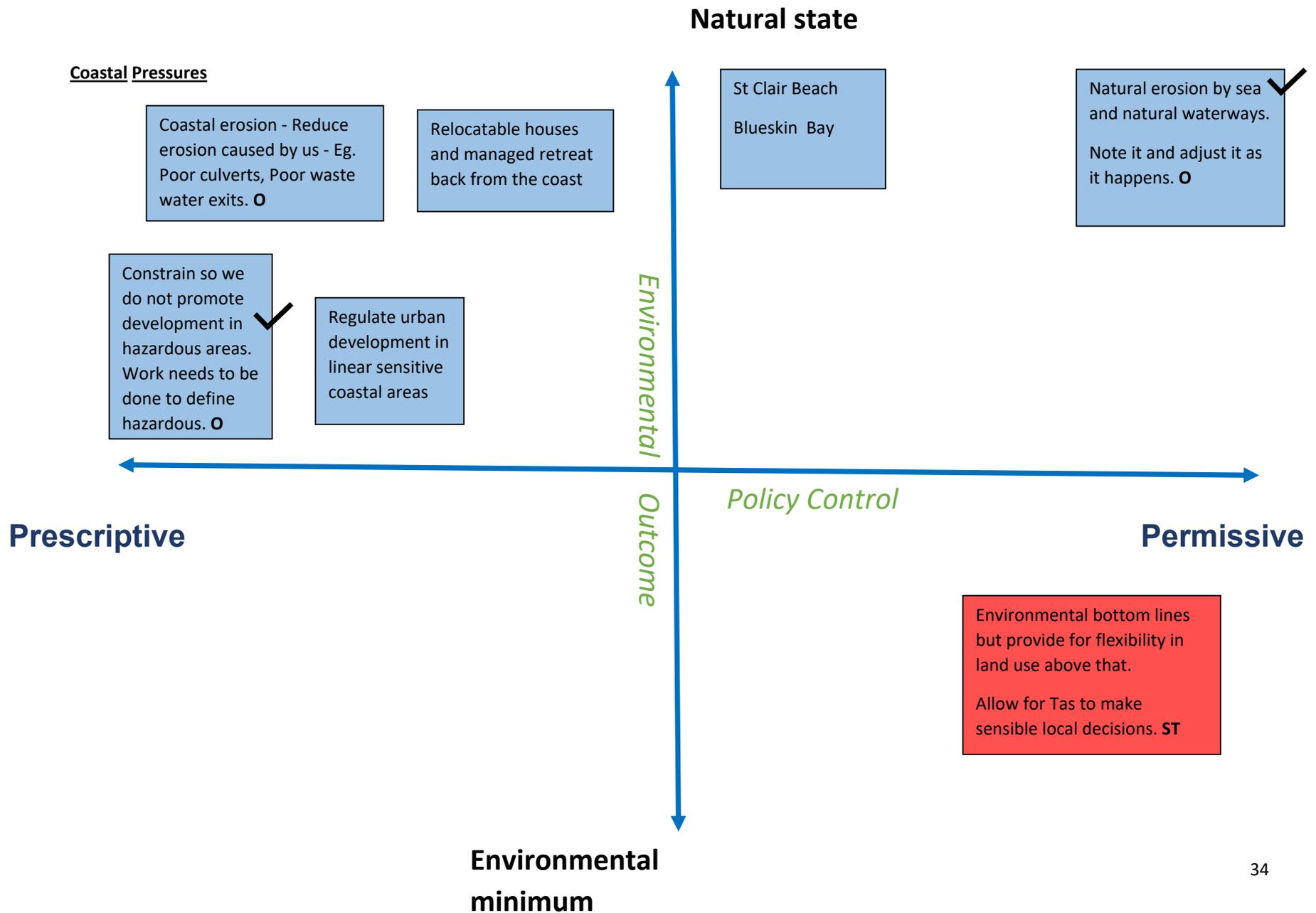
Appendix 1: Policy and Outcome Axes

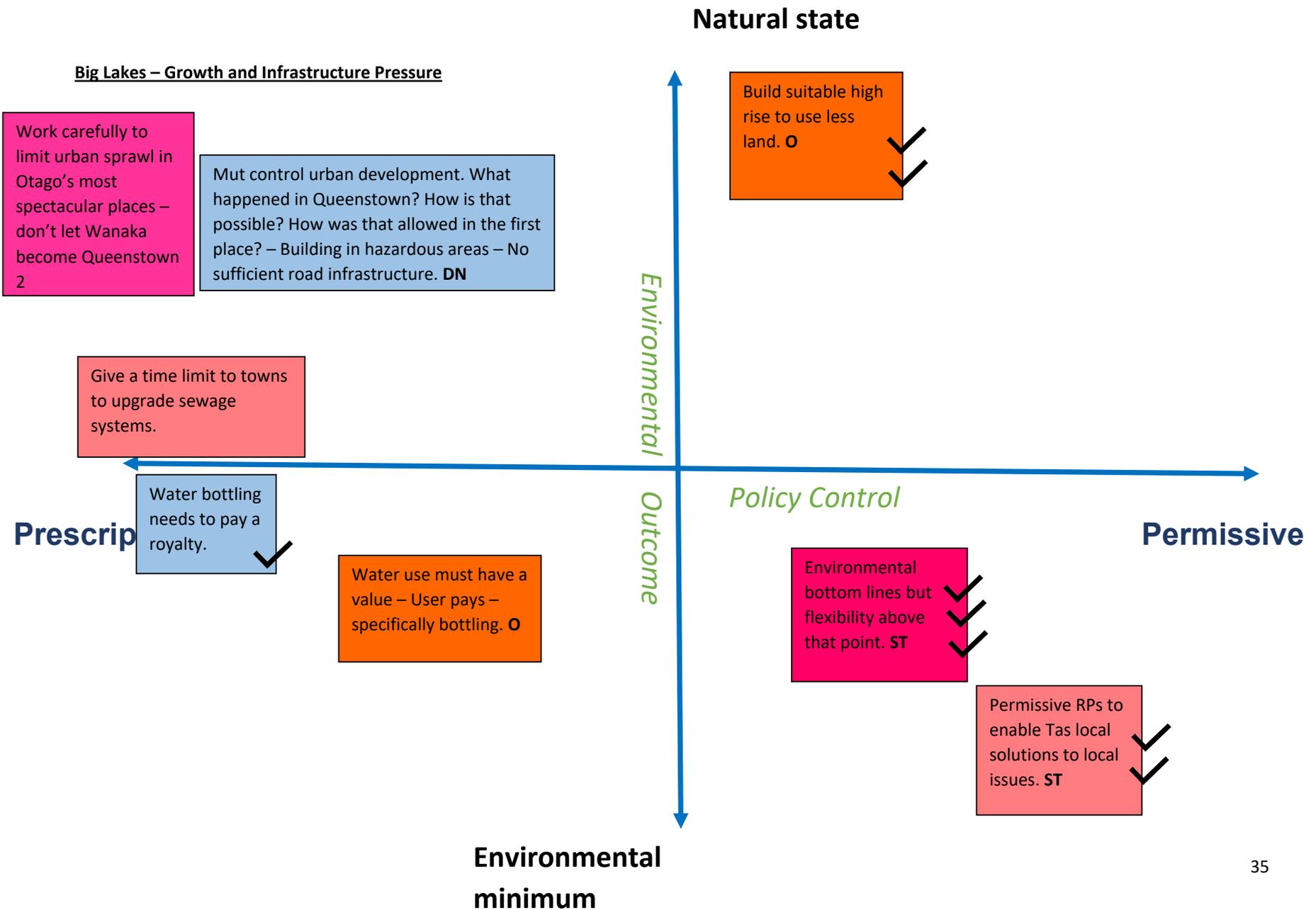
Natural state

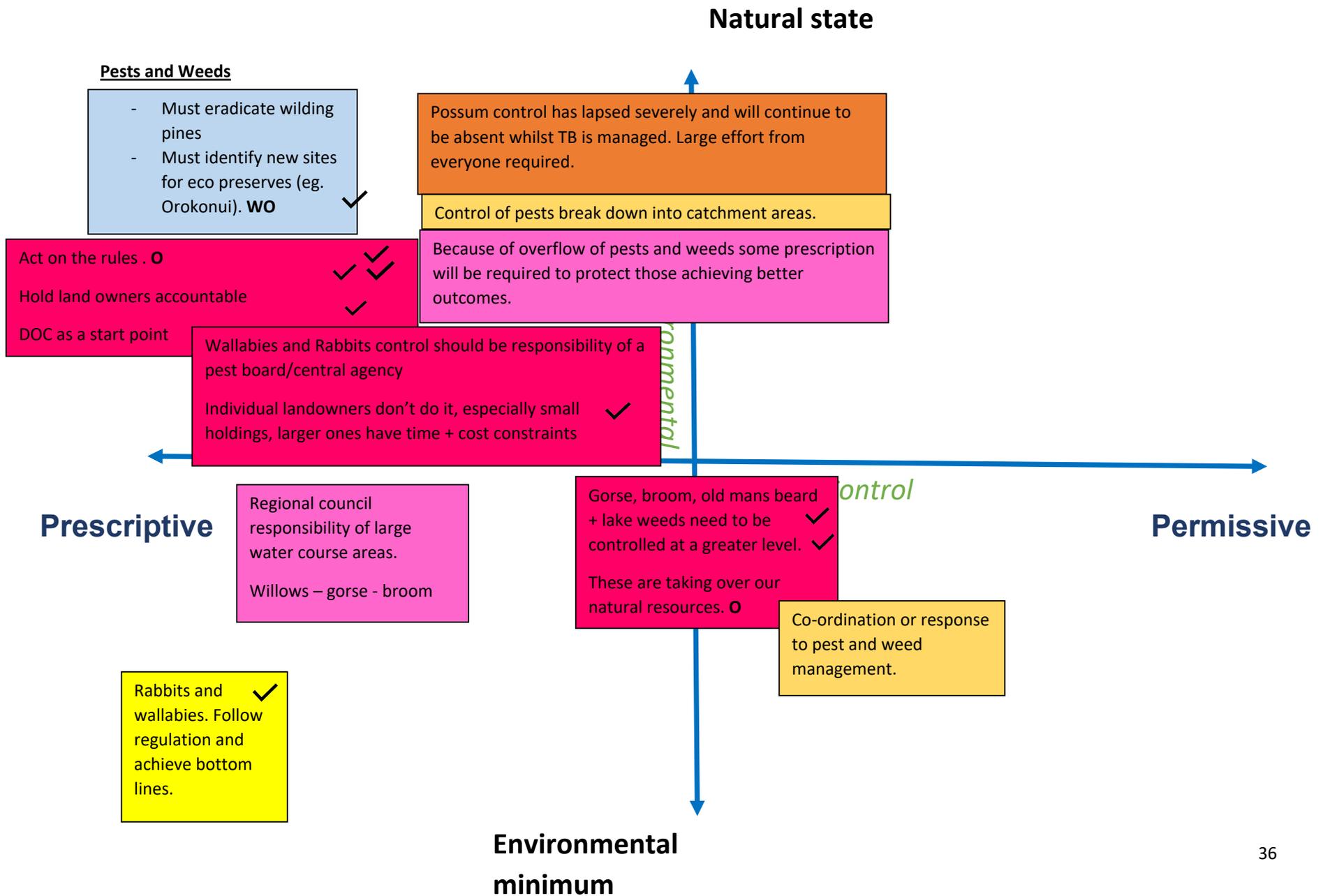
Natural Hazards and Resilience

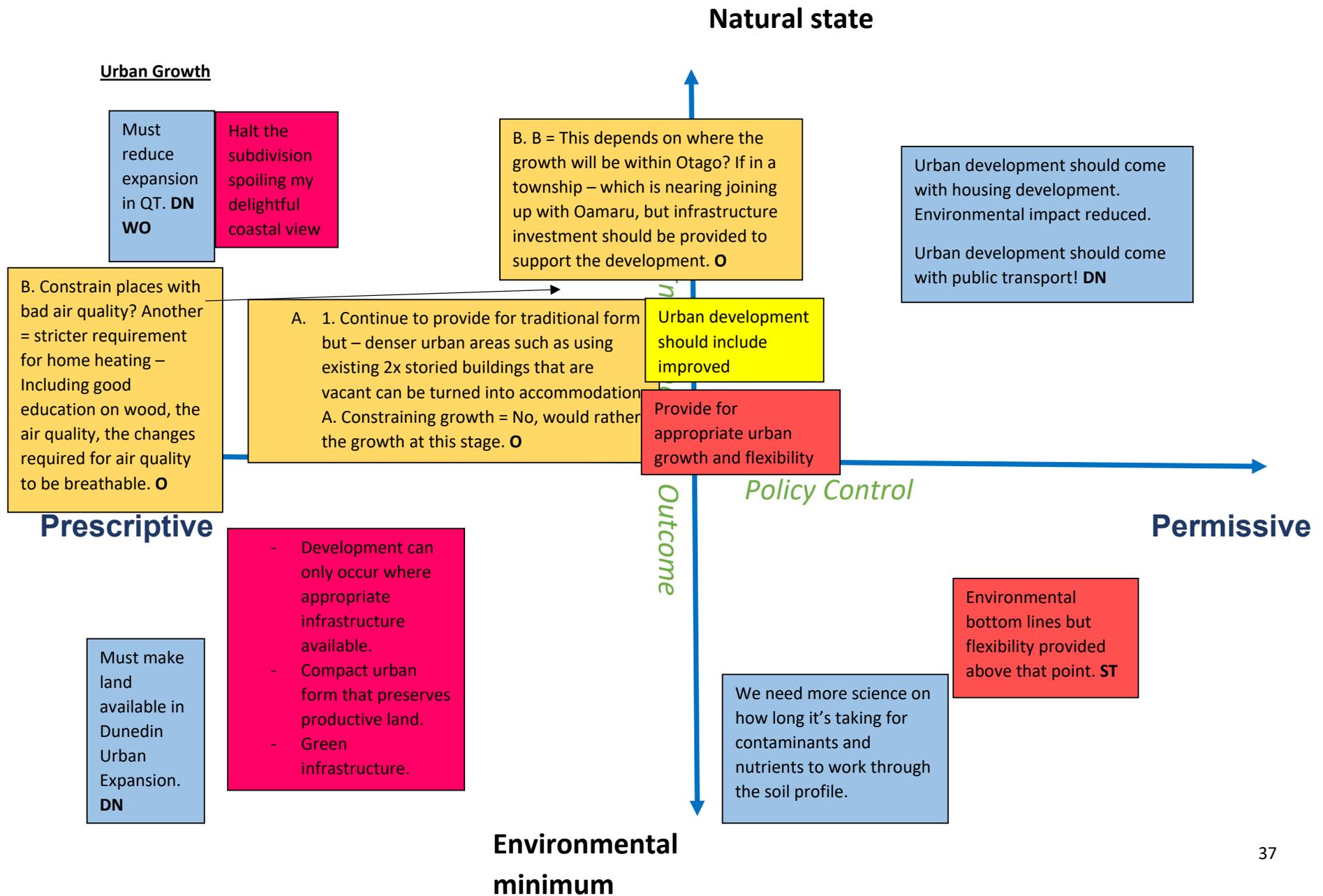


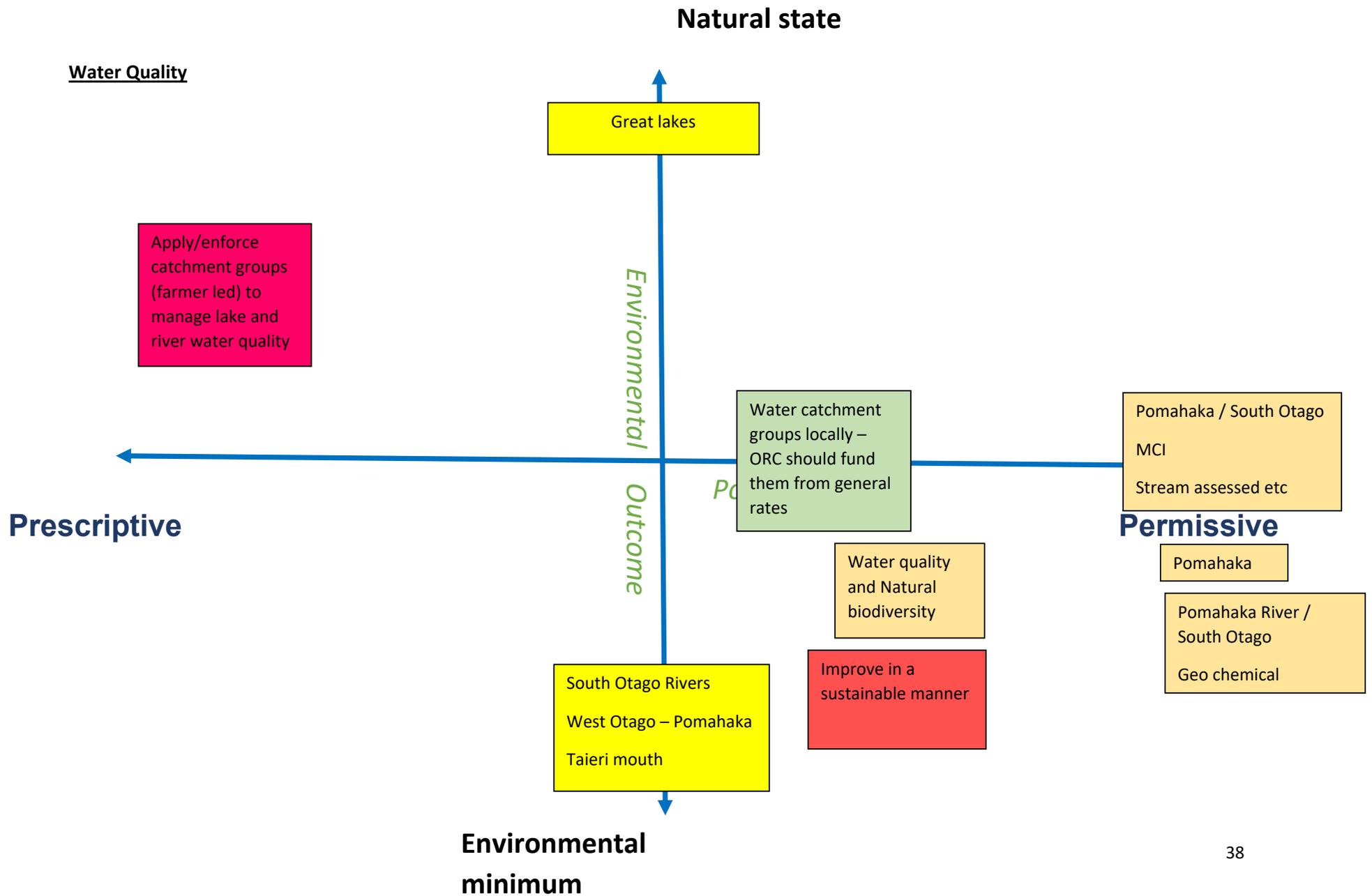


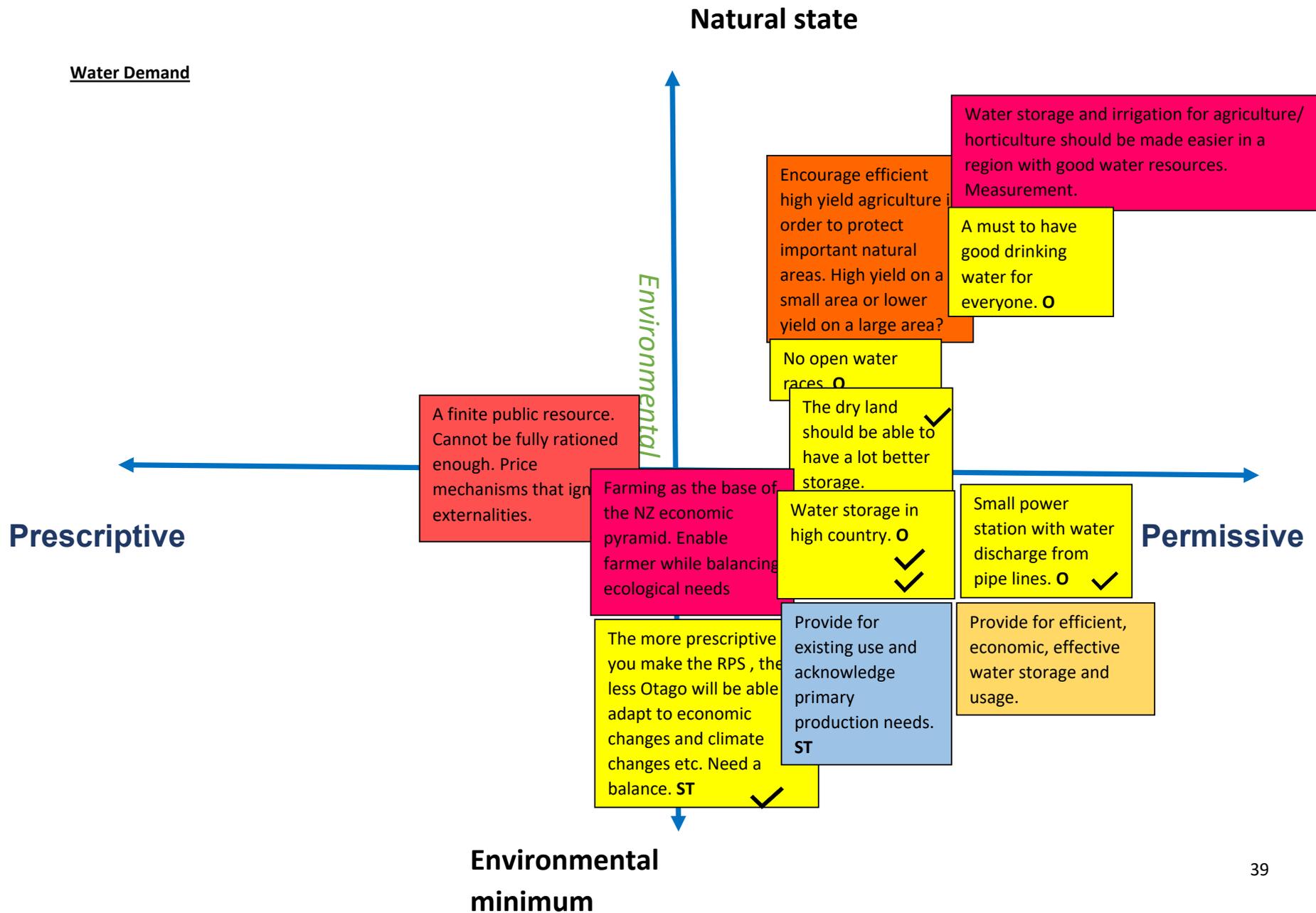


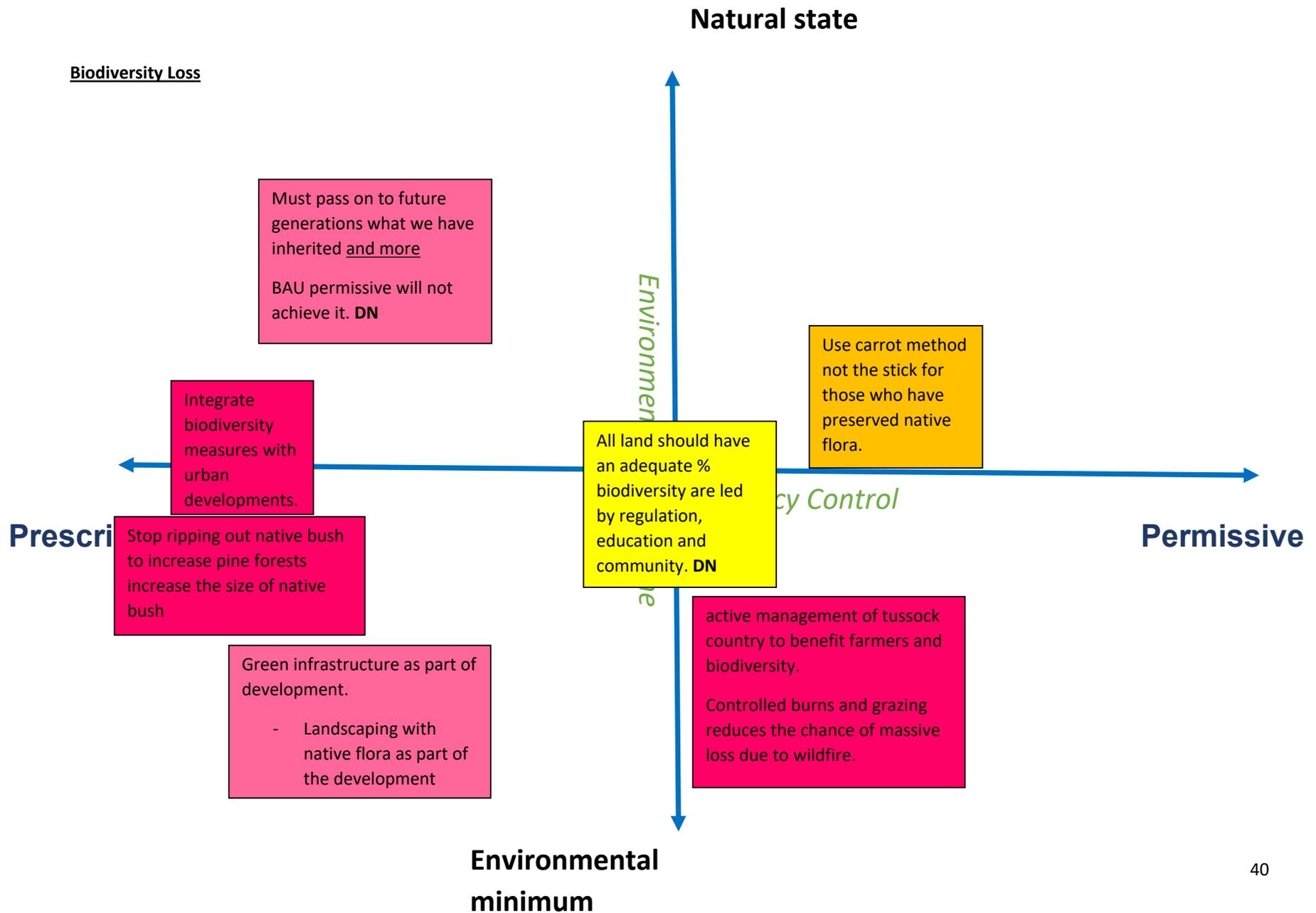












11.2. Spatial variation of air quality in Wanaka

Prepared for:	Council
Report No.	P&S1850
Activity:	Environmental: Air
Author:	Sarah Harrison, Air Quality Scientist
Endorsed by:	Gwyneth Elsum, General Manager Strategy, Policy and Science
Date:	27 May 2020

PURPOSE

- [1] To report the results of a study undertaken in Wanaka to inform the most appropriate location for the new permanent, continuous air quality monitoring station.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- [2] A new permanent, continuous air quality monitoring station is scheduled to be installed at Wanaka during the 2019/2020 year, as per the Long-Term Plan for State of the Environment (SOE) monitoring. A study to confirm the most appropriate location for the station