

Notice of Meeting:

I hereby give notice that an ordinary meeting of the Strath Taieri Community Board will be held on:

Date: Thursday 22 May 2025
Time: 2.00 pm
Venue: Strath Taieri Community Centre, Middlemarch

Sandy Graham
Chief Executive Officer

Strath Taieri Community Board
PUBLIC AGENDA

MEMBERSHIP

Chairperson	Barry Williams	
Deputy Chairperson	Anna Wilson	
Members	Cr Bill Acklin	David Frew
	Terina Geddes	Tony Markham
	Robin Thomas	
Senior Officer	Mike Perkins, City Development Engineer 3 Waters	
Governance Support Officer	Wendy Collard	

Wendy Collard
Governance Support Officer

Telephone: 03 477 4000
governance.support@dcc.govt.nz
www.dunedin.govt.nz

Note: Reports and recommendations contained in this agenda are not to be considered as Council policy until adopted.

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1 PUBLIC FORUM

At the close of the agenda no requests for public forum had been received.

2 APOLOGIES

At the close of the agenda no apologies had been received.

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.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. 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.
2. Elected members are reminded to update their register of interests as soon as practicable, including amending the register at this meeting if necessary.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board:

- a) **Notes/Amends** if necessary the Elected Members' Interest Register attached as Attachment A; and
- b) **Confirms/Amends** the proposed management plan for Elected Members' Interests.

Attachments

	Title	Page
A	Members' Register of Interests	6

Strath Taieri Community Board Register of Interest - as at 12 May 2025				
Name	Responsibility	Declaration of Interests	Nature of Potential Interest	Proposed Management Plan
Barry Williams	Member	Middlemarch Museum	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Life Member	Middlemarch Rugby Club	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Member	Vintage Machinery Club	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Season Ticket Holder	Middlemarch Swimming Club	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Member	Singles Dance Committee	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Member	Middlemarch Medical Committee	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Member	STARTT (Strath Taieri Agricultural & Rural Tourism Trust)	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Trustee	Big Hutt	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Member	Middlemarch Sports Pavilion & Courts	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
David (Jock) Frew		Middlemarch Rugby Club	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
		Strath Taieri Lions	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
		Residential Land Ownership Middlemarch	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
		Strath Taieri Dog Trial Club	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Trustee	Strath Taieri Connect Charitable Trust	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	President	Middlemarch Sports Pavilion & Courts	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
Terina Geddes	Director	H & T Geddes Farming Ltd	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Chairperson	Middlemarch Community Library	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Member	Middlemarch Swimming Club	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Committee Member	Destination Middlemarch	Potential grants recipient	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.

Name	Responsibility	Declaration of Interests	Nature of Potential Interest	Proposed Management Plan
Thomas (Tony) Markham		Supplementary water take from the Taieri River	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Owner	Life Style Bock	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
Robin Thomas		Contract consultant QEII Trust	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
		Landowner, Residential, Middlemarch	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
		Landowner, Residential, Dunedin	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Member	Foundation Group Strath Taieri Heritage Park	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Trustee	Strath Taieri Connect Charitable Trust	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Member	Strath Taieri Lions Club	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Member	Strath Taieri Historical Society	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
Anna Wilson	Owner	Property , Middlemarch	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Director	Strathavon Ltd	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Treasurer	Strath Taieri School PTA	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Treasurer	Strath Taieri Food Fairies	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Member	Strath Taieri Junior Hockey Club	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Joint Treasurer	Strath Taieri Rugby Club	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Member	Middlemarch Golf Club	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Strathavon Ltd is a member	Mid Taieri Wai Catchment Group	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Treasurer	Tokomaro Kapa Haka Group	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Season Ticket Holder	Middlemarch Swimming Club	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Committee Member	Destination Middlemarch	Potential grants recipient	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.
	Board Representative	Keep Dunedin Beautiful Committee	No conflict identified	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table if a conflict of interest is identified. Seek advice on actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to the meeting.

Name	Responsibility	Declaration of Interests	Nature of Potential Interest	Proposed Management Plan
Cr Bill Acklin	Shareholder/Director	Dunedin Brokers Limited	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	APRA - AMCOS	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Entertainer	Various functions	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Strath Taieri Community Board (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Casual Employee	Insulmax	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Craigieburn Reserve Committee (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Toitū Otago Settlers Museum Board (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

STRATH TAIERI COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING - 3 APRIL 2025

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board:

- a) **Confirms** the minutes of the Strath Taieri Community Board meeting held on 03 April 2025 as a correct record.

Attachments

	Title	Page
A↓	Minutes of Strath Taieri Community Board meeting held on 3 April 2025	10

Strath Taieri Community Board

MINUTES

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Strath Taieri Community Board held in the Strath Taieri Community Centre, Middlemarch on Thursday 03 April 2025, commencing at 4.00 pm

PRESENT

Chairperson	Barry Williams	
Deputy Chairperson	Anna Wilson	
Members	Terina Geddes	David Frew
	Tony Markham	Robin Thomas

IN ATTENDANCE

Mike Perkins (City Development Engineer), Rebekah Jenkins (General Manager, Dunedin Railway Ltd), Simon Whitton (Principal Advisor Rivers, Otago Regional Council), Jean-Luc Payan (Manager Natural Hazards, Otago Regional Council), Nate Anderson (Senior Flood Hazard Analyst, Otago Regional Council) and Megan Rowlands (Team Leader River Management, Otago Regional Council)

Governance Support Officer Wendy Collard

1 PUBLIC FORUM

There was no Public Forum.

2 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Terina Geddes (for lateness) and Cr Bill Acklin (for absence)

Moved (David Frew/Anna Wilson):

That the Board:

Accepts the apologies from Terina Geddes and Cr Bill Acklin

Motion carried (STCB/2025/011)

3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Moved (David Frew/Tony Markham):

That the Board:

Confirms the agenda without addition or alteration

Motion carried (STCB/2025/012)

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of the need to stand aside from decision-making when a conflict arose between their role as an elected representative and any private or other external interest they might have.

Moved (Anna Wilson/Tony Markham):

That the Board:

- a) **Notes** the Elected Members' Interest Register; and
- b) **Confirms** the proposed management plan for Elected Members' Interests.

Motion carried (STCB/2025/013)

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 STRATH TAIERI COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING - 12 FEBRUARY 2025

Moved (David Frew/Tony Markham):

That the Board:

- a) **Confirms** the minutes of the Strath Taieri Community Board meeting held on 12 February 2025 as a correct record.

Motion carried (STCB/2025/014)

PART A REPORTS**7 OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL UPDATE**

The Manager Natural Hazards (Jean-Luc Payan) and the Senior Flood Hazard Analyst (Nate Anderson) presented a PowerPoint presentation on the flood modelling and responded to questions.

The Board advised that it would be beneficial for this information to be presented to the community. Following discussion, it was agreed that a public meeting would be held with the date to be confirmed.

The Board thanked the Otago Regional Council staff for the presentation.

6 DUNEDIN RAILWAYS UPDATE

The General Manager, Dunedin Railways Limited (Rebekah Jenkins) provided an update on Dunedin Railways which included the maintenance work required to railway line between Pukerangi and Middlemarch to enable the use of the line for passenger trains.

Following discussion, it was agreed that Barry Williams would be the Board's liaison with the Dunedin Railways Limited.

Ms Jenkins responded to questions.

Moved (Anna Wilson/Tony Markham):

That the Board:

Notes the Dunedin Railways Update

Motion carried (STCB/2025/015)

7 OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL UPDATE

The Principal Advisor Rivers, Otago Regional Council (Simon Whitton) and the Team Leader River Management, Otago (Megan Rowland) tabled and spoke to the Middlemarch River Management Update. Mr Whitton noted that the River Management Works Programme update had been separated into "programmed works" and "reactive works".

Mr Whitton and Ms Rowland responded to questions.

Moved (Tony Markham/David Frew):

That the Board:

a) **Notes** the Otago Regional Council Update.

Motion carried (STCB/2025/016)

8 PROJECT FUND

The Board gave consideration to the funding application from the Middlemarch Ploughing Association towards the cost of hosting the New Zealand Ploughing Championship.

