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## Hearings Committee - Bylaws and Policies

### Draft Reserve Management Plan General Policies

### MINUTES

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Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Consultation Hearings held in the Council Chambers, Dunedin Public Art Gallery, The Octagon, Dunedin on Monday 18 August 2025, commencing at 9.30 am  
General Policies RMP

#### PRESENT

<b>Chairperson</b>	Cr Andrew Whiley	
<b>Members</b>	Cr Cherry Lucas	Cr Mandy Mayhem

<b>IN ATTENDANCE</b>	Heath Ellis (Group Manager Parks and Recreation), John Brenkley (Parks Planning Manager), Stephen Hogg (Policy Analyst, Parks and Recreation)
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<b>Governance Support Officer</b>	Lauren Riddle
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#### 1 WELCOME

Cr Whiley welcomed attendees, speakers and members of the public to the meeting and provided housekeeping and health and safety information.

#### 2 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

#### 3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Moved (Cr Andrew Whiley/Cr Cherry Lucas):

That the Committee:

**Confirms** the agenda without addition or alteration

**Motion carried.**

#### 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.

There were no updates provided for the Register of Interest.

Moved (Cr Andrew Whiley/Cr Mandy Mayhem):

That the Committee:

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

**Motion carried.**

Cr Andrew Whiley (Chair) invited staff to make introductory comments to the Summary of Submissions Report.

Stephen Hogg, Policy Analyst spoke of the overlap of policies with other Reserve Management Plans (RMP). He advised that the draft of the RMP General Policies would be consistent with existing bylaws and policies and that other reserve management plans may need to be considered alongside the RMP General Policies review.

## **5 Speakers**

### **Submission #1122604 - Malcolm Anngow**

Mr Anngow declared himself, for the record, as a candidate for the Mosgiel-Taieri Community Board, a resident of Hartstonge Avenue and as a volunteer for the Taieri Network.

Mr Anngow spoke to his submission and summarised his concerns at the Mosgiel Memorial Park, including: dogs being off leash, dog poo on playing fields, and maintenance levels of the park.

Mr Anngow responded to questions from the Panel.

### **Submission #1140171 - Bruce McKinlay**

Mr McKinlay spoke to his submission and requested consistency for the RMP General Policies to include criteria (or registration conditions/permissions), which allowed access to reserves for the purpose of wildlife management and research.

Mr McKinlay responded to questions from the Panel.

### **Submission #1140192 - Jim McQuillan (Burns Reserve Trust)**

Mr McQuillan spoke to his submission, specifically on access issues to the Stevensons Bush area for tramps. He sought a simplified ability for walkers/tramps to access the reserve through development of public easements to the reserve.

Mr McQuillan responded to questions from the Panel.

### **Submission #1120546 - Bradley Curnow (Aramoana Conservation Trust)**

Mr Curnow spoke to the submission and expressed his concern at the maintenance of the reserve areas through the use of herbicide spraying and requested that environmentally friendly methods be used.

He specifically referred to the impact on native vegetation (*Muehlenbeckia australis*).

Mr Curnow advised the Trust would like the RMP General Policies to include the protection of the biodiversity values in the reserves at Aramoana.

Mr Curnow responded to questions from the Panel.

**Submission #1124716 - John Barkla**

Mr Barkla spoke to his submission, seeking reference to included in the RMP for: management of resources, protection of biodiversity, identification of at risk species due to climate change, and accessibility to reserves for citizen science in support of biodiversity.

He considered that links to citizen science data being included in the RMP as beneficial.

Mr Barkla responded to questions from the Panel.

(Moved: Cr Andrew Whiley/ Cr Cherry Luas)

That the Committee:

**Adjourn** the meeting.

**Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 10:33 a.m. and reconvened at 10:54 a.m.

**Submission #1140161 - Rhys Millar (Predator Free Dunedin)**

Mr Miller spoke to the submission and requested that the objectives in the reserve management plan to be clear and plain language.

He considered that the RMP required, as an example, a prioritised 5 year work programme, across all reserves and for the work programme to be implemented, monitored and reported on an annual basis.

Mr Millar expressed his concern around monitoring, and inconsistencies he considered in the review of strategies, and the need for investment by Council in the reserves to enable economic benefit.

Mr Millar responded to questions from the Panel.

**Submission #1140159 - Darryl Sycamore and David Ford (Kaikorai Rugby Football Club)**

Darryl Sycamore and David Ford spoke to the submission from the Kaikorai Rugby Football Club.