was conducted. A previous study was undertaken in 2013, however Wanaka has experienced a significant amount of urban growth since then. Comparing the results from the two studies confirms the most appropriate place for SOE monitoring in Wanaka.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives** this report.

BACKGROUND

- [3] Otago Regional Council are expanding the monitoring network to ensure air quality is being monitored in areas of population growth. In recent years, some areas in Central Otago and Queenstown Lakes have expanded at a rapid rate. In Wanaka in particular, there has been significant growth both within and outside the air zone boundary – with 30% growth in Wanaka and 40% in Albert Town, since 2013 ([Stats NZ, 2019](#)).
- [4] ORC currently has four permanent, and three winter-only locations for monitoring PM₁₀ (particulate matter with a diameter of less than 10 µg), however the National Environmental Standard for Air Quality (NESAQ) will be updated to include PM_{2.5} (particles with a diameter of less than 2.5 µg). As PM_{2.5} has a negative impacts on human health ([WHO, 2006](#)), and home heating emissions being mostly comprised of the smaller particle sizes ([Environet, 2019](#)), newer technology was investigated to measure PM_{2.5}.
- [5] The NESAQ requires Councils to monitor particulate matter where particulate concentrations are likely to be highest, and/or the most people affected. The spatial study from 2013 ([ORC, 2014](#)) concluded that the offshore breezes from Lake Wanaka

were strong enough to disperse the particulate matter during the night. Consequently, there was not an observed sharp increase at night-time, as seen in other Central Otago towns. The study also concluded that the Holiday Park located just south of the main beach at Wanaka was the area of highest concentrations due to the accumulation of particulate matter. This study aimed to determine if either the temporal or spatial pattern of concentrations are similar to the 2013 work and identify the most suitable site for the new instrument.

METHOD AND RESULTS

- [6] Three different DustTrak instruments were used to record real-time PM_{2.5} at 31 sites on 20-21 August 2019 (Figure 1). These monitors had previously been operated together to