Moved (Barry Williams/David Frew):

That the Board:

- a) **Approves** \$2,000.00 to the Middlemarch Ploughing Association toward the cost of the hosting of the New Zealand Ploughing Championships.

Motion carried (STCB/2025/017)

9 COMMUNITY PLAN

It was noted that the Board would be holding a workshop on their Community Plan following the conclusion of the meeting.

Moved (Barry Williams/David Frew):

That the Board:

- a) **Notes** the Strath Taieri Community Board Community Plan.

Motion carried (STCB/2025/018)

10 GOVERNANCE SUPPORT OFFICER'S REPORT

A report from Civic provided an update on activities relevant to the Board area which included

- Project Fund
- Local Water Done Well - Following discussion, the Board agreed to prepare a submission, noting it would be ratified at the next Board meeting.
- DCC Draft 9 year plan 2025-34 - Following discussion, the Board agreed to prepare a submission, noting it would be ratified at the next Board meeting.
- Otago Regional Council draft Annual Plan 2025-2026 - Following discussion, the Board agreed to prepare a submission, noting it would be ratified at the next Board meeting.
- Noticeboard
- Correspondence
- Roadworks Schedule

- Currently consulting on

Moved (Member Tony Markham/Member David Frew):

That the Board:

- a) **Notes** the Governance Support Officer's Report.
- b) **Agrees** to prepare a submission to the draft DCC 9 year plan 2025-34, noting it will be ratified at the next Board meeting being held on 22 May 2025.
- c) **Agrees** to prepare a submission to the DCC Local Water Done Well, noting it will be ratified at the next Board meeting held on 22 May 2025.
- d) **Agrees** to prepare a submission to the draft Otago Regional Council draft Annual Plan 2025-2026, noting that it will be ratified at the next Board meeting held on 22 May 2025.

Motion carried (STCB/2025/019)

11 BOARD UPDATES AND REPORT BACKS

Township beautification

Anna Wilson provided an update on the work that Taskforce Green had completed and advised that they would be returning to undertake some additional work. She asked the Board to provide her with any particular areas that they would like Taskforce Green to tidy up.

Ms Wilson commented that she had met with DCC Parks staff regarding the upgrade of the Middlemarch playground.

ANZAC Day

Terina Geddes had circulated which noted at this stage personnel from the Army may not be available to attend the ANZAC Service due to a transfer and another being on active service. Ms Geddes noted that the arrangements for the service such as microphone, speakers and programmes had been completed.

Climate Change

Tony Markham advised that he had no update.

Water management (including flooding)

The presentation from the Otago Regional Council covered this item.

Infrastructure, roads and spraying

Barry Williams provided an update on maintenance work that had been completed in the area. Anna Wilson commented on the School Speed Limit signs and advised that due to Central Government legalisation changes this was still a work in progress.

Community information and publicity

Robin Thomas was not present to provide an update.

Moved (David Frew/Tony Markham):

That the Board:

- a) **Notes** the Board updates and report backs

Motion carried (STCB/2025/020)

Terina Geddes entered the meeting at 5.50 pm.

12 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The Chairperson provided an update on matters of interest which included:

- Communication – there was discussion on the protocols/expectations of communications between the Board members.
- School Speed Limit – this was covered under the Board updates.

There was discussion on the Board contributing to the ANZAC Day service costs.

Moved (Barry Williams/Anna Wilson):

That the Board:

Approves up to \$250.00 from the Board Discretionary fund towards the cost of the ANZAC Day service catering.

Motion carried (STCB/2025/021)

- Taskforce Green – it was noted as Taskforce Green was made up of volunteers that it was normal practice for morning or afternoon tea be provided. Mr Williams suggested that some board funds be set aside for this purpose.

Moved (Barry Williams/Terina Geddes):

That the Board:

Approves up to \$250.00 from the Board Discretionary fund towards the cost of morning and afternoon teas for Taskforce Green.

Motion carried (STCB/2025/022)

Following discussion regarding the street trees along Cardigan Street, it was agreed that Barry Williams would follow up with staff.

Moved (David Frew/Terina Geddes):

That the Board:

- a) **Notes** the Chairperson's report

Motion carried (STCB/2025/023)

13 COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Councillor Bill Acklin was an apology for the meeting.

14 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE CHAIR

There were no items for consideration by the Chair.

The meeting concluded at 6.25 pm

.....
CHAIRPERSON

PART A REPORTS

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL UPDATE

Representatives from the Otago Regional Council may be in attendance to provide an update.

Attachments

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Middlemarch River Management Update

15th May 2025

Prepared for Strath Taieri Community Board Meeting on 22nd May 2025.

This report has been prepared to update the Strath Taieri Community Board on Otago Regional Council's River Management activities in the Middlemarch area. It covers both programmed work and work undertaken to date in the 2024/25 financial year.

1. Catchment Investigations

Stage 2 of the Middlemarch flood hazard and mitigation investigation was presented to the Community Board on April 3rd 2025. The Board requested that ORC provide a presentation to the community, which has been set for June 3rd. Since the last meeting ORC staff have been preparing for the upcoming community meeting. Staff have modified the presentation to address questions that arose during the April 3rd meeting as well as providing further details on potential improvements.

2. River Management Inspections

The following inspections of waterways in the Middlemarch catchment have been undertaken to date in the 2024/25 financial year:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| • 11 July 2024 | • 25 October 2024 |
| • 15 August 2024 | • 29 November 2024 |
| • 4 September 2024 | • 16 January 2025 |
| • 19 September 2024 | • 20 February 2025 |
| • 3 October 2024 (Flood Response) | • 25 March 2025 |
| • 5 October 2024 (Flood Response) | • 15 April 2025 |
| • 8 October 2024 (Flood Response) | • 14 May 2025 |

3. River Management Works Programme

ORC Engineering is currently working on a planned programme of river management work for the 2024/25 financial year (FY; summarised in Table 1). Although this work is programmed for the current FY, it could be affected by unexpected weather events and resourcing. In addition to the above programme, we have also undertaken reactive work this FY (Table 2).

If you have any feedback on either the programmed or reactive work, please advise us via the contact details provided in Section 4 below.

Creek / River	Location	Work Description	Status
March Creek	Cemetery section, from upstream of Cemetery Rd to Mold St paper road	Completion of bank trimming and channel work upstream of cemetery.	This work is currently under further investigation before a final scope of work is confirmed.
March Creek	Downstream from end of Mold St paper road to confluence with Taieri River	Define a channel through oxbow section below cemetery through grass swamp to improve efficiency and conveyance.	
March Creek	Upstream of Cemetery Road	Reshape lower bypass channel.	
March Creek	End of Mold St / Cemetery Road	Investigate alternative options available for routing excess floodwater in Mold Street.	
March Creek	From 200m above SH87 to Mold St.	Mowing bank vegetation to open channel.	Complete
Taieri River	Moonlight Bridge to Pukerangi (16km)	Juvenile willow and vegetation spraying.	Procurement underway
Taieri River	Tiroiti to Moonlight (43km)	Juvenile willow and vegetation spraying.	Procurement underway
Sutton Stream	SH 87 Bridge	Removal of problematic branches and blockages for 2km upstream of SH87.	Completed
Sutton Stream	SH 87 Bridge	Removal of problematic branches and blockages for 2km downstream of SH87.	Scoping

Table 1: Programmed work for Financial Year 2024/25

Creek / River	Location	Work Description	Status
Sutton Stream	SH 87 Bridge	Removal of three fallen trees, 100m upstream of SH87.	Complete
March Creek	Tawe Street, through the railway bridge and on to the downstream extent of the paper road.	Mechanical and manual excavation of the bed and banks to increase channel capacity.	Complete
Sheepwash Creek	Downstream of Mount Stoker Road bridge.	The removal of fallen tree blockages along 160m of the watercourse.	Complete
Taieri River	Mareburn Deviation Road, about 870m upstream of Hyde-Macraes Road bridge	Removal of a dead tree from the channel and the remediation of a breach in the bund wall.	Complete
Taieri River	Mareburn Deviation Road, about 2.2km upstream of Hyde-Macraes Road bridge.	Gravel redistribution and riverbank protection along a 50m-long section of the watercourse to address erosion.	Scoped. Work will be carried out in the summer.
March Creek	In a former meander of the Taieri River, downstream of the cemetery, now the course of the March Creek.	Flow is impeded by blockages caused by windblown trees and branches. These therefore need to be removed to restore conveyance.	Further investigation & Scoping
March Creek	On the true right bank, immediately downstream of the SH87 (Swansea Street).	Several branches are hanging off a willow and could fall into the channel. In a proactive move, these will be cut off and removed.	Scoping

Table 2: Reactive work in Financial Year 2024/25

4. Further Information

If you would like to report a potential river management issue in your area, please contact the ORC on 0800 800 033, or the Engineering team can be contacted more directly on engineering@orc.govt.nz.

