DUNEDIN CITY COUNCIL | kaunihera a-rohe o Ōtepoti

Notice of Meeting:

I hereby give notice that an ordinary meeting of the Dunedin City Council will be held on:

Date:	**Thursday 5 November 2026**
Time:	**9.00 am**
Venue:	**Council Chamber, Dunedin Public Art Gallery, the Octagon, Dunedin**
YouTube Link:	**https://youtube.com/live/D069GzuVsak**

Richard Briggs
Chief Executive Officer

Council

PUBLIC AGENDA

MEMBERSHIP

Mayor	Mayor Sophie Barker	
Deputy Mayor	Cr Cherry Lucas	
Members	Cr John Chambers	Cr Jo Galer
	Cr Christine Garey	Cr Doug Hall
	Cr Marie Laufiso	Cr Russell Lund
	Cr Mandy Mayhem	Cr Benedict Ong
	Cr Andrew Simms	Cr Mickey Treadwell
	Cr Lee Vandervis	Cr Steve Walker
	Cr Brent Weatherall	
Senior Officer	Richard Briggs, Chief Executive	
Governance Support Officer	Lynne Adamson	

Lynne Adamson
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 OPENING

The meeting will be opened with a prayer.

2 PUBLIC FORUM

At the time the agenda closed, registrations for the Public Forum were still being received. Speakers will be confirmed once registrations close, which is 24 hours prior to the meeting at 9.00 am on Wednesday 4 November 2026

3 APOLOGIES

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

4 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.
3. Staff members are reminded to update their register of interests as soon as practicable.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council:

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.

c) **Notes** the proposed management plan for the Executive Leadership Teams' Interests.

Attachments

	Title	Page
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Council Interest Register 27 October 2026				
Name	**Responsibility (i.e. Chairperson etc)**	**Declaration of Interests**	**Nature of Potential Interest**	**Member's Proposed Management Plan**
Mayor Sophie Barker	Shareholder	Ayrmed Limited	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Shareholder	Various publicly listed companies	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Property Owner	Residential Property Owner - Dunedin	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Beneficiary	Sans Peur Trust (Larnach Castle)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Mentor	Business Mentors NZ	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Dunedin Vegetable Growers Club	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	Alexander McMillan Trust	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Patron	New Zealand International Science Festival	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Patron	Dunedin Horticultural Society	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Family Member	Family Member employed at Wilkinson Rogers	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Institute of Directors	No conflict Identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Chairperson	Dunedin Heritage Fund (Council Appointment)	No conflict Identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Grow Dunedin Partnership (Council Appointment)	No conflict Identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Heritage Avisory Group (Council Appointment)	No conflict Identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Local Government New Zealand (Zone 6) (Council Appointment)	No conflict Identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Co-Chair	Ōtepoti Dunedin Destination Management Plan Advisory Panel (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Tertiary Precinct Planning Group (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Dunedin Chinese Garden Advisory Group (Council Appointment)	No conflict Identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
Cr John Chambers	Owner	Residential Property	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Owner	Rental Property	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Ōtākou Golf Club	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Opera Otago	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Hereweka Harbour Cone Trust (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.

Name	Responsibility (i.e. Chairperson etc)	Declaration of Interests	Nature of Potential Interest	Member's Proposed Management Plan
	Member	Okia Reserve Management Committee (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Waikouaiti Coast Community Board (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
Cr Jo Galer	Owner	Residential Property	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	Southern Heritage Trust	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Shareholder	Various International Managed Funds	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Shareholder	Various individual shares	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Co-Lead	Heritage Portfolio (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Dunedin Public Art Gallery Society (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Hereweka Harbour Cone Trust (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Theomin Gallery Management Committee (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
Cr Christine Garey	Trustee	Garey Family Trust - Property Ownership - Dunedin	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Daughter employee	Halo Project	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	Ashburn Hall Charitable Trust Board	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Performing Arts Advisory Group (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
		Sophia Charter (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	St Paul's Cathedral Foundation (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Theomin Gallery Management Committee (Olveston) (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
Cr Doug Hall	Trustee	Cronus Trust	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Owner	Clickfix Ltd	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	District Licensing Committee (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Shareholder	Various NZ,US shares and Crypto	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Dunedin Public Art Gallery Society (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.
	Member	West Harbour Community Board (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
Cr Marie Laufiso	Property Owner	Residential Property	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.

Name	Responsibility (i.e. Chairperson etc)	Declaration of Interests	Nature of Potential Interest	Member's Proposed Management Plan
	Trustee	Moray Place Community Building Trust - which owns property 111 Moray Place	Duty to Trust may conflict with duties of Council Office	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Women of Ōtepoti Recognition Initiative	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	Corso Ōtepoti Dunedin Trust	Potential grants recipient	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table. If in public excluded leave the room. Seek advice prior to the meeting.
	Dunedin Branch Treasurer	P.A.C.I.F.I.C.A Inc	Potential grants recipient	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table. If in public excluded leave the room. Seek advice prior to the meeting.
	Expert Panel Member	Health Coalition Aotearoa Public Health Infrastructure Committee	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	The Ōtepoti Community Builders Charitable Trust	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee/Secretary	Refugee Support Group	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Dunedin Abrahamic Interfaith Group (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Saddle Hill Community Board (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Dunedin Former Refugee Steering Committee (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Puketai Residential Centre Liaison Committee (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Social Wellbeing Advisory Group (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
Cr Cherry Lucas	Trustee	Otago Farmers Market	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Partner	Southway Enterprises	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	Henderson Lucas Family Trust - Residential Dunedin Property	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	NZ Institute of Chartered Accountants	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Dunedin Shanghai Association (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Local Government New Zealand (Zone 6) (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Tūhura Otago Museum Trust Board (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Ōtepoti Dunedin Destination Management Plan Advisory Panel (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Taieri Airport Trust (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Tertiary Precinct Planning Group (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Deputy Lead	Infrastructure Portfolio (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Te Poāri a Pukekura (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Mosgiel-Taieri Community Board (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.

Name	Responsibility (i.e. Chairperson etc)	Declaration of Interests	Nature of Potential Interest	Member's Proposed Management Plan
Cr Russell Lund	Shareholder	Loan & Mercantile Trust includes:	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director	Produce Place Ltd	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director	Dunedin Grain Store Ltd	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director/Shareholder	Loan & Mercantile 2000 Ltd	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Shareholder	Lund South Trust includes:	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director/Shareholder	Lund South Ltd	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director/Shareholder	Lund Dunedin Ltd	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director/Shareholder	Resource Values Ltd	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director	Sherwood Manor Properties Ltd	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director/Shareholder	Lund Central Ltd	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director/Shareholder	Lund South Administration Ltd	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director	Construction Operatives Ltd	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director	Lund South Properties Ltd	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	RV Lund Trust	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	BDCRS Trust	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director	Lund Frankton Ltd	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	President	Ariki Amateur Athletic & Harrier Club	Ariki is a member of Athletics Otago which receives grant funding from DCC.	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table. If in public excluded leave the room. Seek advice prior to the meeting.
	Co-Lead	Heritage Portfolio (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Heritage Advisory Group (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Otago Theatre Trust (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
Cr Mandy Mayhem	Chairperson	Waitati Hall Society Inc	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Chairperson	Keep Ōtepoti Dunedin Beautiful	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Co-ordinator	Emergency Response Group, Blueskin area	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Blueskin Bay Amenities Society	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Blueskin A & P Society	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.