confirm that they were reading levels in accordance to each other. At lower levels of particulate matter, they were reading within 2 µg of each other, and it was determined that they would be suitable to use in different parts of Wanaka simultaneously.
- [7] Wanaka was divided into three parts – North, South and Albert Town. Each section was sampled three times during night of 20 August 2019 and once the following morning.
 - Early evening (4-6 pm)
 - Evening (6-8 pm)
 - Night (8-10 pm)
 - Morning (7-9 am)
- [8] The first evening run covered the ‘start up’ time, when individuals would light their fires for the evening, emitting maximum amounts of particulates as the burners came up to temperature. The evening and night rounds covered the times when the burners are operating at high efficiency, and particulate matter may be dispersing and/or gathering. The morning round was conducted to confirm if morning start-up period in Wanaka was similar or less intense than Air Zone 1 towns, and the afternoon run was to obtain background data, when concentrations were lowest.
- [9] The night-time spatial concentrations are given in Figure 1 below.



Figure 1: Night-time spatial concentrations of PM_{2.5} in Wanaka on 20 August 2019 (2-minute average)

- [10] The highest two-minute average concentration of PM_{2.5} (76 µg/m³) was found in the south western area, within the Meadowstone subdivision, south-west of the Holiday Park on Brownston Street. There were other high concentrations of 59 and 56 µg/m³ found at the Holiday Park and the corner of Warren and Connor Street respectively (Figure 1).

- [11] Other sites with high concentrations were central Albert Town (Finch St/Frye Crescent), and a newer subdivision to the west of Mt Iron (Mercury Place/Raglan Lane). Both of these areas are relatively low-lying areas, with Mt Iron in between, acting as a barrier to wind dispersion. Albert Town is likely to be susceptible to high morning concentrations caused by an inversion layer, which was observed during the morning of the 21st (Figure 2). Both areas had very high morning concentrations (Figure 3). Other pockets of high concentrations were found in the north at Beacon Point Road, and Rata Street, both of these sites are located in the older suburbs of Wanaka.