The above email address is monitored, and our response time tracked as part of our level of service requirements in the current Long-Term Plan.

COMMUNITY PLAN

Department: Civic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Strath Taieri Community Board Community Plan is attached for discussion at each meeting for the purpose of reviewing and updating as required by the Board.

The attached Strath Taieri Community Board Community Plan has been updated following the Board workshop.

The Board's Community Plan assists to contribute to the Council's Annual plan with focus on:

- 1 **new and current priorities** (in order of importance with justification and estimated costs for each) for inclusion in the DCC Annual Plan
- 2 **items the Board would like for delivery to the community** (for items that would not require support or funding from the DCC, over and above the Community Board funding)

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board:

- a) **Adopts** the Strath Taieri Community Board Community Plan.

Attachments

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A	Community Plan	21



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1 INTRODUCTION

This Community Plan summarises the needs and priorities of the communities within the Strath Taieri Community Board area for the Dunedin City Council's (DCC) 10 year plan 2024-34. Its primary objective is to signal to the DCC those priorities for our community, with the ultimate goal that they are programmed into the DCC's 10 year plan and funded by the DCC. These priorities are shown in section 3 of this plan.

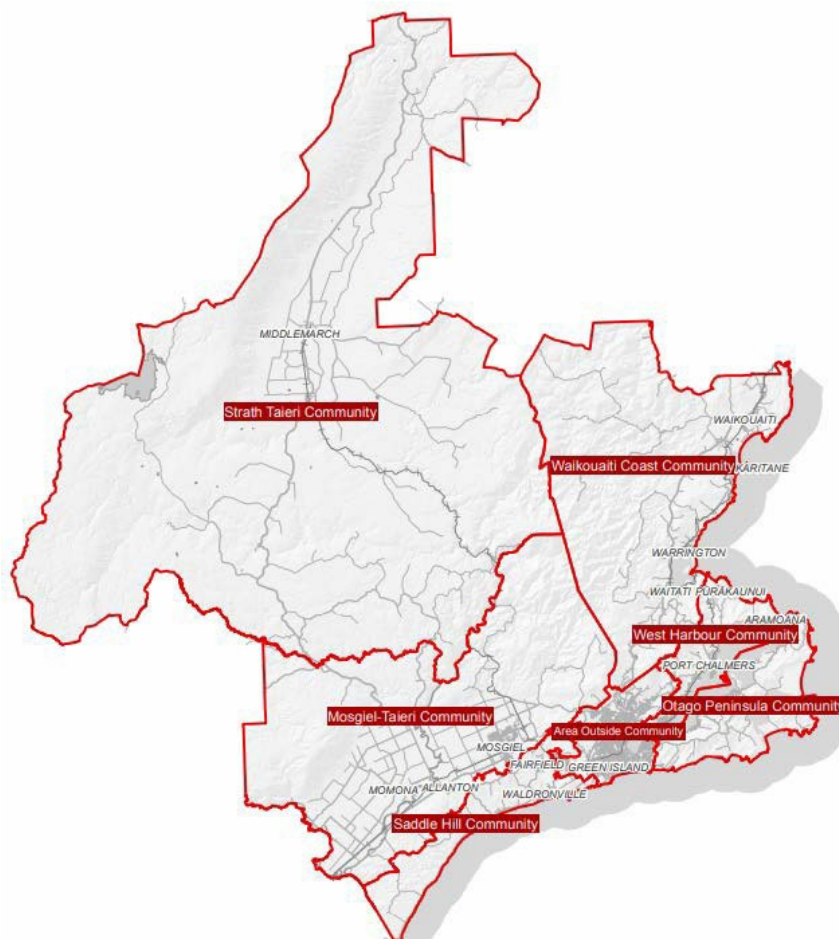
This Plan also includes activities that we, the Community Board plan to undertake. Our most important role is to be an advocate for our community, but we also proactively support our community in other ways, and these are set out in section 4 of this plan.

This Plan is subject to change and revision as needs arise and priorities alter.

2 KEY INFORMATION

2.1 BACKGROUND

The City of Dunedin has six Community Boards within its boundary, as shown in the map below.



Each Community Board has six elected members, and one councillor representative. The Community Board members are elected every three years as part of the local body elections. Community Boards must comply with the same rules and regulations as council, such as the Local Government Act.

The primary role of a Community Board is one of advocacy for its community. Each Community Board makes representations to the DCC on the priorities those boards have identified for their community area, that they would like to see included and funded in the council's annual plans and 10 year plans.

Any matters of an operational nature, e.g., the reporting of potholes, tree issues etc., are reported to council via the DCC's 477 4000 phone number, and do not form part of the Community Board's priorities.

Each Community Board holds public meetings every two months, and these meetings are advertised on the DCC website and in the Otago Daily Times. The meeting schedule for the 2023\0 calendar year is provided in Section 6 of this plan. The agendas and minutes from those meetings are also available on the DCC website at <https://www.dunedin.govt.nz/council/council-meetings/agendas-and-minutes>

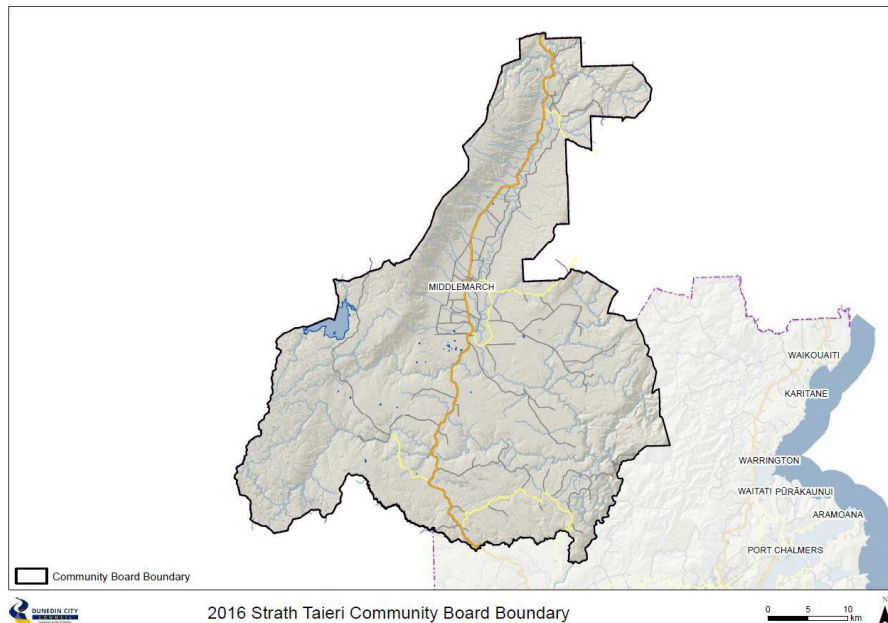
At the start of each meeting, there is a public forum session, which gives anyone from the community the opportunity to present to the board members their views on any topic. Anyone wishing to speak at public forum must make a request to speak at least two working days before the day of the meeting. They can do this via the Chair of the Community Board or contact a Governance Support Officer at the DCC at governance.support@dcc.govt.nz.