Name	Responsibility (i.e. Chairperson etc)	Declaration of Interests	Nature of Potential Interest	Member's Proposed Management Plan
	Zone Representative and Board Member	Keep New Zealand Beautiful	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Coastal Community Cycleway Network	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Waitati Music Festival Committee	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Property Owner	Residential Property	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Disability Issues Advisory Group (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Dunedin Gasworks Museum Trust (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Keep Dunedin Beautiful (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Performing Arts Advisory Group (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Creative New Zealand Grants Advisory Panel (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Social Wellbeing Advisory Group (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Blueskin Bay Watch	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
Cr Benedict Ong	Owner	Residential Property	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Shareholder	Listed Stocks	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Shareholder	**Blis Technologies Limited (NZ listed public company)**	**No conflict identified**	**Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.**
	~~Prospective purchaser of a Council-owned property~~	~~Submitted a bid for the purchase of 231 Stuart Street, a Council-owned property~~	~~Financial interest identified~~	~~Must not participate in any consideration, discussion or decision-making relating to proposals received through the Request for Proposal process for 231 Stuart Street. If the matter is considered in public excluded session, must leave the meeting room for the duration of the item.~~
	Director/Shareholder	Benedict Ong Social Enterprise Limited	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
Cr Andrew Simms	Director	Landseer Motor Investments Limited	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director	Landseer Motor Investments Auckland Limited t/a Andrew Simms - Motor vehicle retail	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director	Stephen Duff Motors Limited t/a Andrew Simms Dunedin - Motor vehicle retail	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director	Three Diamond Automotive t/a Ralliart NZ - Race car preparation	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director	Cambridge Finance Limited - Financial Services	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director	The Landseer Group Limited - Investments	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director	Otago Motorhome Centre Limited - Motor vehicle retail	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director	Landseer Motor Investments Henderson Limited - Motor vehicle retail	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.

Name	Responsibility (i.e. Chairperson etc)	Declaration of Interests	Nature of Potential Interest	Member's Proposed Management Plan
	Director	Landseer Motor Investments Moorhouse Limited - Motor vehicle retail	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director	Minaret Property Investments Limited - Property Investment	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	The Newfoundland Trust	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	The Moturata Trust	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Taieri Trails Group	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Taieri Cricket Club	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Mosgiel AFC	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Owner	Residential Property	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Owner	Commercial Property. Andersons Bay Road, Dunedin	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Dunedin Heritage Fund (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Heritage Advisory Group (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Tūhura Otago Museum Trust Board (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Taieri Airport Trust (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
Cr Mickey Treadwell	Director	Atawhai Interactive Tapui Ltd	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Co-owner	Residential Property	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Green Party of Aotearoa	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Dunedin Otaru Sister City Society (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Ice Sports Dunedin Incorporated (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Ōtepoti Dunedin Live Music Advisory Panel (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Te Ao Tūroa Partnership (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Otago Peninsula Community Board (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
Cr Lee Vandervis	Director	Lee Vandervis, Antonie Alm-Lequeux and Cook Allan Gibson Trustee Company Ltd - Residential Property Ownership - Dunedin	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Director	Bunchy Properties Ltd - Residential and Lifestyle Farm Property Ownership - Dunedin	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Owner	Various publicly Audio and Lighting - Hire, Sales and Service Business	May contract and provide service to DCC	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table. If the meeting is in public excluded leave the room. Seek advice prior to the meeting.
	Member	District Licensing Committee (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Dunedin Heritage Fund (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.

Name	Responsibility (i.e. Chairperson etc)	Declaration of Interests	Nature of Potential Interest	Member's Proposed Management Plan
	Member	Okia Reserve Management Committee (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
Cr Steve Walker	Trustee	Dunedin Wildlife Hospital Trust	Potential grants recipient	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table. If the meeting is in public excluded leave the room. Seek advice prior to the meeting.
	Member	Orokonui Ecosanctuary	Potential grants recipient	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table. If the meeting is in public excluded leave the room. Seek advice prior to the meeting.
	Member	New Zealand Labour Party	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Owner	Residential Property - Dunedin	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Shareholder	Various publicly listed companies	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	NZ Sea Lion Trust	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Justice of the Peace		No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	Predator Free Dunedin	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Dunedin Edinburgh Sister City Society (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Dunedin Heritage Fund (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Dunedin Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	NZ Masters Games Trust Board (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Otago Regional Transport Committee (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Ōtepoti Dunedin Live Music Advisory Panel	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Predator Free Dunedin (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
Cr Brent Weatherall	Owner	Residential Property	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Owner	Business George Street, Dunedin	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	Brent Weatherall Jeweller Limited	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	Weatherall Trustee Company	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	Residential Rental Properties	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Dunedin Club	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Lead	Infrastructure Portfolio (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.

Name	Responsibility (i.e. Chairperson etc)	Declaration of Interests	Nature of Potential Interest	Member's Proposed Management Plan
	Member	Dunedin Public Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Dunedin Public Art Society (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Keep Dunedin Beautiful (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.
	Member	Strath Taieri Communtiy Board (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.

Executive Leadership Team - Register of Interest - current as at 12 October 2026					
Name	**Date of Entry**	**Responsibility (i.e. Chairperson etc)**	**Declaration of Interests**	**Nature of Potential Interest**	**Member's Proposed Management Plan**
Richard Briggs	20/10/2026	No interests to declare at present			
Nicola Morand	09/05/2022	Owner	Residential Property Dunedin	No conflict identified	Seeks advice in advance of meeting if actual conflict arises.
	09/05/2022	Owner	Residential Property in Otago	No conflict identified	Seeks advice in advance of meeting if actual conflict arises.
	09/05/2022	Partner	Morand Painting & Decorating	No conflict identified	Seeks advice in advance of meeting if actual conflict arises.
	12/11/2025	Member	Te Runanga o Otakou	No conflict identified	Seeks advice in advance of meeting if actual conflict arises.
	12/11/2025	Member	Kati Huirapa Runaka ki Puketeraki	No conflict identified	Seeks advice in advance of meeting if actual conflict arises.
	12/11/2025	Family member	Family member works for the DCC	No conflict identified	Seeks advice in advance of meeting if actual conflict arises.
Scott MacLean	23/01/2024	Owner	Residential property	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	23/01/2024	Trustee	Te Poari a Pukekura Charitable Trust	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	23/01/2024	Spouse is Chair	Dunedin Wildlife Hospital Trust (DWHT)	DCC has funded the DWHT	Take no part in discussions or decision making about the Trust or participate in any transactions between the Trust and DCC.
	19/05/2006	Family member	Family member works for the DCC	No conflict identified	Seeks advice in advance of meeting if actual conflict arises.
	06/05/2026	Family member	RB Recruitment - Occasionally deployed to work on Isaacs Construction sites	No conflict identified	Will not take part in any transactions with this company - or with Isaacs Construction while deployed to work on any of their sites
	08/09/2026	Owner	Residential property in Otago	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
Carolyn Allan	01/03/2024	Owner	Residential property	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	01/03/2024	Owner	Residential rental property	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	01/03/2024	Member	Mountain Bike Otago	No conflict identified.	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
Paul Henderson	15/01/2025	Owner	Residential property	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	15/01/2025	Playing Member	Dunedin City Royal Football Club	No conflict identified.	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	10/10/2025	Navigator Member	Taituarā	No conflict identified.	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	10/10/2025	Partner	Ruru Workplace Solutions Ltd	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
Mike Costelloe	10/10/2025	Owner	Residential property	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.

