

TAIERI LIAISON GROUP MEETING NOTES

1. MEETING DETAILS

Date: 28 May 2025

Time: 4.30pm

Venue: Dunedin International Airport

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Name	Role	Attending	Apology
Liaison Group Members			
William Kirkland	East Taieri	✓	
Simon Parks	East Taieri	✓	
Julie Struthers	East Taieri	✓	
Colin Scurr	West Taieri	✓ (phone)	
David Wilson	West Taieri	✓	
Matt Kerr	West Taieri	✓	
Nick Rodger	Dunedin International Airport Limited		✓
Andrew Simms	Mosguel Taieri Community Board	✓	
Lloyd McCall	Councillor	✓	
Kate Wilson	Councillor	✓	
Otago Regional Council Staff			
Tom Dyer	GM Science and Resilience	✓	
Brett Paterson	Manage Engineering	✓	
Dan King	Team Leader Operations and Maintenance	✓	
Pam Wilson	Infrastructure Engineering Lead	✓	
Kirsten Tebbutt	Engagement Strategy and Planning Lead	✓	

3. 2024/25 YEAR UPDATE

Discussed:

- Drain cleaning practice and programming (including spraying).
- Where responsibility lies for the repair of damage from bulls on floodbanks
- Whether a broader consideration of the protection provided by the Riverside Spillway is necessary
- Whether starting work on the Silver Stream at its confluence with the Taieri River is appropriate – would prefer to see it commence at the eastern end (near Mosgiel). This would be particularly relevant should the project budget be exceeded and the work require reconsideration/recommitment part way through the project
- Lower Pond gravity gates
- Bridge 2 on Drain 10
- The construction package for the Contour Channel project is expected to go to market over the winter period.

- A very high level overview of the gravel provisions included in the pending global consent.

Actions:

- Consideration to be given to spray programme for the 2025/26 season, with particular reference to frequency and timing.
- Consider practice regarding maintenance/repair of cattle damage
- Consider feedback received in 2025/26 work programmes, and provide update at next meeting, eg frequency and scheduling of drain cleaning

4. ANNUAL PLAN UPDATE

Discussed:

- Difficulty in accessing and navigating ORC website for Annual Plan information this year
- How community engagement occurs, given that performance measures refer back to community agreement.

Actions:

- Provide better detail to ratepayers next year – invite Liaison Group to contact staff directly if they have trouble navigating this.
- Liaison Group to provide inputs to Annual Plan processes to reflect community preference next year – this will be the focus of our Jan/Feb 2026 Meeting.

5. RATES REVIEW

Discussed:

- Rating approach for all schemes should be reviewed prior to next Long Term Plan.
- Review has commenced with Lower Clutha area, and it is anticipated that the Taieri review will commence in late 2026.
- Equity considerations associated with the current rating model, including the district wide rate charged for the Water of Leith (reflecting the district wide benefits of the University of Otago and Dunedin Hospital), when a similar approach is not taken to the Taieri (Dunedin International Airport).
- How rates are impacted by central government contributions to scheme projects.

Actions:

- ORC to confirm the approach to targeted rates that was adopted via the 2024-34 Long Term Plan in the Taieri Flood and Drainage Scheme
- ORC to confirm how external funding impacts on rates

6. 2025/26 YEAR PLANNING

Discussed:

- Operations and Maintenance are working on their works programme for the next year, and expect to have this completed by the start of July.
- Plans for resilience at Lake Ascog Pump Station, given that the existing pumps are now unserviceable
- Plans to provide enhanced communications (remote monitoring) for pump stations across the Scheme
- Provision for a third pump at Waipori Pump Station, and associated power supply discussed.

Actions:

- Discussions between David Wilson and Pam Wilson (Infrastructure Lead) and Dan King (Operations and Maintenance Lead) regarding the Waipori pump and its power supply.

7. INTRODUCTION TO ASSET MANAGEMENT

Discussed:

- What asset management is, how ORC is approaching it and the information that is expected to result for both the Liaison Group and ratepayers.

8. STRATEGIC AND ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

Discussed:

- Proposed subdivision of part of the Wal's site, and ORC's early engagement with the applicant, noting the community's concerns with the proposal.
- Upcoming drop in sessions in respect of attendance and content. Noted that the drop in session is not intended to replace the Liaison Groups Annual meeting with the community.

Actions:

- ORC to seek to develop a mailing list from drop in session, expected to be held in August.
- ORC to issue a formal invitation for drop in session as planning firms up.
- ORC to consider any additional Liaison Group meetings as required to support Annual Plan process next year.

9. QUESTIONS ON PRECIRCULATED MATERIALS

Discussed:

- Outram Floodbank Report – noted complexity and the need to test anticipated failure point for the Scheme (flood of 3900 cumecs/1 in 200 year event). Particular concern raised regarding the impact of flooding on road connections to enable evacuation, with particular reference to old railway embankment.

Actions:

- ORC to prepare a summary for complex reports.

- Extend invitation to CDEM for representation at drop in session to reinforce the importance of preparedness across the area.
- Andrew Simms to raise concerns with the impacts of land use on inundation along Outram Allanton Road with the Mosgiel Taieri Community Board.

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

Discussed:

- Environmental Portal limitations, particularly during flood events; ORC became particularly aware of these concerns during the October 2024 flood.
- Details regarding the ORC's view of the efficacy of the M3 and M4 drains, at the Gordon Road Spillway.

Actions:

- Update the Liaison Group regarding the review of Environmental Portal functionality; liaise directly with the Group regarding preferences.
- Meet with Gordon Road Spillway residents to discuss concerns around the M3 and M4 drains.

11. MEETING REVIEW

Discussed:

- Group wants to discuss topical concerns, happy not to dive into lengthy reports.
- Group is welcome to highlight anything at any time, via the Liaison Officer (Kirsten Tebbutt).

Actions:

- ORC to bring operational plans to next meeting.
- ORC to discuss Lower Clutha rates review at next meeting.

12. NEXT MEETING

Discussed:

- Expected to be late September, Wednesday evening at 4.30.

Post meeting note: Late September is problematic due to a Council meeting. Tentative date early October.

- Following meeting will be late January/early February, and this is expected to be the timing for meetings going forward.
- Dunedin Airport a good venue.