2.2 BOARD MEMBERS AND CONTACT DETAILS

Board members for the 2022-2025 triennium are as follows:

Name	Cell phone	Email
Barry Williams (Chairperson)	027 237 8075	barry.williams@powerfarming.co.nz
Anna Wilson (Deputy Chairperson)	027 469 4230	Anna.wilson@outlook.com
David (Jock) Frew	021 122 8745	Jock876@gmail.com
Terina Geddes	027 200 5688	Hayden.terina@xtra.co.nz
Tony Markham	027 464 3133	tandpmarkham@xtra.co.nz
Robin Thomas	021 477455	robin.thomas@xtra.co.nz
Bill Acklin (Councillor representative)	021 923 270	Bill.Acklin@dcc.govt.nz

2.3 MAP OF STRATH TAIERI COMMUNITY BOARD AREA



2.4 OUR COMMUNITY

The “rural hub” of Dunedin City Councils six Community Board areas, Strath Taieri, is located an hour's drive inland from Dunedin on scenic State Highway 87.

Straddling the wide climatic clines of the dry inland basins of Central Otago to the wetter coastal eastern foothills, the district covers some 211,500 hectares stretching 65km from north to south and 55km from east to west. Being in an expansive remote rural setting, it features a widely dispersed low per capita population density of just 0.32 people/square kilometre. This aspect alone creates social and infrastructure challenges unlike any of our other Community Board areas.

Several distinct areas exist within the region from the broad fertile developed flats and terraces adjacent to Middlesmarch, the physically dominant slopes of the [Rock and Pillar range](#), to the tussock clad northern portion of the Lammerlaw and Lammermoor ranges. These all provide an interesting and vibrant contrast with the broad rolling farmed ridges of Hindon and Clarks Junction and the stunning mid reaches of the Taieri River.

In pre-European times the area was important to local Maori as both a mahinga kai resource with moa and kanakana (lamprey) being sought as well as serving as a useful access corridor to the hinterland.

In later years gold mining (Hyde/Pukerangi) became important. Clarks Junction served those early gold miners as an important junction on their access route to other inland goldfields via the historic Old Dunstan Trail.

The spectacular landscapes offer visitors wilderness, tussock country, splendid vistas, striking rock tors as well as enjoyment of a busy farming district.

Those agricultural opportunities that attracted our first settlers remain today as the backbone to our economy with fresh opportunities developing in tourism stimulated by the Otago Central Rail Trail and the recently created Central Otago Touring Route on SH87.

The stunning scenery, rural tranquility, many recreational opportunities, the laid back lifestyle and the friendly local residents are key components to the local lifestyle.

3 PRIORITIES FOR OUR COMMUNITY

3.1 New Priorities

We have identified the following new priorities for our community that we would like to see included in the Council's 10 year plan 2024 -34. As noted earlier, this plan is subject to change, and so this list of priorities will be included on the agenda of each of our Community Board meetings

Details	Est. Cost if known	When in 9 year plan 2025-34	Justification	Priority
Multipurpose Community Centre – that could include medical services, gym, sports courts, museum artefacts, information centre				
Electronic speed limit warning signs at both entrances to township to notify of school zone.				
Encourage visitors and trains to Middlemarch.				
Upgrade Playground, including pump track.				
Building community resilience.				
Ensure protection of the community from flooding.				

3.2 Current Priorities

The following priorities for our community have been included in the Council's current 10 year plan (2018- 28), and are priorities that are to be carried forward into the new 2021-31 10 year plan.

Details	Est. Cost if known	When in 2025-34 9year plan	Justification	Priority
Security and Integrity from flooding Address ongoing issues between the Middlemarch township and the Taieri River which causes restrictions to the outflows of flood waters from the township. Urgently requiring attention.			Community needs a security in knowing the Middlemarch township would not be flooded.	1
Train to Middlemarch Continue to advocate for the train all the way to Middlemarch				2
Speed Management Electronic speed limit warning signs at both entrances to township to notify of school zone.				3
Town Centre Development Plan Playground, entranceways, park and grounds along with cohesive planning of contracts (ie: mowing, refuse collection)				4

4 COMMUNITY BOARD PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

The following table identifies those activities that we as a Community Board would like to deliver to our community. They will be undertaken and funded by the Community Board.

ACTIVITY DETAIL	WHEN (IDEAL)
Strategic Planning 1. Review current use of community hall, and consider long term priorities with possible significant hall upgrade (or potential replacement) (15/20 year time frame); 2. Maintain engagement with community led group investigating Heritage Park concept – potential future use of Railway Station (Visitor/Information Centre?); development of Hub concept with linking Rail/Farming/Historic/Environmental themes etc and how these could support future community opportunities. <i>(Will require staff assistance)</i> 3. Establishing a strong relationship with Dunedin Railways.	Over term of current Board
Railway Issues 1. Wingatui to Middlemarch – Advocate for the public retention of the complete railway line and infrastructure – including support for ongoing rail service/linkage between Dunedin and Middlemarch; 2. Middlemarch/Sutton/Pukerangi Stations - Advocate strongly for formalised local control of all infrastructure including buildings; 3. Investigate implementing a formal “heritage precinct” (Heritage NZ) around Railway Station and all associated buildings and structures. <i>(Will require staff assistance)</i>	
Promote Community Resilience	
Rural Waste Day	
Concept plans for cohesive Township development including entranceway development	
Establish a Strath Taieri Tree Management Plan – cemetery, railway corridor, wilding pines and township trees	
Cohesive council contracts – to prevent duplication and look for opportunities within our community	

5 PLANS

The Community Board has a number of plans supporting its activities. Our key planning documents are discussed below:

5.1 EMERGENCY PLAN – COMMUNITY BOARD RESPONSE PLAN

Introduction

The Dunedin City Council has a statutory role, as does the Otago Regional Council, under the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act to contribute to Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) within the district. As part of this whole-of-city function, the [Name] Community Board has responsibility for the interface between the community and Otago Civil Defence Emergency Management.

Our communities have a reasonable level of risk of flooding, fire, tsunami resulting in community isolation so pre-planning and management of a specific event will be managed by the Saddle Hill Community Board on behalf of Civil Defence. This role is supported by authorisations and delegations in the Dunedin City Council Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan.

Status

The Community Board on conjunction with Emergency Management Otago, have developed a Community Guide to Emergencies for Hyde, Middlemarch and Sutton.

5.2 Roadwork Schedule

Information on current notified road closures and the roadworks schedule (a weekly list of programmed works) for Council's maintained roads is available on the DCC website via these links

<https://www.dunedin.govt.nz/news-and-events/public-notice/roadworks-schedule> and
<https://www.dunedin.govt.nz/news-and-events/public-notice/notified-road-closures>.

5.3 Other plans

5.4 Have Your Say on the Community Plan

The Board is very keen to receive your comments on an on-going basis, and you may speak to your comments at any Board meeting. Members of the community are invited to provide feedback;

- *Verbally... by contacting a board member directly, anytime*
- *Written... addressed to the board, postal or email addresses below*
- *In person... to the board at public events such as Community Cuppa and Conversation*

Please clearly state the issue or suggestion you would like the Community Board to consider, or the specific action you would like to be taken.

Please send written communication to:

The Chairperson
Strath Taieri Community Board
c/- Dunedin City Council
PO Box 5045
Dunedin 9054

Email: barry.williams@powerfarming.co.nz

Strath Taieri Community Board Community Plan

9

7 COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

The table below provides details of our Community Board meetings through to December 2025.