REPORTS

MARLOW PARK DESTINATION PLAYGROUND DEVELOPED DESIGN

Department: Commercial Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1 The purpose of this report is to update Councillors on the design of Marlow Park Destination Playground, seek direction on the options for the dinosaur slide and approval to begin construction.

2 The report discusses the background to Council's decision to upgrade Marlow Park as the first of three destination playgrounds in the city to be redeveloped. It outlines the design process, integration of public and Councillor feedback and the key features and equipment planned for the playground.

3 It also details risks related to the condition of the dinosaur slide and presents options of remediation, replication and removal for Council to consider.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council:

a) **Approves** the developed design of Marlow Park Destination Playground for construction.

b) **Decides** which of the three options for the dinosaur slide to implement.

c) **Authorises** staff to continue to seek additional funding via grants or sponsorship to increase the range of play and activity options in the playground.

BACKGROUND

4 Feedback received during the Play Spaces Plan 2021 and the 10 year plan 2021 - 2031 community consultation indicated that many did not consider Dunedin to have a Destination Playground and asked for Council to invest in a playground in the style of the Margaret Mahy Family Playground in Christchurch.

5 Following consultation, Council resolved to invest in upgrading the three existing destination playgrounds in Dunedin: Marlow Park, Woodhaugh Gardens and Mosgiel Memorial Park. Concept designs were developed for each and the community was asked for feedback.

6 As part of the 9 year plan 2025-2034, Council allocated $11.22m to cover the costs of developing three Destination Playgrounds, with one designed and constructed every three years. Marlow Park was selected as the first playground to be upgraded, with a budget of $4.62m.

7 Beginning in the 2025/2026 year, staff initiated work with mana whenua, disability advocates and play specialists to develop an updated concept design for Marlow Park.

8 A workshop was held in June 2026 to update Councillors on this concept. Councillors requested staff to include options for the dinosaur slide.

9 An open tender process was completed between June and September 2026 to select a lead contractor to deliver the design and build project. The design element focused on advancing the concept to a detailed design, buildable within the available budget. Isaac Construction partnering with Jasmax and Monstrum were the successful tenderers.

DISCUSSION

10 The design sprint process with Isaac construction and partners has drawn on previous rounds of destination playground consultation and feedback on previous Marlow Park design concepts. It has also taken on board feedback from the Councillor workshop and extensive feedback received from the public.

11 The process has also involved play safety specialists, structural and geotechnical engineers, and materials testing experts. It has also drawn on learnings from other play space developments and upgrades across the city.

12 This has led to the developed design presented in Attachment A.

13 There are three options related to the dinosaur slide, which have only minor impacts on the layout of the rest of the playground. These are discussed in further detail in the options section below.

14 Key features of the developed design are discussed below.

The design concept

15 The design team has worked with mana whenua to define an overarching concept for the playground, based around Maui.

16 Maui is an iconic figure in Māori whakapapa and is celebrated across the Pacific in stories. In legend, Maui often gets into a bind and finds his way out with clever thinking. He is also the holder of significant ancestral knowledge or mātauraka.

17 Mana whenua define ‘Mauitaka’ to describe innovative, future-focused and aspirational thinking. In many stories, Maui is a bit mischievous and considered a fun and lively figure. Tamariki and mokopuna can be inspired by this legendary hero and carry both his ingenuity and inquisitiveness.

18 Mana whenua have already incorporated the Maui narrative across playgrounds in Ōtepoti – including at the Dunedin Botanic Garden, which focuses on the Kāi Tahu story of Maui and Fire, and the St Clair playground that takes inspiration from the Maui and the Big Fish narrative.

19 For Marlow Park, this Maui theme will expand to encompass Māori and Polynesian navigation to Aotearoa. Maui himself was a master navigator and was most recently celebrated in the well-known Disney feature film *Moana*. The large size of Marlow Park and the proximity to the ocean means this navigation theme can be applied from the entrance through numerous touchpoints in the playground.

A new whale play experience

20 Part of Marlow park's popularity is that it has its own individual identity and is not like other parks around Dunedin. A key part of this attraction has been its character-based play equipment, some of which have already been demolished or removed over time due to their condition.

21 While it is not practical to retain all of the remaining character features, due to their condition and the challenges and costs of upgrade, the design team has chosen to reinterpret the whale to create a much larger, integrated play experience. Alongside a rehabilitated or recreated dinosaur slide, it is expected this will become a new iconic centrepiece for the playground.

22 The new whale play structure is being designed and built by the world famous Monstrum play equipment company. Monstrum have broad experience building site specific playgrounds in Europe, the United States, and Middle East. They are currently expanding into Asia and this will be their first commission in Australasia.

23 These new pieces of equipment connect the public's affection for the existing whale and the new cultural narrative, while at the same time providing a more durable, safe and interactive structure, with more play opportunities than their predecessor.

24 The new whale itself is 11.5m long and up to 5m high at its highest point. Combined with a 6m waka and other equipment in an oceanic setting, the area of the new whale play experience covers approximately 550m2. It includes climbing, sliding, balancing, imaginary, sensory and accessible play opportunities.

25 The Monstrum structures are built from sustainably sourced timber and are a kitset form, with easily replaced componentry. There is a minimum of moving parts or mechanisms to minimise ongoing maintenance costs.

Other play equipment

26 Outside of the whale zone, play equipment will generally be purchased off-the-shelf from various Australasian equipment suppliers, selected for play value, proven durability and value for money. Colour and pattern will be used to tie pieces together within the overall narrative and so they present as a cohesive set of equipment.

27 Equipment provides a range of play experiences for various ages and abilities, challenge levels and balances individual and group play. The selection also considers play opportunities across the broader Dunedin playground network to ensure Marlow Park retains a point of difference and offers experiences that cannot be enjoyed elsewhere.

28 Attachment B details the existing play equipment in the playground and the items planned for the park, to demonstrate the expanded opportunities provided by this upgrade.

29 The number of play opportunities in the park will substantially increase. Not only are there more sets of play equipment, but both the number of play types on each set of equipment and the number of children that can play on each set simultaneously will multiply.

30 Note: this remains the planned list and some items may still need to be deleted or substituted during detailed and construction design.

31 Based on public feedback requesting water play in the park, a water table is being included in the junior zone. The design team have chosen this type of manual water play in favour of mechanical pumped water play equipment, which can be costly and difficult to maintain in a harsh coastal environment.

32 Natural play elements will be included throughout the playground. These will include locally sourced logs and rocks and provide additional opportunities for riskier play.

Accessibility

33 A particular focus in the upgrade is to create a more accessible space for a range of physical abilities.

34 Currently there are few opportunities for safe, accessible play in the playground. In the proposed plan there will be accessible opportunities for a range of different play experiences.

35 Where possible, accessible elements are incorporated with general play, so users can play together, rather than being segregated on separate equipment. Accessible elements will be provided on both the off-the-shelf and bespoke items.