Mr Ford spoke on the high level of community use of the Bishops court grounds and the impact on the KRFC facilities as there were no Council owned public toilets or changing room facilities. He spoke of the financial burden and the impact on the KRFC to maintain toilets and changing facilities at the club (as their facilities were dated).

Mr Ford restated the Club's proposal to the 9YP 2025-2034, for modern facilities to be developed and maintained by the DCC at site of the old squash courts at Bishops court, as provided by the DCC for other sites in Dunedin.

Mr Ford responded to questions from the Panel.

**Submission #1127971 - Dougal McGowan (Sport Otago) – on behalf of James Nation.**

Mr McGowan spoke to the Sport Otago submission and advised that Sport Otago supported the draft reserve management plan and general policies. He encouraged greater collaboration between Council staff and Sport Otago.

Mr McGowan requested that costs for sports fields, maintenance of facilities, growth of major facilities (such as Moana Pool) including the replacement costs of facilities to be built into budgeting at the planning stage.

Mr McGowan responded to questions from the Panel.

### **Submission #1127967 - Dougal McGowan (Southern Football)**

Mr McGowan spoke to the submission and sought support from Council in bidding for tournaments and events to the city, as sport was a major economic driver for the city

Mr McGowan encouraged further engagement by Council with all sports codes on the impacts of increased costs to clubs for facilities and to players, to support encouraging Dunedin's communities to be more active.

Mr McGowan responded to questions from the Panel.

Moved (Cr Andrew Whiley/Cr Mandy Mayhem):

That the Committee:

Adjourn the meeting.

**Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m. and recommenced at 12:12 p.m.

Cr Whiley (as Chairperson) requested that staff update the draft RMP General Policies, based on the submissions as reported.

The meeting adjourned at 12:32 p.m. and reconvened at 1:15 p.m. on Tuesday, 9 September 2025.

## **5 Reserves Management Plan General Policies - Summary of Submissions**

Parks and Recreation staff presented a report on the Draft Reserves Management Plan General Policies

The report noted that a total of 28 submissions had been received during community engagement of the Draft Reserves Management Plan General Policies (the Draft Plan), and the report summarised and analysed the submissions to identify themes.

A range of refinements to the draft were suggested as:

- Enhancing biodiversity monitoring and pest control policies, with closer alignment to national and regional strategies, inclusion of additional pest species, and recognition of both indigenous and certain exotic species' values.
- Expanding climate change provisions to give greater weight to adaptation measures, green engineering, and protection of vulnerable species.
- Improving reserve maintenance, lighting, rubbish management, and signage to address safety, accessibility, and amenity concerns.
- Providing more guidance on volunteer involvement, citizen science, and public education.
- Ensuring utility management policies recognise essential infrastructure needs and align with relevant legislation.
- Ensuring UAV policies allow other agencies with permission to perform essential functions.

Following the consideration of all submissions, both written and verbal, and staff comment the Committee requested that staff update the draft Reserve Management Plan General Policies, giving consideration to the following amendments to the draft Reserve Management Plan General Policies:

Following discussion, the Committee requested the following changes to the Draft Plan:

- Acknowledgement of the value that volunteers and ‘citizens science’ initiatives provide to reserve monitoring.
- Policy requiring DCC to implement temporary warning signage in reserves when hazardous substance applications are in progress.
- Policy prioritising species vulnerable to climate change effects in biodiversity efforts.
- Support biodiversity monitoring through DCC’s Biodiversity Strategy.
- Consideration given to improving access to speakers of other languages in reserve signage.
- Providing clarifying information on DCC’s responsibilities regarding the health and safety of volunteers.
- Provision for the DCC to authorise Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) operations that fall outside the activities expressly permitted by the Draft policy.
- Amendments to Public and Private Utility policy to align with other legislation.
- Inclusion of maps within Appendix D: Schedule of Reserves Managed Under This Document.
- Inclusion of additional references within ‘Relevant Documents’ sections, such as legislation, DCC strategies and Glossary of Terms

Moved (Cr Andrew Whiley/Cr Mandy Mayhem):

That the Committee:

- A) Notes** the feedback from the public engagement of the Draft Reserves Management Plan General Policies.
- B) Recommends** to Council that the Draft Reserves Management Plan General Policies, as amended, be adopted.

**Motion carried (CH/2025/005)**

The meeting concluded at 2:00 p.m.

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CHAIRPERSON