Thursday, 3 April 2025– Strath Taieri Community Hall, at 4.00 pm

Thursday, 22 May 2025 – Strath Taieri Community Hall, at 2.00 pm

Thursday, 26 June 2025 – Strath Taieri Community Hall, at 2.00 pm

Thursday, 7 August 2025 – Strath Taieri Community Hall, at 2.00 pm

Thursday, 11 September 2025, Strath Taieri Community Hall, at 2.00 pm

Thursday, 6 November
(Inaugural meeting for 2025-2028 triennium)

GOVERNANCE SUPPORT OFFICER'S REPORT

Department: Civic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1 This report is to inform the Strath Taieri Community Board of activities relevant to the Board area including:
 - Project Fund
 - DCC Draft 9 year plan 2025-34 and Local Water Done Well
 - Otago Regional Council draft Annual Plan 2025-2026
 - Elected Members Elections protocol session
 - Roadworks Schedule
 - Currently consulting on
- 2 As this is an administrative report, there are no options or summary of considerations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board:

- a) **Notes** the Governance Support Officer's Report.
- b) **Ratifies** the submission to the draft Dunedin City Council 9 year plan 2025-34 and Local Water Done Well.
- c) **Ratifies** the submission to the draft Otago Regional Council draft Annual Plan 2025-2026.
- d) **Considers** funding the costs of the subsidy for the Community Rubbish Day at the Middlemarch Transfer Centre.
- e) **Considers** funding the costs of a Community Noticeboard
- f) **Considers** funding improvements to the QEII Memorial Park.

Project Fund

- 3 The balance remaining in the Project Fund for allocation for the current financial year is \$1,000. The following funds have been allocated in the 2024/25 financial year.

Meeting Date	Recipient	Amount
7 November 2024	START Trust	2,000.00
7 November 2024	Allocation for Community Board Projects	Up to 4,555.03
3 April 2025	Middlemarch Ploughing Association	2,000.00
3 April 2025	*ANZAC Day costs - \$250.00	250.00
3 April 2025	*Taskforce Green catering costs - \$250.00	194.97
Total		\$9,000.00

- 4 At its meeting on 3 April 2025, the Board agreed to allocate funds towards the catering for ANZAC Day ceremonies; and the costs of morning or afternoon teas for Taskforce Green from the funds ringfenced for Board projects.

Community Dump Days

- 5 A Community Rubbish Day has been organised at the Middlemarch Transfer Centre for 20 – 25 May 2025. The advertising indicates that the cost will be subsidised by the Board. The cost of the subsidies will require Board approval as the funds would be from the Board's Project Fund.

Community Noticeboard

- 6 The Board has been asked to give consideration to funding a Community Noticeboard from the Project Fund. The proposed location would be outside Maggie's. Attached are examples of two noticeboards (Attachment A & B).

QEII Memorial Park

- 7 The Board has also been asked to give consideration to funding improvements to the QEII Memorial Park. The proposal is for the walking track to be gravelled and building of a mountain bike track (Attachment C). Please note that staff approval will also be required before any work commences.

Draft DCC 9 year plan 2025-34 and Local Water Done Well

- 8 As agreed at the Board' April 2025 meeting, a draft submission was prepared and submitted on the Dunedin City Council draft 9 year plan 2025-34 consultation and Local Water Done Well. The submission now needs to be formally ratified (Attachment D).

Draft Otago Regional Council draft Annual Plan 2025-2026

- 9 As agreed at the Board' April 2025 meeting, a draft submission was prepared and submitted on the Otago Regional Council is seeking feedback on its draft Annual Plan 2025-2026. This submission now needs to be formally ratified (Attachment E).

Elected Members Elections protocol session

- 10 Warwick Lamp from Electionsnz.com will be running an Elections protocol session useful for elected members who may be seeking re-election and balancing between being an elected member and a candidate.

What DCC is Currently Consulting On

- 11 For the most up to date information on what DCC is consulting on, please visit <https://www.dunedin.govt.nz/council/currently-consulting-on>

Roadworks Schedule

- 12 Information on current notified road closures and the roadworks schedule (a weekly list of programmed works) for Council's maintained roads is available on the DCC website via these links <https://www.dunedin.govt.nz/news-and-events/public-notice/roadworks-schedule> and <https://www.dunedin.govt.nz/news-and-events/public-notice/notified-road-closures>.

Dunedin City Council Updates

- 13 Board or members of the public wishing to advise Council of any operational issues or concerns, e.g., potholes, vegetation, burst pipes are reminded to contact the Dunedin City Council Customer Services Agency on 03 477 4000 or email dcc@dcc.govt.nz. For any non-urgent matter please contact council via the online "Fix it form" <https://www.dunedin.govt.nz/do-it-online/report/fix-it-form>
- 14 If issues and concerns are not dealt with in a timely manner, Board Members should contact the Governance Support Officer, or the Senior Staff Member appointed to the Board.

Signatories

Author:	Wendy Collard - Governance Support Officer
Authoriser:	Mike Perkins - City Development Engineer

Attachments

	Title	Page
A	Prowrite Noticeboard	36
B	Quartet Noticeboard	37
C	QEII Memorial Park proposal	38
D	Submission to the DCC draft 9 year plan and Local Water Done Well	39
E	Submission to the Otago Regional Council draft Annual Plan 2025-2026	43

SUMMARY OF CONSIDERATIONS
Fit with purpose of Local Government

This decision enables democratic local decision making and action by, and on behalf of communities.

Fit with strategic framework

	Contributes	Detracts	Not applicable
Social Wellbeing Strategy	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economic Development Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓
Environment Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓
Arts and Culture Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓
3 Waters Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓
Spatial Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓
Integrated Transport Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓
Parks and Recreation Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓
Other strategic projects/policies/plans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓

Māori Impact Statement

There are no known impacts for Māori

Sustainability

There are no implications.

LTP/Annual Plan / Financial Strategy /Infrastructure Strategy

There are no financial implications.

Financial considerations

There are no financial implications.

Significance

This decision is considered low significance in terms of the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

Engagement – external

There has been no external engagement.

Engagement - internal

Internal engagement has occurred with appropriate staff members.

Risks: Legal / Health and Safety etc.

There are no risks.

Conflict of Interest

There are no known conflicts of interest.

Community Boards

This report provides information on activities in or relevant to the Board's area.

[Home](#) > [STATIONERY](#) > [Presentation](#) > [Notice, Cork, Pin & Calendar Boards](#)

[Product Ranges](#)

[Professional Services](#)

[0800 080 4657](#)

[Blogs](#)
[FAQ](#)
[About](#)
[Contact](#)

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SW106661

Prowite Lockable Noticeboard, Acrylic Hinged 2 Door - 900mm x 1200mm

\$1289.12 inc GST

Qty:

[ADD TO CART](#) [Login to Add to Fast Order](#)

☐ Compare

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Pin boards with secure aluminium frame and sliding or hinged glass doors. Great for long-term, dust-free display or draughty locations! Natural cork surface noticeboard - blends with any décor, and could be covered with fabric to match your workspace.

Steel lock and with 2 keys supplied. 20-30mm depth inside - accommodates framed art, certificates, lighting. Swing-door models have continuous hinge for stronger construction. Can mount either way up for LH or RH or lift-up opening.

- Size: 900mm x 1200mm
- Acrylic hinged 2 door

Not what you are looking for? Please give us a call on 0800 080 4657 or email us on support@supplyme.co.nz. We are here to help.

SW129081

Quartet Enclosed Cork Board with 2 Doors - 900mm x 1200mm

\$1697.34 inc GST

Qty:

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Quartet enclosed noticeboards are ideal for protecting and extending the life of your signs. The durable natural cork enclosed bulletin board with high density fibreboard backing secures documents tight. Self healing cork surface will not fade or crumble and the acrylic lockable doors are crystal clear and shatterproof.

Post up to 8 portrait and 2 landscape A4 sheets.

- 1 year warranty under normal use
- Includes wall mounting kit and 1 key per lock
- Surface: Cork
- Magnetic: No
- Frame: Aluminium with satin finish
- Doors: Double and lockable
- Size: 900mm x 1200mm

Home > STATIONERY > Presentation > Notice, Cork, Pin & Calendar Boards



Submission ID

1132198

Should we remove 231 Stuart Street (formerly the Fortune Theatre) from the list of strategic assets in the DCC Significance and Engagement policy?

Do you have any comments about 231 Stuart Street?

Should we charge an entry fee of \$20 (incl. GST) for international visitors aged 16 and over, at Toitū and Dunedin Public Art Gallery?

Do you have any comments about the entry fee for international visitors?

Yes, remove 231 Stuart Street from the list of strategic assets (this is our preferred option)

No, do not introduce an entry fee of \$20 (incl. GST)

Is there anything else you would like to tell us?