36 The accessibility of other facilities in the park will also be improved, including footpaths, and other furniture. A new, suitably graded path will give access to the slide decks and additional mobility parking on Kettle Park Road (subject to consultation and Hearings Committee approval).

37 Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) boards will be installed at strategic locations in the playground. These signs feature a mix of English, Te Reo Māori, and symbols. They allow children to communicate their feelings, what they want to do next, or ask for a turn by simply pointing to the board.

38 Further opportunities to increase accessibility will be investigated during the final selection of furniture, detailed design and construction.

Specialist user areas

39 The plan includes the replacement of the pump track with an in-ground version. This will be slightly larger than the existing above ground pump track on site.

40 The design of the specialist equipment in parkour and skate areas is still being resolved alongside representatives from those communities. While a sum has been included for basic equipment in each, the design team seeks approval from Council to work with those communities to apply for external funding or sponsorship for additional development within those zones to expand the opportunities offered, without impacting the overall DCC budget for Marlow Park.

41 The existing full court basketball court will be replaced with a half court and single hoop for shooting. The design team believe this represents a better use of the space and allows other activities to be included in the park.

Supporting infrastructure

42 To support positive user experiences and longer use times, other infrastructure in the park will also be upgraded. This includes improved footpaths, increased seating, drinking fountains, cycle and scooter parking, electric BBQs and picnic tables.

43 Public feedback on shade and shelter will be actioned through seasonal, off-the-shelf shade sails, smaller areas of permanent shelter, and more "inside" play options. Over the longer term this will also be enhanced through an increased number of trees planted in the park.

44 Toilets at the park have already been upgraded.

Budget

45 The design team is working collaboratively with Isaac Construction and quantity surveyors to provide cost estimates of the developed design and to deliver a plan that is within the existing budget construction envelope of $4.27m. This process will continue through the detailed and construction design phases and may require some changes to the design, as equipment and other costs and quantities are locked in. Council will be kept informed of these decisions, but to keep the project moving, no further approval points are proposed. Council will be kept informed of any changes through the Executive updates process.

46 However, as noted above, this report requests Council consider approving staff to pursue sponsorship or grants to further expand the skate, parkour or other play elements in the park over what is presented here, without impacting the core DCC funding of $4.62m for the project.

47 The current indicative budget figures are presented in the table below. Note: these will still move within the overall budget envelope as equipment and subcontractors are locked in place.

Line item	**Cost**
Play equipment (off-the-shelf)	$1,171,000
Play equipment (bespoke)	$700,000
Rubber softfall	$371,000
Other softfall	$170,000
Other furniture	$357,000
Landscaping/footpaths/sealed areas	$600,000
Groundworks and utilities	$359,000
Design, consents, technical input	$332,000
Preliminary and general	$200,000
Total	**$4,260,000**

OPTIONS

48 At the June workshop, Council requested options on how to manage the iconic dinosaur slide through the upgrade.

49 The dinosaur was built by community volunteers in approximately 1967. It is believed an existing steel slide was layered with chicken wire and concrete to form the dinosaur shape. Later, the original ladder was replaced with stairs. Few other upgrades have occurred over the life of the dinosaur.

50 As part of the planning for the upgrade, material condition testing and compliance assessments were undertaken on the dinosaur slide. These results are attached as Attachment C.

51 The reasons underpinning upgrade or replacement of the dinosaur relate to three main factors: condition, structural integrity and play safety standards.

52 In terms of condition, the following issues have been identified.

a) The concrete across the slide is cracked, particularly at connection points

b) There is evidence of long-term water ingress

c) Testing of the concrete has indicated carbonation and elevated chlorides

53 The materials testing has demonstrated that the chicken wire used to stabilise the concrete is already showing signs of advanced corrosion. Without more invasive investigations, the structural integrity of the original steel slide structure cannot be ascertained.

54 Due to its age, the dinosaur slide does not meet play safety standards NZS 5828:2015. Given the amount of repair work required, there is an expectation the dinosaur slide compliance is also addressed. Safety issues requiring remediation include:

a) The fall height from the top of the dinosaur is too high – this could be rectified by raising the land at the base

b) The extent of softfall surrounding the slide needs to be increased

c) Handrails on the stairs need to be the correct dimensions and to remove entrapment issues

d) A guardrail needs to be installed at the start of the slide

e) The slide deck needs to be replaced to create a continuous surface and remove entrapment issues

Option One – Recommended Option

55 In this option, the head and neck of the dinosaur will be replicated by way of 3d scan, reconstructed in reinforced concrete and relocated to the bank area with a cluster of other new slide opportunities, accessed from a new deck and ramp.

56 The slide deck will be widened but the approximate gradient will be retained to replicate the current experience as best as possible. Other minor changes will be made to ensure the slide complies with contemporary safety standards.

57 The new slide has an estimated cost of $80,000 excluding the deck access which services three other slides.

Advantages

- The new slide will be more accessible and comfortable for a range of ages and abilities
- The new slide will comply with NZS 5828:2015
- The new structure will have a longer lifespan and risks from condition will be removed
- The public affection for the dinosaur slide will be acknowledged, but in a reimagined way

Disadvantages

- The original structure will be lost
- It is possible there will still be some negative feedback from those who want to retain the existing dinosaur slide
- The exact experience will not be replicated due to the removal of the stairs and the widening of the deck

Option Two – Status Quo

58 In this option, the existing dinosaur slide will be retained in place with refurbishment work undertaken to prolong its life and some upgrades taken to improve its compliance.

59 The estimate for this work is $100,000.

Advantages

- The public affection for the dinosaur will be recognised

Disadvantages

- Without deconstruction or more invasive investigations, confidence in condition of the dinosaur slide structure will remain low
- There will remain risks from concrete failure from the dinosaur and its remaining serviceable life will likely be shorter than other equipment in the park
- The dinosaur slide will remain inaccessible to some park users
- Changes to make the dinosaur slide more compliant with NZS 5828:2015 will require changes to the existing structure which will change some of its look and feel

Option Three – Do not replace the dinosaur

60 In this option, the existing dinosaur slide will be demolished and replaced with a generic slide in the slide zone.

Advantages

- There will be cost savings from not repairing or recreating the dinosaur slide and its replacement by a generic item
- A more accessible slide could be provided as a replacement

Disadvantages

- The public's affection for the dinosaur will not be recognised

NEXT STEPS

61 Following Council approval and a decision on the dinosaur slide, procurement of all play and other equipment will commence. Most of the larger pieces of play equipment (both bespoke and off the shelf) have long lead times of 12-20 weeks, so orders will need to be placed quickly.

62 Alongside procurement, the design team will complete detailed and construction design: refining costs, equipment selection, details such as colour palates and patterns, softfall material options, landscaping extents, and selecting specific suppliers and subcontractors to ensure the best value for money.

63 The design team will also continue working with representatives of the skate and parkour communities to refine these specialist areas.

64 Subject to Council approval via this report, additional funding through sponsorship or grants will be sought to add equipment and utility to these areas without impacting the core play opportunities in the playground.

Construction programme

65 Following Council and public feedback on the earlier planned closure over the Christmas Holiday period, Isaac construction has developed a construction programme that keeps the existing playground open until late January. Some small areas may be cordoned off prior for preparatory works.