Figure 2: Inversion layer over Albert Town on 21st August, a mixture of the low cloud over the Clutha river seen on the left, and smoke from chimneys on the right

- [12] The spatial patterns indicate that topography plays a large role in creating small pockets where particulate matter can accumulate on still nights. Over the Holiday Park area in Wanaka South, the gentle wind created a moving area of higher concentrations that seemed to oscillate over the southern suburbs.

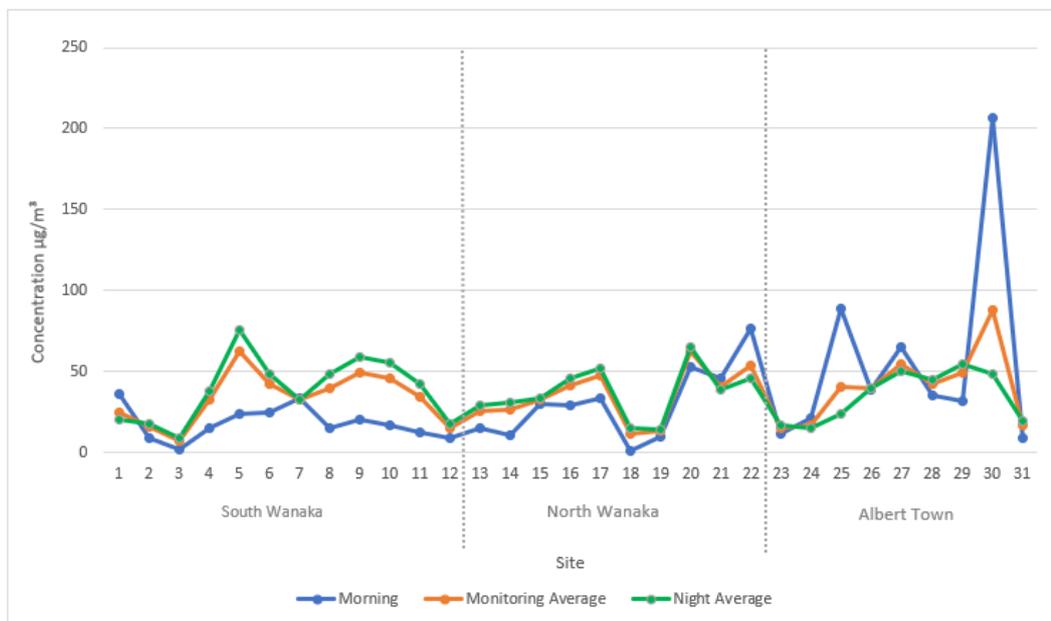


Figure 3: Comparison of night-time and morning concentrations at different sites

- [13] Wind speed and direction data obtained from the NIWA station showed that the wind was coming from the east and north-east directions for most of the evening of 20 August 2019. Wind speed was below 1.1 m/s during the monitoring hours, and it had noticeably reduced to an almost indiscernible speed from about 5 pm.

- [14] The wind direction data from the last four years shows that most of the wind comes from the west to west-northwest directions in Wanaka, with the next most dominant wind coming from the east and southeast. This suggests the predominance of onshore and offshore breezes from and to the lake that would alternate during the day/night periods (Figure 4).

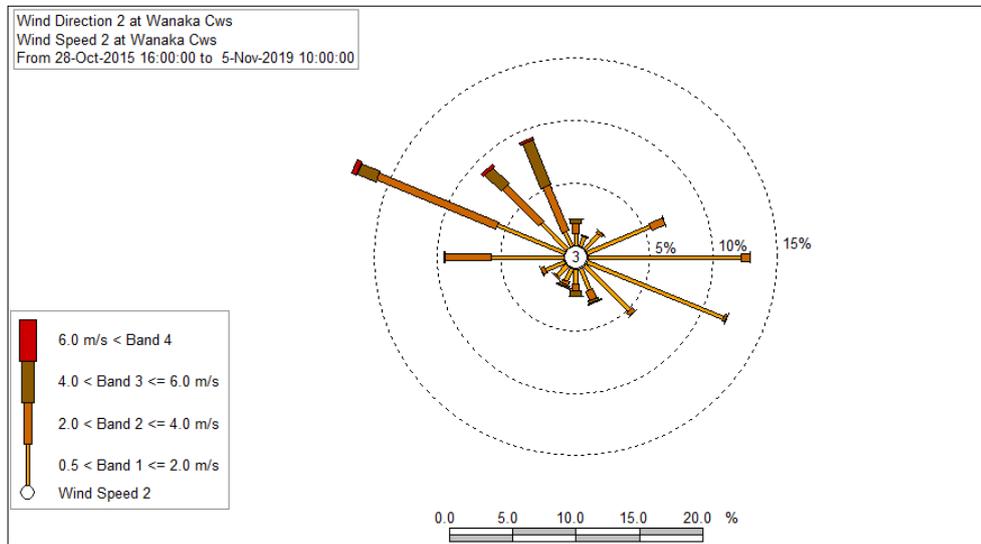


Figure 4. Wind rose for Wanaka NIWA met station – 2015-2019

- [15] In comparison with the 2013 PM₁₀ data, the spatial pattern was similar, with the highest concentrations centred around the northern subdivision, the main shopping area at Ardmore street, and most significantly near the holiday park on the southern lakefront (Figure 5).