Infrastructure and Road Safety The Strath Taieri Community Board strongly urges the Council to prioritise road safety improvements, particularly around our local schools. At present, neither school has speed reduction zones or appropriate warning signage. This poses a serious safety concern for our Tamariki, and the Board sees this as a high priority. The STTCB also supports the return to the former frequency of kerbside mowing and vegetation control. We especially request that the Council consider the inclusion of roadside wilding pine management in the rural roads budget for the Strath Taieri area. Grants Review We strongly urge the Council to maintain the current community grants budget. Additionally, we ask that any new application processes introduced be fair, transparent, and accessible to all groups, including smaller rural communities. Playground Upgrade We would like to see the Middlemarch public playground receive new and updated play equipment. This facility is a vital resource for families in the area and contributes to the well-being of our youngest residents. Rail Infrastructure The Strath Taieri community fully supports the Dunedin City Council and Dunedin Railways Ltd.'s plan to make full use of the existing rail line between Dunedin and Middlemarch. Revitalising this route would bring significant social and economic benefits to our region and support the growth of rural tourism. Climate Change The Strath Taieri Community Board supports the Council's climate change goals, particularly the reduction of emissions. We ask for Council support to help our community become more

resilient through: • Easier access to recycling stations in rural areas, including Hindon, and the development of larger facilities in Lee Stream. • Simplified processes for locals to become approved contractors for basic Council services, such as lawn mowing and refuse collection. • Improved and more frequent Council communication with rural communities, particularly during adverse events. Swimming Pool Upgrade While we support the planned upgrades to Moana Pool, we urge the Council not to overlook the Middlemarch community pool. This facility is aging and will soon require major investment, including a new roof. It remains a vital community asset, supporting recreational use, fitness, and most importantly, children's swimming lessons. Urban Centre Upgrade As part of the Urban Centres Upgrade initiative, we would like to see the Middlemarch town centre developed to support both increased visitor numbers and future residential growth. Strath Taieri is the northernmost township in the Dunedin city region, and improved visual appeal would provide a welcoming gateway to greater Dunedin. Heritage Action Plan We request the inclusion of a local heritage precinct in the Council's Heritage Action Plan. This precinct would encompass community-led management of the Middlemarch, Sutton, and Pukerangi train stations. We believe such an initiative would provide significant rural tourism benefits and cultural value for greater Dunedin.

Which water services delivery model do you support?

The Council's preferred option: an in-house delivery model

Why did you choose this option?

As the Strath Taieri Community Board, we support the preferred option in principle; however, we strongly emphasise the need for thorough and meaningful consultation. For example, the proposed 408% increase in sewage connection charges for Middlemarch is unsustainable and poses a significant barrier to growth. As a community, we are actively working to encourage people to live, work, and play in the Strath Taieri. Middlemarch has a range of council-funded assets, including a library, swimming pool, museum, parks, and sports fields, as well as a local school with both current capacity and the potential to expand. These are valuable resources that support economic development and community well-being in our region. We are concerned that the council's proposal to impose an additional \$48,000 sewage connection fee on any new builds undermines this goal. This fee represents approximately half the value of an average section in Middlemarch and risks making development in our area unviable. We also urge the council to apply common sense in its approach to stormwater

Do you have any other feedback related to the proposed water services delivery models?

management. Asking residents to disconnect from stormwater systems, only to then charge ratepayers for a truck to travel from Dunedin to flush the lines, is a prime example of inefficient and wasteful spending. A more practical, cost-effective approach is needed — one that reflects the realities of small communities and the need to prioritise value for money. All residents in the Strath Taieri area are responsible for sourcing their own drinking water, whether through bores, rainwater collection, or nearby stream takes. The region is prone to drought, as well as extreme weather events that can result in major flooding. In light of this, we ask that the council prioritise improved flood protection for Middelmarsh — not only to safeguard residents' drinking water supplies but also to protect properties vulnerable to flood damage. As a Community Board, we also acknowledge the importance of the Taieri River as a vital part of our environment, supporting recreation, farming, and native habitats. We respectfully request that the Dunedin City Council work in partnership with the Otago Regional Council to recognise and protect the river's significance to the Strath Taieri Community. We respectfully urge the council to reconsider the scale and impact of the proposed charges, and to work in genuine partnership with our community to develop a more balanced and sustainable approach — one that supports both immediate growth and long-term resilience in Strath Taieri. As the Strath Taieri Community Board, we support the preferred option in principle; however, we strongly emphasise the need for thorough and meaningful consultation. For example, the proposed 408% increase in sewage connection charges for Middelmarsh is unsustainable and poses a significant barrier to growth. As a community, we are actively working to encourage people to live, work, and play in the Strath Taieri. Middelmarsh has a range of council-funded assets, including a library, swimming pool, museum, parks, and sports fields, as well as a local school with both current capacity and the potential to expand. These are valuable resources that support economic development and community well-being in our region. We are concerned that the council's proposal to impose an additional \$48,000 sewage connection fee on any new builds undermines this goal. This fee represents approximately half the value of an average section in Middelmarsh and risks making development in our area unviable. We also urge the council to apply common sense in its approach to stormwater management. Asking residents to disconnect from

stormwater systems, only to then charge ratepayers for a truck to travel from Dunedin to flush the lines, is a prime example of inefficient and wasteful spending. A more practical, cost-effective approach is needed — one that reflects the realities of small communities and the need to prioritise value for money. All residents in the Strath Taieri area are responsible for sourcing their own drinking water, whether through bores, rainwater collection, or nearby stream takes. The region is prone to drought, as well as extreme weather events that can result in major flooding. In light of this, we ask that the council prioritise improved flood protection for Middlemarch — not only to safeguard residents' drinking water supplies but also to protect properties vulnerable to flood damage. As a Community Board, we also acknowledge the importance of the Taieri River as a vital part of our environment, supporting recreation, farming, and native habitats. We respectfully request that the Dunedin City Council work in partnership with the Otago Regional Council to recognise and protect the river's significance to the Strath Taieri Community. We respectfully urge the council to reconsider the scale and impact of the proposed charges, and to work in genuine partnership with our community to develop a more balanced and sustainable approach — one that supports both immediate growth and long-term resilience in Strath Taieri.



**STRATH TAIERI
COMMUNITY BOARD**

50 The Octagon | Dunedin 9015 | PO Box 5045 | Dunedin 9058 | New Zealand
E dcc@dcc.govt.nz P +64 3 477 4000 www.dunedin.govt.nz

15 April 2025

The Chief Executive Officer
Otago Regional Council
Private Bag 1954
Dunedin 9054

Strath Taieri Community Board - Community Plan Submission to Otago Regional Council April 2025

Our Board notes with appreciation recent engagement by your staff in beginning to address the longstanding concern we have with regard flooding within our community. For that we, and this community, are grateful. We now look forward to seeing that turned into action on the ground.

However, unfortunately as we have received no formal responses to the wider range of issues our Board has previously raised with you over the past number of years, we are left unsure of your Councils position with regard them. Have they been considered, rejected or just left quietly unaddressed? In that regard it would be very useful to at least get some indication of your Councils position on the issues we raise. Considerable effort goes into making formal submissions and to receive no feedback leaves us wondering as to how interested Council actually is in hearing community concerns.

So, accordingly, at the risk of re-iterating a number of previously raised points:

Priorities for our Community:

1. Security and integrity of infrastructure from flooding.

As previously highlighted there is an ongoing absolute need to see some concrete action to resolve – as a matter of urgency – issues within and adjacent to the Middlemarch township with regard to flooding.

As previously stated we appreciate the cooperative approach that has been adopted between the Otago Regional Council and Dunedin City Council in respect of consulting on this matter HOWEVER we feel obligated to point out that it has now been 4 ½ years since the last major event and no significant remedial works have yet been undertaken. We acknowledge that while some minor works have been completed we are strongly of the view that should another event of any magnitude occur then the community is once again going to be severely impacted by floodwaters.

To knowingly allow this situation to continue is quite simply unacceptable.