66 From February, removal of existing equipment, and ground, utility and foundation works will commence and the playground will be closed to the public. This may be done in stages to keep some areas of the park open longer. Equipment installation is expected to commence from March 2027.

67 During construction, temporary access will be provided to the learn to ride area. It is anticipated that this will be able to remain open throughout most of the park's upgrade, though entrances will periodically shift.

68 The upgraded Marlow Park Destination Playground is planned to be reopened in June 2027.

Signatories

Author:	Glen Hazelton - Project Director
Authoriser:	Heath Ellis - Group Manager Parks and Recreation Carolyn Allan - Chief Financial Officer

Attachments

	Title	Page
⇩A	Plans and Renders	26
⇩B	Current and Planned Play Comparison	31
⇩C	Dinosaur Slide Assessment	36

SUMMARY OF CONSIDERATIONS

Fit with purpose of Local Government

This decision promotes the social and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.

Fit with strategic framework

	Contributes	Detracts	Not applicable
Social Wellbeing Strategy	✓	☐	☐
Economic Development Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Environment Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Arts and Culture Strategy	✓	☐	☐
3 Waters Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Future Development Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Integrated Transport Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Parks and Recreation Strategy	✓	☐	✓
Other strategic projects/policies/plans	✓	☐	☐

The upgraded destination playground contributes to the Social Wellbeing Strategy by way of improving public spaces for young people and families and providing opportunities for interaction of people of all ages and backgrounds in the city.

The collaboration with artists in the design of the park contributes to the Arts and Culture Strategy, providing employment for artists and allowing more diverse expressions of culture in the city's playgrounds.

Providing quality playgrounds contributes to the Parks and Recreation Strategy, making the best use of the city's reserves.

The upgrade of Marlow Park Destination Playground is a key deliverable of the Play Spaces Plan 2021.

Māori Impact Statement

The design team has worked with mana whenua to define a cultural theme for the playground. Through the involvement of Aukaha designers on the design team, cultural elements have been embedded throughout the park from the story of Paikea, Maui and journeying through the Pacific to colours and designs used throughout the park.

Sustainability

While it is unavoidable that most play equipment will be manufactured overseas and shipped to New Zealand, particular attention is being paid to the use of sustainable materials and lower carbon options such as timber in the playground.

LTP/Annual Plan / Financial Strategy /Infrastructure Strategy

The upgrade of the Marlow Park Destination Playground is included in the 9 year plan 2025-2034.

SUMMARY OF CONSIDERATIONS

Financial considerations

The overall budget for the Marlow Park Destination Playground is $4.62m.

The design and build component of the contract with Isaac Construction is $4.27m. The remaining budget is allocated to technical investigations, consenting, health and safety auditing, independent certification and other project related costs.

Significance

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

Engagement – external

The design has built on previous rounds of public engagement on the playground detailed in the report. Further targeted engagement has additionally occurred with the skate and parkour communities, disability advocacy groups, and neighbouring community groups and businesses. Further engagement will occur once Council has approved the design for implementation.

Engagement - internal

Internal engagement has occurred with the Transportation and Parks and Recreation teams.

Risks: Legal / Health and Safety etc.

There are reputational risks related to the dinosaur slide given the public interest in the future of the slide, debates online and in the media. To manage this risk, the decision on the future of the slide is provided to Council as part of this report. A communications and engagement plan is in place to communicate the decision to the community along with supporting information.

Retention of the existing dinosaur slide structure will present some risk of future material failures that will need to be managed by more intensive monitoring and maintenance.

Conflict of Interest

There are no conflicts of interest identified in this report.

Community Boards

There are no implications for Community Boards.


JASMAX
Marlow Park
23/10/2026
Dunedin City Council
Option 2 Concept Plan
SCALE @A1=1:250 @A3=1:500
JOB No. 226139 REV.
DRAWING No. LA10001 A


JASMAX
Marlow Park
23/10/2026
Dunedin City Council
Option 1 Concept Plan
SCALE @A1=1:250 @A3=1:500
JOB No. 226139 REV.
DRAWING No. LA10000 A







Current and Planned Equipment Comparison

Current Equipment

	Active/ Physical Play	Climbing	Swinging	Sliding	Balancing	Spinning/ rocking	Sensory	Risky/ Adventure Play	Imaginative/ Social Play	Accessible
Dinosaur Slide	✓			✓					✓	
Multi-play structure - larger										
Monkey bars	✓	✓						✓		
Cargo net climb	✓	✓						✓	✓	
Rock climb	✓	✓						✓	✓	
Bridges					✓			✓	✓	
Slide	✓			✓						
Platforms		✓							✓	
Multi-play structure - smaller										
Slide		✓		✓						
Platforms		✓						✓	✓	
Swing			✓							
Ping Pong Table	✓									
Swing set - 3 adult			✓							

Serpent Swing - 2 toddler, 2 infant			✓							
Seesaw - set of 2						✓				
Concrete tunnel mountain with slide		✓		✓			✓		✓	
Shoe slide				✓					✓	
Whale		✓							✓	
Pump Track	✓							✓		
Skate elements - 5 pieces	✓							✓		
Basketball court - full size	✓									

Proposed Play Equipment

Swing – set of 4 or maxi swing			✓					✓		
Swing - set of 6			✓							✓
Inclusive Carousel	✓					✓				✓
Waka									✓	✓
Whale										

Interior							✓	✓	✓	✓
Slide		✓		✓						✓
Twin bars	✓	✓		✓						
Climbing nets		✓						✓	✓	
Climbing poles		✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	
Flying fox - double	✓							✓		✓
Towers										
Climbing net	✓	✓					✓		✓	✓
Platforms	✓	✓						✓		
Slides				✓						✓
Tunnel							✓	✓	✓	
Access tunnel	✓	✓								
Multi-play structure										
Monkey bars	✓	✓						✓		
Spinning net	✓	✓								
Cargo net climb	✓	✓						✓	✓	
Rock climb	✓	✓						✓	✓	
Stepping disc	✓		✓					✓	✓	

Bridges	✓							✓	✓	
Slide	✓			✓						
Twin bars	✓			✓				✓		
Platforms		✓							✓	
Pendulum swing			✓			✓				✓
Rope swing			✓			✓		✓		
Slide -dual racing	✓	✓		✓					✓	✓
Slide - accessible	✓	✓		✓						✓
Slide - dinosaur	✓	✓		✓					✓	✓
Water play										
Water source							✓		✓	✓
Troughs							✓			✓
Water gates									✓	✓
Sand play										
Diggers	✓								✓	✓
Sand table							✓		✓	✓
Platform		✓							✓	
Sand tools							✓		✓	✓

Nature Play	✓				✓		✓		✓	

Sensitivity: General

Beca

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Dunedin City Council
P.O. Box 5045
Dunedin 9054

29 May 2026

Attention: Glen Hazelton

Dear Glen,

Marlow Park Dinosaur Slide Structural Assessment

Beca has been engaged by Dunedin City Council to carry out a structural condition and durability assessment of the Marlow Park Dinosaur Slide to inform the decision on whether to retain the slide as part of a redeveloped playground. This summary highlights findings from the visual inspection and subsequent material testing results, and outlines implications for durability, accessibility, safety, maintenance and reputational risk. The reader is directed to the full report attached to this letter.