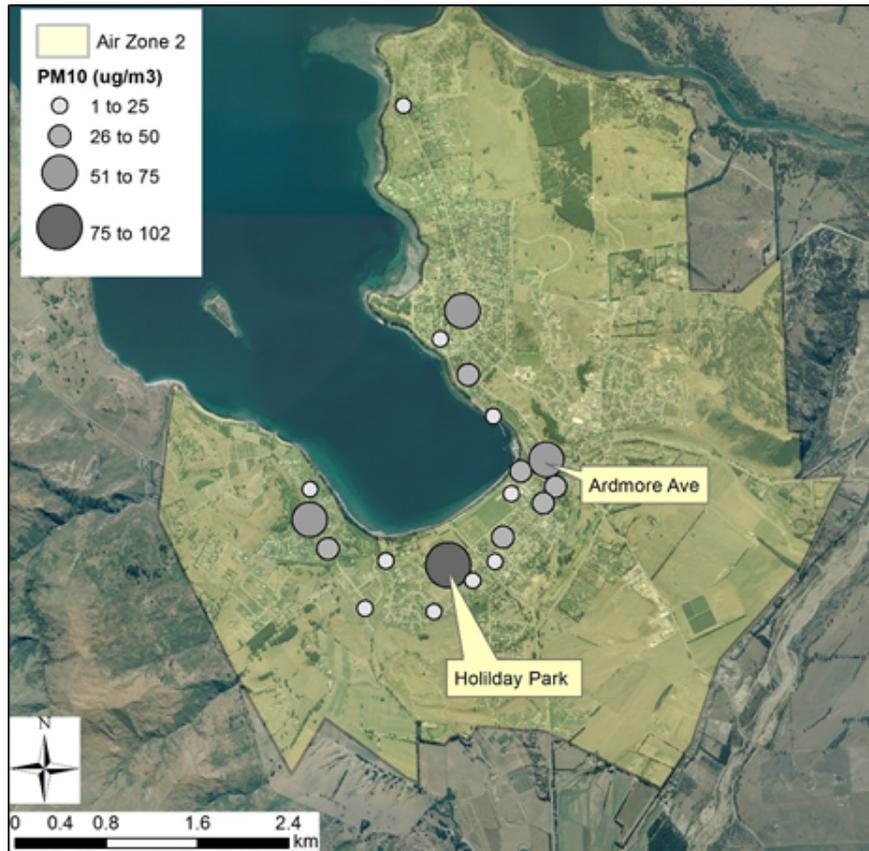


Figure 5. Results of 2013 Spatial Study

CONCLUSIONS

- [16] The particulate matter concentrations in Wanaka vary spatially and temporally over a typical calm and cold winter's night. The results of this study indicate that while there are many areas with elevated levels of $PM_{2.5}$, the southern part of Wanaka may accumulate among the highest concentrations in any given night, and this agrees with the 2013 study.

- [17] The evidence that Albert Town also experiences elevated $PM_{2.5}$ levels indicates that it should be within the Wanaka Air Zone boundary. Visual observations and data collected during this study have shown that Albert Town can experience inversion layers independently of Wanaka, so more work to address the implications of this is recommended in future.

- [18] The wind speed data from the last four years shows that wind speed is less than 0.5 m/s (10-minute average) about 3% of the time. In comparison, Arrowtown's wind speed is <0.5 m/s 37% of the time. This indicates that as previously concluded, Wanaka experiences fewer calm periods than the Air Zone 1 towns, and therefore higher emission dispersal.

EMISSION TRENDS

- [19] In September 2019 an emissions inventory was performed by Environet in the towns of Wanaka, Clyde and Cromwell. The study found that in Wanaka (including Albert Town)

domestic heating contributes to 97% of daily winter particulate matter emissions (36 tonnes of PM_{2.5} per year). Over half of these (56%) emissions come from pre-2006 wood or multifuel burners (39% of all solid fuel burners) which would be non-compliant in Air Zone 1 towns.

- [20] In comparison to a 2013 estimate, the amount of emissions between then and now have not changed greatly. This suggests that newer wood burners are replacing older ones with the effect of improving air quality, however this practice has been counteracted by increased residential growth and burner installation.
- [21] The Wanaka air shed is currently Air Zone 2 (not including Albert Town, which is Air Zone 3). This means that the types of burners installed in either Wanaka or Albert Town only need to meet an emission standard of 1.5 g/kg as per the NESAQ and ORC Air Plan, and have not been subject to further wood burner restrictions like the Air Zone 1 towns. This requires review.

REFERENCES

- [22] ORC Committee Report, 2014. *Spatial variability of air quality in Arrowtown and Wanaka*. Presented to Technical Committee 4 June 2016.
- [23] Stats NZ, 2019. *Statistical area 1 dataset for 2018 Census, total New Zealand*. Retrieved from <https://www.stats.govt.nz/information-releases/statistical-area-1-dataset-for-2018-census>
- [24] Wilton, E. 2019. *Wanaka, Cromwell and Clyde Air Emission Inventory – 2019*. Environet Limited, Objective ID A1344874.
- [25] World Health Organisation, 2006. *Air quality guidelines for particulate matter, ozone, nitrogen dioxide and sulfur dioxide: Global update 2005: Summary of risk assessment*. Retrieved from <https://www.who.int/airpollution/publications/aqg2005/en/>

APPENDIX

Site Number	Easting	Northing	Site Name	Area
1	1291931	5043252	Bills Way/Sargood	Wanaka South
2	1291708	5042883	Wanaka-Mt Aspiring Dr/Far Horizon	
3	1292498	5042871	Meadowstone/Kelliher	
4	1292413	5042471	Galloway/Kelliher	
5	1293021	5042441	Meadowstone/Willowridge	
6	1293413	5041914	End of Niger St	
7	1293681	5042244	Kennedy Cres, near no. 28	
8	1293583	5042741	McDougall/Tenby – Bowling Club	
9	1293359	5042716	Warren/Connor	
10	1293284	5042965	Lakeview Holiday Park, Brownstone St	
11	1293558	5043044	Upton/Roche	
12	1293998	5043090	Dungarvon/Tenby	Wanaka North
13	1293642	5043506	Dungarvon	
14	1293979	5043399	Helwick/Upton	
15	1293783	5043681	Ardmore	
16	1293317	5044535	Beacon Point/Lismore	
17	1293268	5045097	Beacon Point/Eely	
18	1292753	5046908	Beacon Point/Penrith Park	
19	1293628	5046456	Infinity Dr	
20	1293700	5045567	Rata/Kowhai	
21	1294137	5044817	Mcleod/Penrow	
22	1294680	5044545	Raglan/Mercury	
23	1295774	5045650	Glen Dene/Mount Linton	Albert Town
24	1296760	5044371	Old Racecourse Rd/Ewing	
25	1297126	5044759	Sherwin Ave/Mallard	
26	1297225	5045096	Sherwin/Rifleman	
27	1297410	5045011	Finch/Frye	
28	1297302	5045747	Lagoon/Bernard	
29	1297422	5045375	Lagoon/Hunt	
30	1297838	5045335	Dale/Alison	
31	1298343	5045244	Kingston/Arklow	

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

12.1. Recommendations of the Strategy and Planning Committee, 13 May 2020

The following recommendations were adopted at the 13 May 2020 Strategy and Planning Committee meeting. The Council should consider adoption of the resolutions as a whole or may consider separately by recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) **Approves** the recommendations adopted by the Strategy and Planning Committee on 13 May 2020.

