

MINUTE AND DIRECTIONS OF THE HEARINGS PANEL
Lower Clutha/Mata-Au scheme and Lower Taieri Flood Protection and Drainage schemes
Rating Model Review

INTRODUCTION

1. This minute sets out procedural matters and directions in relation to the hearings of submissions on the **Lower Clutha/Mata-Au scheme and Lower Taieri Flood Protection and Drainage schemes Rating Model Review**.
2. The purpose of these directions is to:
 - a. introduce the Hearings Panel ('the Panel');
 - b. outline how the hearings process will be managed to provide clarity and certainty for all participants; and
 - c. ensure the process is fair and efficient.
3. Further directions may be issued by the Panel in the form of additional minutes, either prior to or during the hearings.
4. All relevant material relating to this process including this Minute and Directions, schedules, submissions and reports will be publicly available on the Council website.

BACKGROUND

5. At its meeting on 29 July 2026, Council received a paper proposing options on the Lower Clutha/Mata-Au scheme and Lower Taieri Flood Protection and Drainage schemes Rating Model Review.
6. On 29 July 2026 the Council resolved to:
 - 1) **Approves** public consultation on the proposed options, noting the Council's preferred option, in accordance with the draft consultation plan, under the Local Government Act 2002, subject to any changes discussed.
 - 2) **Delegates** authority to Councillors Robertson, Kelliher, Wilson and Gardner to hear submissions on the outcome of the Scheme Rates review and make recommendations to Council on adopting the confirmed option.
 - 3) **Notes** that a quorum of three Councillors will be required to hear submissions.
 - 4) **Delegates** Councillor Noone authority as an alternate for the group should it be required.

HEARINGS PROCESS

Panel composition and delegation

7. The Panel is composed of:
 - Cr Gary Kelliher (Chair)
 - Cr Gretchen Robertson
 - Cr Kate Wilson
 - Cr Chanel Gardner
 - Cr Andrew Noone (as an alternate)
8. Under schedule 7, clause 32(1) of the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act), the Council has delegated to the Panel all necessary powers, functions, and duties to hear submissions on the Lower Clutha/Mata-Au scheme and Lower Taieri Flood Protection and Drainage schemes Rating Model Review and make recommendations to Council.

DIRECTIONS

Procedure and process

9. The hearings of submissions on the Lower Clutha/Mata-Au scheme and Lower Taieri Flood Protection and Drainage schemes Rating Model Review will be conducted in the Council Chamber, Aonui, 180 High Street in Dunedin on **Tuesday 3 November 2026**.
10. The hearings will be conducted in an informal but orderly manner, in accordance with the principles of consultation set out in section 82 of the Act.

Panel hearings

11. The Panel hearings will generally proceed as follows:

- 1. ORC Officer Report:** At the commencement of the hearings an ORC Officer will provide a report setting out an overview of the Lower Clutha/Mata-Au scheme and Lower Taieri Flood Protection and Drainage schemes Rating Model Review.

The ORC Officer report is provided to assist the Panel in its consideration the Review and the submissions made. The report will summarise the submissions received, provide a relevant context, and set out ORC feedback to help inform the Panel's recommendations to Council.

The Panel may ask questions of the ORC officer in response to matters raised in the report or oral submission.

- 2. Submitters heard:** Submitters who have indicated a wish to be heard will be invited to present their submission.

Submitters are encouraged to focus on the key point/s of their submission rather than reading submissions verbatim. Presentation times are likely to be limited to 10 minutes with timings to be confirmed when the hearings schedule is published.

The Panel may ask questions of submitters to clarify matters raised in their submissions.

- 3. The Panel:** As noted above the Panel may ask questions to clarify matters raised in matters raised in the report or submissions.

The Panel may adjourn and reconvene the hearings as is necessary for them to complete its consideration of the matters before it.

- 4. General:** Cross-examination is not permitted, and legal representation is not required.

Pre-circulation of Information

12. Submitters who wish to provide supporting documents, presentations or additional material are encouraged to circulate these to the Hearings Support Team no later than *one working day* prior to the hearings in order for the Panel to have received copies of all submissions in advance of the hearings.
13. Copies of submissions lodged need not be re-circulated.

Directions for submitters

14. Submitters who have indicated that they wish to be heard will be contacted by the Hearings Support Team to confirm attendance and participation method (in person or online).
15. Council is committed to ensuring the hearings process is accessible to all. Submitters who require assistance to participate in the hearings process, including those with physical, neurological, communication or other needs, must advise the Hearings Support Team no later than *three working days* prior to the hearings.
16. All submissions will be considered by the Panel, irrespective of whether the submitter wishes to speak to their submission.
17. All correspondence in relation to these hearings can be directed to:
- Hearings Support Team
C/- Hayley Nicholson (Engagement Specialist, Mātanga Whakawhanaungatanga)
Engineering Team Otago Regional Council
Email: engineering@orc.govt.nz
Phone: 0800 474 082.
18. The hearings schedule will be published on the Council website and circulated to submitters who have requested to be heard.

CLOSING REMARK

19. The Panel greatly appreciates the time and effort of all submitters in engaging with the Lower Clutha/Mata-Au scheme and Lower Taieri Flood Protection and Drainage schemes Rating Model Review Plan process and looks forward to hearing from submitters in order to inform its recommendations to Council.

Signed