On visual inspection, the structure presents a generally sound external finish with localised defects to the coating system. The older “body” section supporting the slide exhibits cracking and minor moisture egress through the underside with isolated near-surface corrosion, but there is no spalling or pervasive rust staining visible and no indications of urgent structural deterioration.

Access to the slide is via a narrow stair, which is likely not compliant with New Zealand Building Code, section D1 accessible stair requirements and should be noted as an accessibility constraint for a redeveloped playground.

Following the visual assessment, three 60 mm diameter cores were taken from the underside of the body; all fractured at about 100 mm depth, indicating planes of weakness between hand-placed or plastered concrete layers. Reinforcement scanning and sample observations of the newer “tail” section suggest it contains conventional reinforcing bars. However, the body section contains mainly fine wire or “chicken-mesh” reinforcement with significant corrosion and poor encapsulation in some areas.

Compressive strength results for the cores were approximately 30MPa on average; however, the short aspect ratios of the test pieces due to fragmentation means that these results should be treated as indicative only. They apply to coherent concrete zones and do not remove the concern about planes of weakness between layers.

Carbonation due to gradual contamination by atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO_2) was present in all cores up to approximately 40 mm depth. This reduces the protective alkalinity for any steel within that zone and can promote corrosion.

Dust samples were collected from drill holes at six locations throughout the structure for chloride contamination analysis. All six samples showed elevated total chlorides, with most at levels associated with a high risk of steel corrosion. Given the slide has been painted for much of its life and shell fragments were

make everyday better.

observed in the concrete, the contamination is likely to be “cast-in” from locally sourced marine aggregates. There are no obvious options for the mitigation or remediation of pervasive cast-in chloride contamination.

Taken together, the testing points to a material durability risk that could lead to continued deterioration in the short to medium term and an ongoing cost burden if the slide is retained. There are also potential safety risks from corrosion-related concrete deterioration, and broader compliance and reputational risks if ongoing maintenance or future demolition were to be required within an otherwise new playground.

Yours sincerely

Charlie Mornin

Structural Engineer

on behalf of

Beca Limited

Phone Number: 0212405579
Email: Charlie.Mornin@beca.com

Sensitivity: General

Beca

Job Nº: 4027809
Page Nº: 1 of 10
Date: 22 May 2026
Beca Ref: 4027809-1371451419-287

Site Visit Report Nº SA001

Project: Marlow Park Dunedin
Principal: Dunedin City Council
Contractor:

Area of site visited:	Dinosaur Slide	**Purpose of visit:**	Preliminary structural assessment
Date/Time of visit:	Thursday 2 April 2026 at 10:15 a.m.	**Weather:**	Fine
Beca personnel:	Charlie Mornin	**Contractor's representative accompanying Beca personnel:**	

Health and Safety Observations:

- Weather conditions favourable for inspection – fine with little to no breeze.
- Several parents with children present in the area using the slide and other play equipment. Inspection activity limited to visual observations and photos. Effort made to minimise disruption to the public and avoid capturing any members of public in photos.

Construction work in progress:

- None.

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Beca

Job Nº: 4027809
Page Nº: 2 of 10
Date: 22 May 2026
Beca Ref: 4027809-1371451419-287

Observations:
(Note that the following observations and comments were made following the initial visual assessment of the structure, prior to the collection of concrete samples for testing and receipt of the summary testing report. The report is attached to this SVR and summarised below).

1.1 General



Figure 1: General view of the slide

The Dinosaur Slide consists of two primary sections: the body, legs, and head/neck, containing the slide itself; dating to ca. late 1950s, and the "tail" section containing the stair access to the slide, constructed in the 1980s to replace the original access. Both sections are of apparent reinforced concrete construction, coated with one or more layers of paint. The outermost paint layer is generally in good condition throughout, apart from localised areas of damage discussed below.

1.2 Tail section



Figure 2: Tail section

The tail section appears to be cast in-situ reinforced concrete construction, and consists of two curved flights of stairs with an intermediate landing supported on two rectangular walls. The stairway structure consists of two

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curved beams (250mm thick) that are fixed at the supports. The protective walls around the stairways are continuous with the beams. The entire structure appears to be fully integral, with some construction joints visible but no apparent allowance for movement (i.e. thermal expansion/contraction). The structural form suggests a typical reinforcement layout similar to that of other modern structures of similar scale, such as a pedestrian bridge, but reinforcement scanning would be required to confirm.



Figure 3: Walls supporting intermediate landing between curved stairways.

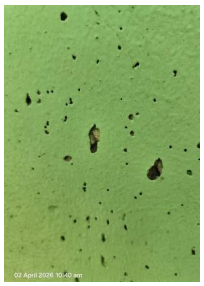
1.2.1 Tail section defects

There are no significant defects that would indicate active, progressive structural deterioration in the tail section. Some observations were made which may have implications for the durability of the structure. Observed minor defects are summarised in the table below.

Table 1: Observed defects in the tail section

Paintwork	Generally in good condition. Localised loss of paint at exterior lower end where there is contact with grass, creating friction and trapping moisture. Fairly widespread lichen growth on paint surface.	
	Minor discolouration of paint to underside of beams towards interior, possibly due to moisture retention or mould.	
	The interior near ground level has apparently been left unpainted.	

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Concrete	The concrete was sounded using a small hammer and there were no drummy or hollow-sounding areas found. However, it appears that at the time of construction the concrete was likely not vibrated well enough, leaving small voids on the concrete surface. In most cases it appears that no paint has been applied to the interior of these voids.	 
	One area of minor impact damage to left-hand side exterior beam ~300mm above ground level. Covers an area of ~100x100mm to 10mm depth, no reinforcing exposed. Two smaller (~30mm) spots of damaged observed LHS of upper stairway exterior.	 

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	Minor vertical cracking associated with construction joints between stairways and landings, up to approx. 0.5mm wide. There is no significant live load on the structure, so cracking could be early shrinkage, or driven by thermal movement or freeze/thaw cycles. No evidence of fresh cracking through recent paint layers, corrosion, or damage to surrounding concrete. Only vertical cracking was observed and there were no cracks evident beyond construction joints. There appears to have been a sealant placed within some of these joints towards the upper end of the stairway, which is in average condition and may be original.	 
Other	A single rust spot was observed to the underside of one beam, which appears to be a near-surface nail or piece of tie wire leftover from construction (non-structural). The stairways are narrow, and while not specifically measured, the width between handrails appears to be less than the 1200mm required to meet the NZBC D1 definition of an “accessible stair”.	 

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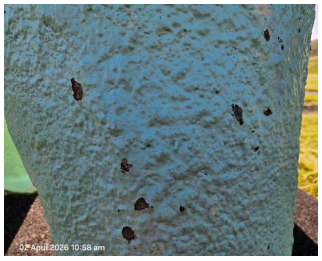
1.3 Slide section (body, neck & head)



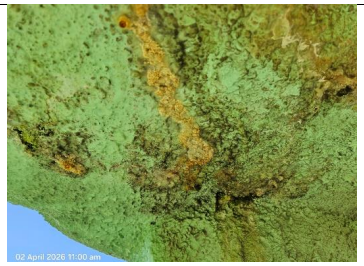
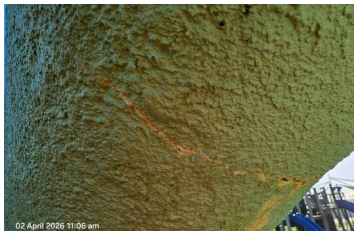
Figure 4: Slide section

The slide section is of older concrete construction with a bespoke structural form and rough surface finish beneath the paintwork. Most likely the concrete was plastered or hand-trowelled, with no evidence of formwork having been used. The four “legs” appear to be acting as structural columns to support the body (where the top landing for the slide is located), while the “neck” spans from the top of the body down to the ground to accommodate the slide.