9.1. Proposed approach for developing a new Land and Water Regional Plan

Resolution

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Adopts** the proposed approach for developing a new Land and Water Regional Plan
- 3) **Requests** staff to amend paragraph 23 of the staff report to: *The LWRP Governance Group as described in the proposed governance structure, will consist of ORC Councillors (membership to be determined by further report to Council) and rūnaka representatives to ensure a strong link with ORC's governing body through the ORC'S Strategy and Policy Committee, which in turn will provide policy guidance.*

Moved: Cr Deaker

Seconded: Cr Forbes

CARRIED

10.1. Resource Management Amendment Bill and implications for ORC

Resolution

That the Council:

- 1) **Notes** this report.

Moved: Cr Wilson

Seconded: Cr Forbes

CARRIED

10.2. MfE Freshwater 2020

Resolution

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Notes** that the publication *Our Freshwater 2020* will form part of the suite of publications that informs policy development and plan making, particularly in respect

of the revised Regional Policy Statement and the proposed Land and Water Regional Plan

Moved: Cr Wilson

Seconded: Cr Forbes

CARRIED

10.3. Otago-Southland Three Waters Investigation: Information for Councils

Resolution

That the Council:

- 1) **Notes** that Chief Executives from Otago and Southland councils have applied for Crown funding to investigate the current state of water services in Otago and Southland and whether a collaborative approach to water services delivery could benefit Otago and Southland communities and the environment;
- 2) **Notes** that the Otago Regional Council's contribution to the investigation is estimated to be \$18,750;
- 3) **Notes** that the proposed investigation is in the form of an Indicative Business Case; and
- 4) **Notes** that once the Indicative Business Case is completed, it will be brought back to Councils for information and to consider potential next steps.

Moved: Cr Wilson

Seconded: Cr Scott

CARRIED

12.2. Recommendations of the Regulatory Committee, 11 March 2020

The following recommendations were adopted at the 11 March 2020 Regulatory Committee meeting. The Council should consider adoption of the resolutions as a whole or may consider separately by recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) **Approves** the recommendations adopted by the Regulatory Committee on 11 March 2020.

ITEM 8.1 REGULATORY GROUP – QUARTERLY ACTIVITY REPORT

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council:

1. **Receives** this report.
2. **Notes** the quarterly update report from the Regulatory Group for the period 1 July 2019 to 31 December 2019.

Moved: Cr Malcolm

Seconded: Cr Wilson

CARRIED

ITEM 8.2 STRATEGIC COMPLIANCE FRAMEWORK

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council:

1. **Receives** this report.
2. **Notes** that an ORC Compliance Monitoring Plan consistent with the principles of the Strategic Compliance Framework 2019 – 2024 will be presented to the Regulatory Committee at the September 2020 meeting.

Moved: Cr Noone

Seconded: Cr Hope

CARRIED

ITEM 8.3 TLA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT COMPLIANCE REPORT

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council:

1. **Receives** this report.
2. **Notes** that the investigation into significant non-compliances identified in Table 2 is continuing.
3. **Notes** that the compliance team will complete an annual report for the Regulatory Committee on the compliance status of wastewater treatment plants in the Otago region.
4. **Works** with TAs and public health to make sure communities, both urban and rural, are informed of health risks associated with wastewater discharges.
5. **Include** follow up reports on this compliance report on future Regulatory Committee Quarterly Activity Reports.

Moved: Cr Noone

Seconded: Cr Calvert

CARRIED

12.3. Recommendations of the Infrastructure Committee, 11 March 2020

The following recommendations were adopted at the 11 March 2020 Infrastructure Committee meeting. The Council should consider adoption of the resolutions as a whole or may consider separately by recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) **Approves** the recommendations adopted by the Infrastructure Committee on 11 March 2020.

Item 8.1 Update on February 2020 Flooding

Resolution

That the Council:

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Notes** that:
 - a. *There has been a collaborative response effort between landholders, CDEM, ORC staff, and Territorial Authorities, namely Clutha District Council.*
 - b. *Preliminary costs for flood damage repair are being prepared and will be refined through further investigation, scoping and costing.*
 - c. *The current scheme funding for the Lower Clutha Flood Protection and Drainage Scheme may not provide for all necessary flood repair work.*
 - d. *Funding options for some of the flood damage repair across the lower Clutha are being investigated through the NEMA (National Emergency Management Agency).*
- 3) **Notes** the programmes and work underway to address scheme performance, levels of service and adaption to the effects of future climate change.

Moved: Cr Wilson

Seconded: Cr Hope

CARRIED

13.1. Notice of Motion - Commerce Commission Submission on Aurora Energy price increase

Prepared for: Council
Date: 22 May 2020

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with Standing Order 26.1, the following Notice of Motion has been received from Councillor Michael Laws for inclusion on the agenda for the Council meeting being held Wednesday, 27 May 2020:

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- 1) Prepares a submission to the Commerce Commission on the proposal by Aurora Energy to increase regional electricity prices between 16% and 23%.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Councillor Laws' emailed Notice of Motion [1 page]

From: Cr Michael Laws (ORC) <Michael.Laws@orc.govt.nz>

Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2020 2:40 PM

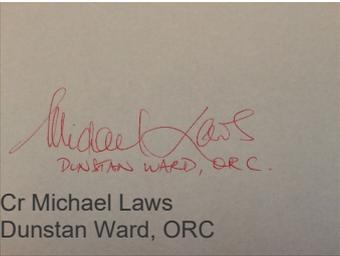
To: Sarah Gardner; Cr Marian Hobbs (ORC)

Cc: Councillors

Subject: Notice of Motion for next Council meeting

1. That the Otago Regional Council prepares a submission to the Commerce Commission on the proposal by Aurora Energy to increase regional electricity prices between 16% and 23%.

Cheers



Cr Michael Laws
Dunstan Ward, ORC