



Candidate Information Evening Otago Regional Council 2025

Amanda Vercoe, General Manager Strategy and Customer

Goals

1. Plans are in place to ensure that the region's most vulnerable communities (geographic and demographic) and ecosystems are resilient in the face of natural hazards.
2. Our infrastructure is designed and built to accommodate variability and uncertainty associated with changing weather patterns and sea level rise.
3. Our Regional Policy Statement and regional plans control development in areas that are vulnerable to natural hazards.

Resilience



Otago builds resilience in a way that contributes to community and environmental wellbeing through planned and well-managed responses to shocks and stresses, including natural hazards.

Climate



Otago is a climate-resilient region that plans for and invests in initiatives that reduce emissions and help us adapt to our changing climate.

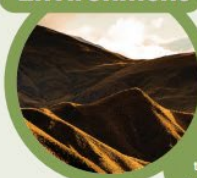
Goals

1. The carbon footprint of our organisation is reduced in line with our climate change strategy, and we are supporting and collaborating with others to do the same.
2. Climate change mitigation and adaptation are key considerations in all our decisions.
3. Our agriculture and horticulture systems are more climate resilient in the face of changing weather patterns, water availability and consumer choice.

Goals

1. Ecosystems are healthy, our water and air are clean, and biodiversity loss is arrested across the region.
2. We predict and address emerging environmental issues before they arise.
3. Our regional plans are effective at ensuring our resources are managed sustainably within biophysical limits in a planned and considered way.

Environment



Otago has a healthy environment ki uta ki tai (from the mountains to the sea), including thriving ecosystems and communities, as well as flourishing bio diversity.

Transport



Otago has an integrated transport system that contributes to the accessibility and connectivity of our community, reduces congestion and supports community wellbeing aspirations.

Goals

1. Congestion is reduced and connection is increased throughout the region.
2. Carbon emissions are reduced and air quality is improved across the region, supported by our efficient and affordable public transport services.
3. Active transport is the preferred mode for short journeys in urban areas.

Goals

1. Te Ao Māori concepts of intergenerationally and deeply connected systems are incorporated throughout Council's work programmes.
2. Mātauraka Māori and the principle of te mana o te wai are incorporated into our environmental planning, management, and decision making.
3. We always go above and beyond our statutory responsibilities (as prescribed in local government and treaty settlement legislation) to support the intention of the Crown to uphold the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi/ The Treaty of Waitangi.

Partnership



Otago Regional Council has effective and meaningful partnerships with mana whenua, creating better outcomes for our region.

Our vision

Our environment and communities are healthy and connected ki uta ki tai (from the mountains to the sea).

Communities



Otago has cohesive and engaged communities that are connected to the environment and each other.

Goals

1. Our communities trust us, and they are satisfied with us and the outcomes that we are delivering.
2. Our communities are supported and empowered to achieve better environmental outcomes.
3. The social, cultural, economic, and environmental wellbeing of Otago is consistently improving.

ORC's mission

Protecting, connecting and enhancing Otago's environment, now and for the future — mōu, mōku, mō tātou, for you, for me, for us.

Our values

We do the right thing and do things right

We show that we care



We influence with respect and integrity



Otago Regional Council

What does ORC do?

Safety & Resilience

- Emergency management
- Climate change and natural hazards
- Flood protection, drainage and river management

Environment

- Land & Water
- Biodiversity and biosecurity
- Air

Transport

- Transport planning
- Public passenger transport

Regional leadership

- Governance and community engagement
- Regional planning and urban development
- Regulatory



Dunstan constituency
4 Councillors

Moeraki constituency
1 Councillor

Dunedin constituency
5 Councillors

Molyneux constituency
2 Councillors

How ORC governance works

Schedule

- For 2022-2025 we had monthly Council meetings, and committees every two months. We host our meetings over two consecutive days (Wed/Thur) to support travelling councillors . Workshops and briefings are held as needed and are a mix of in person and online.
- Meetings are held in the Council Chamber in Dunedin, and we also meet twice a year in a regional location and include site visits as part of the programme.

Remuneration (2024/2025)

- Council Chair - \$158,538
- Deputy Chair - \$88,009
- Councillor / Committee Co-Chairs - \$67,405
- Councillor (minimum) - \$52,714

Where to find more information about standing for ORC

ORC Website (www.orc.govt.nz)

- Stand information
- Candidate Handbook
- Pre-election report (available 18 July)

Local Government New Zealand website (www.lgnz.co.nz)

- Ākōna (<https://akona.lgnz.co.nz/login/index.php>)

Get in touch with our friendly team

- Anthony Morton, ORC Electoral Officer
- Di Railton, ORC Deputy Electoral Officer
- Richard Saunders, Chief Executive
- Amanda Vercoe, GM Strategy and Customer

Questions