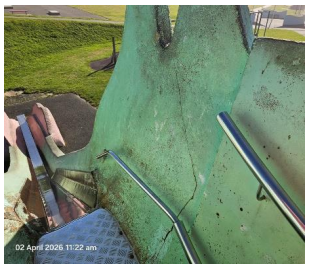
1.3.1 Slide section defects

Paintwork	Generally in good condition with localised areas of paint loss, exposing concrete and some older coating layers.	
	Evidence of movement of water through the structure, exiting through small gaps on the underside of the main body near the tops of the legs (possibly construction joints). Efflorescence and moisture-related discolouration of paintwork here. No evidence of rust staining.	

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Concrete – neck/head	Minor surface damage to “feet”, which are presumed to be cosmetic only and not structural.	
	Minor transverse cracking along underside of neck (main slide span), with some efflorescence, does not appear active. May be associated with construction joints. Widest crack, up to approximately 1mm wide, occurs at the bottom of the neck at the ground support. There is paint applied to interior faces of this crack. Unknown reinforcement detailing at this location. Cracking in the “head” associated with constructions joints and thermal movement/freeze-thaw.	  

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Concrete – stairs/top of body section	Stair concrete has a weathered appearance and there are some previous minor patch repairs.	
	Wide cracking associated with construction joints to the interior of the “spines” at the top of the body section (slide landing).	
	Additional cracking and wedging of concrete around the slide landing, maybe due to differential thermal movement between the concrete and steel, or frost wedging. It is possible that this is where moisture is able to enter the structure and make its way through the concrete down to the exit point on the underside of the body, noted above.	  

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Other	Minor rust spots observed to underside of neck near the ground, unclear if due to corrosion of structural reinforcement or just near-surface nails/tie wire.	

1.4 Comments on overall appearance

The preliminary visual assessment of the structure indicates that there are no pressing structural deterioration concerns that would warrant significant intervention or decommissioning of the structure in the immediate future. The defects noted above suggest some areas where maintenance could be targeted in order to improve durability, for example an additional coat of paint to cover exposed areas of concrete and fill small voids, and surface treatment of cracks and painting in key areas of the older portion of the structure to prevent further moisture ingress. The lack of rust staining from observed moisture egress points, and absence of any spalling, is weak evidence that there has not been significant reinforcement corrosion, but equally could indicate that the structure does not contain significant reinforcement. Assuming that the structure has had a paint coating for its entire life, this will have also helped to prevent chloride and carbonation contamination of the concrete, but does not rule out the possibility of cast-in chloride contamination if salt-laden coastal aggregates were used in the concrete.

Follow-up actions carried out following initial visual assessment:

- Reinforcement scanning was carried out to gain an understanding of steel reinforcing layout throughout the structure.
    - The tail section was found to have continuous reinforcing bars in both directions at ~250mm spacings, consistent with typical in-situ formed reinforced concrete construction practice.
    - Scanning of the older body section was inconclusive, with no evidence of consistently spaced reinforcing bars.
- Concrete samples were taken from the structure for durability testing, in accordance with sample collection guidance provided by WSP Research. These included:
    - Three concrete core samples were collected from the body section for compressive strength and carbonation testing. All three cores fractured at a depth of approximately 100mm, suggesting the presence of cold joints within the concrete between hand-trowelled or plastered layers.
        - The only observed reinforcement within the body section appears to be consistent with “chicken wire” style steel mesh.
    - Dust samples were collected from six locations for chloride analysis.
- Cores and dust samples were sent to WSP Research for testing and indicative durability reporting.

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Beca

Job Nº: 4027809
Page Nº: 10 of 10
Date: 22 May 2026
Beca Ref: 4027809-1371451419-287

Durability report summary:

- The fracturing of the cores meant that the depth-to-diameter form factor was below the recommended value, meaning that strength results are to be taken as indicative only.
- The indicative compressive strength of the three cores ranged from 29.5 MPa to 36 MPa.
- Varying levels of corrosion were observed to the wire mesh contained within each core.
- Carbonation was present in all three samples to a maximum depth of 40mm. Carbonation of concrete is a result of atmospheric CO2 penetrating the material and creating a more corrosive environment for reinforcing steel.
- All of the dust samples returned elevated chloride contamination levels in the range at which there is a heightened risk of reinforcement corrosion. While it is possible that this contamination is due to exposure to salt-laden coastal winds, this process would be limited by the structure having been painted for much of its life. Considering this alongside the observation of shell fragments within the concrete indicating a coastal, salt-laden aggregate source, it is possible that the bulk of the contamination has been present since the time of construction.
- These factors altogether indicate durability concerns that could manifest in the short- to medium-term as accelerated structural deterioration, creating a safety risk for those using the structure and increased maintenance costs.

Conclusions:

1. Visual condition: cracking in many locations to the older body section of the structure with moisture leaking through the underside. Overall appearance can be described as “worn-out” but without significant structural deterioration.
2. Accessibility: Narrow stair-only access likely not complying with NZBC D1 requirements to be an accessible stairway.
3. Durability: indication from material testing is that there is a considerable risk of future deterioration due to environmental contamination of the concrete and planes of weakness within the structure.

These factors indicate that the retention of this structure within a redeveloped Marlow Park could carry safety, compliance, cost, and reputational risks for DCC that should be weighed in the decision regarding its replacement.

Attachments:

Marlow Park dinosaur slide durability testing (WSP Research report)

Report prepared by:	Charlie Mornin	**Report reviewed by:**	Jonathan Barnett

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15 May 2026

Dunedin City Council

c/- Charlie Mornin
Structural Engineer

Beca
Gallagher House
Level 5/229 Moray Place
Central Dunedin
Dunedin 9016

Ref: 5-CONCT.RO / OR5595

Analysis of Samples from Dinosaur Slide at Marlow Park

Dear Charlie

This letter presents the results obtained from testing of supplied concrete samples removed from the dinosaur slide playground structure at Marlow Park in St Clair, Dunedin.

It is understood that the slide is likely to have been a community-built structure, possibly dating the 1980s and is situated within a potentially aggressive marine exposure environment, approximately 150 m from a surf beach. Given it is a public installation frequented by children, Dunedin City Council and Beca are evaluating its current and prospective future durability, safety and residual life. As part of this exercise WSP was asked to complete testing to obtain an indication of concrete strength, chloride contamination and carbonation for the purpose of durability and residual life assessment.[1]

1. Sampling Locations

Documentation supplied with the specimens indicated that three cores with a nominal diameter of 60 mm were drilled to an approximate depth of 120 mm from the underside of the 'belly' of the dinosaur's sculptural form (Figure 1).