The Board strongly urge the ORC to advance progress on resolving this matter and undertake the necessary work programme to ensure, as far as practicable, the safety of our community from ongoing flooding issues without further delay.

Active engagement at the most senior level in ORC is urged to address and resolve this issue.

2. Carbon Zero.

The Strath Taieri is largely a rural farming hub and contains the largest area of rural land of any Community Board area in the Dunedin City rohe.

With 46% of the city's emissions being assessed as agriculturally based there is potentially significant impacts on our community in reaching published reduction levels by 2030 especially given the current lack of viable "clean energy" farm vehicle alternatives. That along with proposed biogenic emission reduction targets continues to set a very high hurdle for our community.

While we support some farm forestry mitigation approaches we caution against wholesale farm conversion to achieve those reductions. Impacts from that approach not only hit food production potential but also have huge social and environmental consequences with loss of families and infrastructure from our communities. Conversion of good productive agricultural land for forest is not in itself an acceptable answer in our view to the Carbon issue.

The Board would also encourage further work being done in the area of carbon sequestration through acceptance that both large scale riparian and other planting of long-lived native plant species as is being undertaken locally by the likes of the Mid Taieri Wai group and various private landowners is a viable and effective tool to reduce carbon.

3. Public Transport.

There are no public transport options available to residents of the Strath Taieri.

Any local resident who for a wide variety of reasons is no longer able to drive is totally dependent on others for transport to/from town for health or other business. This has the effect of isolating many from services readily available to others in Otago or force those people to leave their homes, family and friends to move into the city where public transport is provided as a matter of course.

We totally accept that a full public transport service is unrealistic given our small rural population. However we are firmly of the view that as a minimum service to ratepayers, a twice weekly return service should be available on a prescribed timetable so as they can make firm commitments to attend appointments and be assured that transport will be available to achieve that.

It is further recommended that service be contracted locally in the Strath Taieri to minimise unnecessary travel and costs. An appropriately sized vehicle could leave Middlemarch at a specified time, collect residents enroute and return later that day.

4. Water Quality.

As a Community Board our long term aspirational objective is to ensure that the quality of water leaving our area is of a higher standard than when it enters.

Accordingly we urge Council to instigate regular water quality measurements at key points along the length of the Taieri River with an initial minimum of four sampling points spaced at strategic sites within the Strath Taieri area.

As a Board we hear anecdotal reports of various negative influences on water quality but it is often impossible to track that to a source or even a general location. We believe to enable us all to be accountable for our impacts it is essential to have a clear picture on the quality of water at key points along its length. That would enable possible sources of contamination to be identified and appropriate mitigation measures be undertaken as required.

Additionally we seek opportunities to be better briefed by Council staff on the wider range of issues associated with the Taieri river and catchment within the Strath Taieri area so as a Board we can be better informed on matters that are of local interest and concern.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission to this annual plan.



Barry Williams
Chairperson
Strath Taieri Community Board

BOARD UPDATES AND REPORT BACKS

Department: Civic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1 Board Members will provide verbal updates and report backs on portfolios and activities including:
 - Township beautification – Anna Wilson
 - Community Resilience – Anna Wilson
 - Otago Central Rail Trust – Terina Geddes
 - Climate Change – Tony Markham
 - Water management (including flooding) – Tony Markham and David Frew
 - Infrastructure, roads and spraying – Barry Williams
 - Community information and publicity – Robin Thomas

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board:

- a) **Notes** the Board updates and report backs

Attachments

	Title	Page
↓A	Community Resilience Workshop Minutes	47
↓B	Roles and Responsibilities for Community Resilience in Dunedin	49

Community Resilience Workshop Minutes

Date: 5 March 2025

Time: 09:00am

Location: Dunedin City Council Emergency Operations Centre, 54 Moray Place, Dunedin

Attendees

Sandy Graham	Dunedin City Council (DCC), Chief Executive
Mike Perkins	Dunedin City Council, City Development Engineer & Civil Defence Liaison
Claire Charleton	Emergency Management Otago, Advisor – Dunedin City
Chris Brooker	Emergency Management Otago, Advisor – Dunedin City
Taylor Hendl	Emergency Management Otago, Advisor – Dunedin City
Paula Cathie	Emergency Management Otago, Coastal Team Leader
Glenn Mitchell	Emergency Management Otago, Group Team Leader
Tom Dyer	Otago Regional Council, General Manager Science & Resilience
Alasdair Morrison	Waikouaiti Coast Community Board, Chair
Andy Barrett	Waikouaiti Coast Community Board
Andrew Simms	Mosgiel-Taieri Community Board, Chair
Dean McAlwee	Mosgiel-Taieri Community Board
Anna Wilson	Strath Taieri Community Board
Paul Weir	Saddle Hill Community Board, Chair
Paul Pope	Otago Peninsula Community Board, Chair
Lox Kellas	Otago Peninsula Community Board
Ange McErlane	West Harbour Community Board, Chair

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Participants introduced themselves, including their experience with emergency management.

2. Objective of Workshop

- Sandy clarified that the objective is to define the role of Community Boards in community resilience and identify areas requiring additional support.
- Discussion on overlapping responsibilities in response efforts.

3. Presentations

- Overview of the statutory obligations of territorial authorities, the National Disaster Resilience Strategy, and Emergency Management Otago's Community Resilience Framework.
- Current Community Resilience Groups and Community Board structure.
- Tour of the bunker and its operational functions.

4. Discussion on Community Resilience Groups & Community Boards

- Noted the terminology change from 'Community Response Groups' to 'Community Resilience Groups' to better reflect their focus on resilience and readiness.

- Evaluated the necessity of both a Community Board and a Community Resilience Group.
- **Historical Role of Community Boards:** Traditionally acted as "eyes and ears" but require clearer role definition.
- **Waikouaiti:** Raised questions about equipment needs, funding, and accountability for resilience efforts.
- **Mosgiel Taieri:** Established framework with direct liaison to key emergency services and a directory of key contacts and resources.
- **Funding & Resource Allocation:** City has \$100,000 for community resilience, requiring a clear plan for allocation and distribution.

5. Challenges Identified

- Role differentiation between Community Boards and Community Resilience Groups.
- Establishing membership requirements of Community Resilience Groups.
- Ensuring clarity in communication channels during an event.
- Defining accountability and governance of Community Resilience Groups.
- Need for consistency beyond electoral terms.
- Terminology alignment to avoid confusion.

6. Operational Concerns

- **Information Flow:** Importance of structured communication between the Community Board, Community Resilience Groups, and the Emergency Operations Centre during an event.
- **Decision-Making in Emergencies:** The local controller is responsible for major decisions during a response. It is crucial that Community Resilience Groups and Community Boards understand their mandate and know how to escalate issues beyond their scope to the Emergency Operations Centre.
- **Civil Defence Centre Locations:** Clarification needed on the primary Civil Defence Centre location in each community.

7. Proposed Actions

- Document the agreed roles and responsibilities of Community Resilience Groups and Community Boards, incorporating the discussions and outcomes of the meeting.
- Establish and document clear communication channels between Community Resilience Groups, Community Boards, and the Emergency Operations Centre during a response.
- Explore the delegation of a resilience portfolio to the Community Boards from the DCC.
- Identify necessary resources and funding mechanisms for Community Resilience Groups.
- Confirm designated locations for Community Emergency Hubs (community-led) that can, if necessary, be transitioned into Civil Defence Centres (council-led) within each community.
- DCC to review civil defence induction process for Counsellors.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:36am.

Community-Led Resilience: Defining Roles for Community Boards and Community Resilience Groups in Dunedin

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Background

The Civil Defence Emergency Management Act (2002) mandates local authorities to coordinate, through regional groups, planning, programmes, and activities related to civil defence emergency management in the areas of reduction, readiness, response, and recovery (Civil Defence Emergency Management Act, 2002, s.3).

Community resilience, as outlined in New Zealand's National Disaster Resilience Strategy (2019), refers to the capacity of communities to adapt, withstand, and recover from emergencies and disasters by utilising local knowledge, fostering strong social connections, and implementing effective planning to reduce risks and enhance overall preparedness.

In Dunedin, Community Boards serve as a vital connection between local councils and communities, representing local interests, advocating for community needs, and supporting initiatives that enhance well-being. Covering areas that include 31% of Dunedin's population, they play a significant role in community engagement and local decision-making (Eagle Technology et al., 2024). In disaster resilience, Community Boards are essential in promoting preparedness, supporting local emergency planning, and strengthening ties between residents and emergency management organisations to ensure a coordinated response and recovery.

The purpose of this document is to outline the structure and processes for achieving community resilience in Dunedin through the collaboration of Community Boards and Community Resilience Groups. It will define the roles and responsibilities of each entity—Community Boards, Community Resilience Groups (CRGs), and Emergency Management Otago (EMO)—as well as the communication framework to be followed when the Emergency Operations Centre is activated during a response.

Community Resilience Strategy

Emergency Management Otago's Community Resilience Strategy (2023) outlines a structured pathway for enhancing community resilience. The strategic approach, depicted in Figure One, illustrates the systematic approach of transforming resilience theory into operational practice by fostering capable, enabled, aware, and connected communities.

Figure 1: Integrated Community Resilience Framework



This strategy emphasises empowering communities to meet their own needs when appropriate, thereby reducing the operational demand on councils. CRGs play a pivotal role in engaging local

communities in emergency preparedness, response, and recovery efforts. Research indicates that community-led initiatives enhance disaster resilience by leveraging local knowledge, fostering resource-sharing, and promoting self-sufficiency, ultimately reducing reliance on external agencies (Imperiale & Vincly, 2016; Mayer, 2019).

The primary purpose of these groups is to address the needs of their local communities while communicating and escalating issues that exceed their mandate in a manner consistent with the formal response process.

Responsibilities and Roles Between Community Boards and Community Resilience Groups in Dunedin

The Community Resilience Strategy does not outline the specific responsibilities of Community Boards to Community Resilience Groups, and vice versa, particularly in the context of Dunedin and the established relationships between the two.

Community Resilience Workshop (5 March 2025)

The Community Resilience Workshop, held on 5 March 2025, brought together members from all the Community Boards in Dunedin, along with representatives from Dunedin City Council (DCC) and Emergency Management Otago. The workshop discussed the historical role of Community Boards in civil defence activities and focused on defining clear relationships, roles, and responsibilities between the parties. The following agreements were made:

Community Boards' Responsibilities:

1. **Representation in Community Resilience Groups (CRGs):** If a community in their area establishes a CRG, the board is required to ensure at least one of its members participates in the CRG.
2. **CRG Reporting:** Community Boards will receive a report from the CRG at each meeting.
3. **Funding Decisions:** Community Boards will review funding requests from CRGs and provide recommendations to the DCC.
4. **Communication during a Response:** During an emergency response, Community Boards will facilitate communication between the CRG and the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC).
5. **Civil Defence Agenda Item:** Community Boards shall include 'Civil Defence' as a standing item on their meeting agendas.

Community Resilience Groups' Responsibilities:

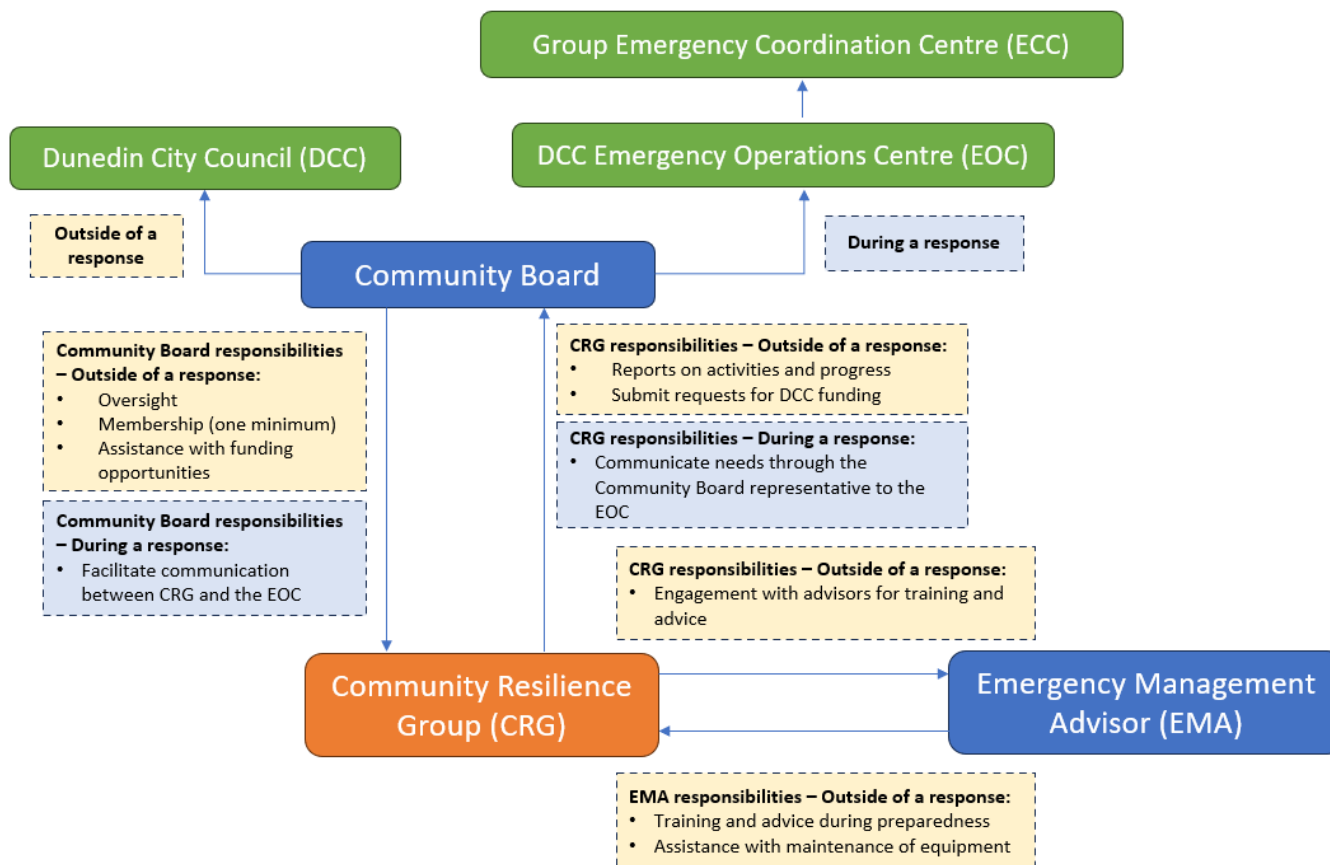
1. **Community Board Representation:** Each CRG must include at least one member from the relevant Community Board.
2. **Engagement with Emergency Management Advisors:** Outside of a response, CRGs will seek advice and training from Emergency Management Advisors in line with the Community Resilience Strategy.
3. **Reporting to the Community Board:** CRGs will provide regular updates on their activities and progress to the relevant Community Board, including a report at each Community Board meeting at a minimum.
4. **Communication during a Response:** During a response, CRGs will communicate with their designated Community Board representative. The Community Board will establish a single point of contact to the EOC via the Community Assessment team.

- a. If the designated representative is unavailable, the representative will delegate this task to another board member.

Emergency Management Otago's Role:

1. **Support and Training:** Emergency Management Otago will provide support, guidance, and training to Community Resilience Groups in accordance with the Community Resilience Strategy.
2. **Equipment Maintenance:** During preparedness the Emergency Management Advisors will support in the maintenance of equipment held by the CRG.

Figure 2: Relationship Structure Between Community Boards and Community Resilience Groups in Dunedin.



Reference List

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CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Department: Civic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Chairperson will provide a verbal update on matters of interest including:

- ANZAC Day

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board:

- a) **Notes** the Chairperson's report

COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Department: Civic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1 Councillor Bill Acklin will provide an update on items of interest.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board:

- a) **Notes** the Council Activities Update

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE CHAIR

Any items for consideration by the Chair.