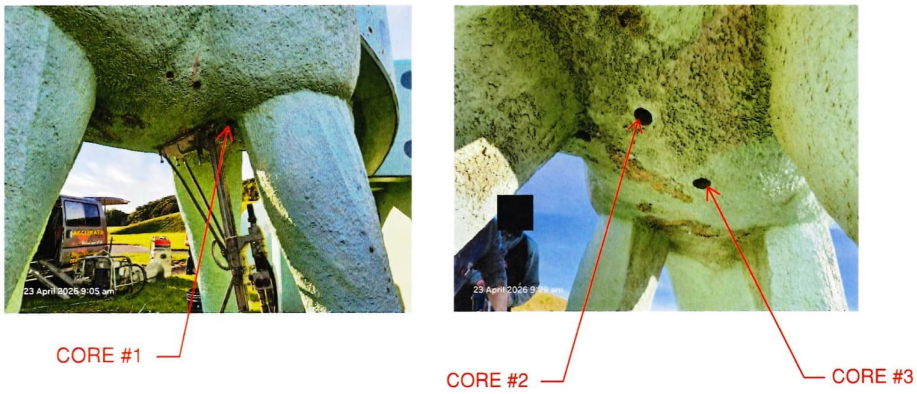


Figure 1. Sampling locations from which cores were removed on the dinosaur slide.

[1] Email from Charlie Mornin (Beca) to Neil Lee (WSP) dated 20 March 2026 and subsequent correspondence.

WSP Research
33 The Esplanade
Petone

Lower Hutt 5012, New Zealand
+64 4 587 0600

These were accompanied by concrete powders acquired by percussive drilling for analysis of chloride content. Samples were acquired from the neck and belly of the sculpture as well as the interior face of the landing walls of the stairway that form the dinosaur's 'tail' (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Sampling locations from which powder samples for chloride analysis were obtained.

It was noticeable that there was a pronounced colour difference between the dust samples obtained from the A & B sampling locations and the other sites (Figure 3), suggesting more than one concrete mix design was employed for the construction of the slide. Based on their observable geometric form it seems likely that the walls of the stairway forming the dinosaur's tail were built from concrete masonry.



Figure 3. As-received concrete powders for chloride analysis. Note the contrasting grey colouration for the A & B samples compared to the yellowish-brown of the others, suggesting a different aggregate source and distinct concrete mix design for the dinosaur's tail element.

2. Methodology

2.1 Compressive Strength

Strength of the cores was measured in accordance with Section 9 *Determination of Strength in Compression of Drilled Cores* from NZS 3112: Part 2 *Tests Relating to the Determination of Strength of Concrete*, using a 1,000 kN capacity Shimadzu UDH 100 hydraulic universal testing machine possessing a current traceable Class 1 (±1%) calibration certificate. The load was applied continuously and without shock at a uniform rate of 15 MPa/min until the specimens yielded and fractured.

The cores were tested in the 'dry' state, i.e. at ambient moisture content following 7 days of conditioning in the laboratory subsequent to completion of all preparation activities except capping with a gypsum plaster compound to ensure bearing surfaces were suitably plane and perpendicular to the axial load. This procedure is considered to give results more representative of the in-situ strength of the concrete than would be obtained through use of the alternative 'saturated' conditioning state permitted by the Standard.

Because the cores received were too fragmentary (refer to the discussion of their condition in the following Results section) to prepare test specimens with the desired 2:1 length to diameter ratio, the, measured strengths have been normalised to this aspect ratio using the correction factors given in ASTM C 42 *Standard Test Method for Obtaining and Testing Drilled Cores and Sawed Beams of Concrete*. This ensures compatibility with NZ conventions for expressing concrete strength on the basis of this geometry.

2.2 Chloride Contamination

The powder samples were analysed by XRF (x-ray fluorescence spectroscopy) to determine the total chlorine content as a percentage of the dry mass of concrete (%w/w). Use of XRF by a suitably experienced IANZ-accredited laboratory is a permitted method of chloride analysis for determining risk of reinforcement corrosion under NZS 3101.

Chloride ions in sufficient concentration are unique and specific agents for the corrosion of mild steel reinforcement; they destroy the protective surface oxide layer that ordinarily develops on steel surrounded by alkaline concrete, a process referred to as depassivation.

In practice, because of the wide variety of possible concreting materials and exposure conditions, there is no unique concentration of chloride ions that invariably cause reinforcement depassivation.[2] Current thinking identifies a range of probabilistic risk levels for corrosion with particular concentrations, as shown

[2] Glass, G. K. & Buenfeld, N. R. 1995. 'Chloride threshold levels for corrosion-induced deterioration of steel in concrete'. *RILEM International Workshop on Chloride Penetration in Concrete*, St-Remy-Les-Chevreuse, France, pp 429 – 440.

in Figure 4;[3] the broad diffuse nature of the plot emphasises the range of uncertainty associated with these assertions. For simplicity, results in this report are presented in comparison with two discrete thresholds for corrosion suggested by the UK Concrete Society: Chloride ion concentrations above 0.05% by mass of concrete at the depth of the reinforcement can be thought of as sufficient to present '*some risk*' of depassivation with subsequent corrosion developing, whereas concentrations above 0.15% indicate a '*high risk*'.[4]

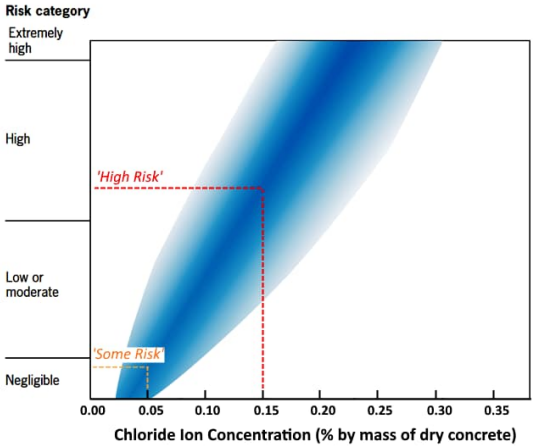


Figure 4 *Estimated risk of steel reinforcement corrosion associated with ingress of chlorides (adapted from BRE Digest 444 Part 2 to account for chloride analyses determined on mass percent of concrete rather than cement, assuming typical structural concrete mix proportioning).[3] The broad swathe of blue emphasises the essentially stochastic nature of this relationship but the simpler discreet UK Concrete Society thresholds are also annotated on the figure.*

2.3 Carbonation Depth

The outer ends of the cores not used for compressive strength determination were sectioned longitudinally and the newly-exposed concrete surface sprayed with a 1% w/v solution of phenolphthalein reagent.[5] Functioning as an acid-base indicator, phenolphthalein solutions are colourless below a pH of 8.5 but develop an intense pink to magenta colour where the pH is greater than ca. 9. The depth of concrete beneath exposed surfaces that is not stained by the application of the phenolphthalein solution is considered to be carbonated, i.e. depleted in alkalinity due to the complete consumption of calcium hydroxide within the cementitious matrix through reaction with atmospheric CO_2. Any mild steel reinforcement lying within this carbonated zone is no longer passivated by a highly-alkaline surrounding environment and hence becomes potentially susceptible to corrosion.

[3] BRE. 2000. Digest 444 Part 2. *Corrosion of Steel in Concrete: Investigation and Assessment*. Watford, United Kingdom.

[4] UK Concrete Society. 1984. Technical Report 26 *Repair of Concrete Damaged by Reinforcement Corrosion*. Camberley, United Kingdom.

[5] RILEM Recommendation CPC-18. 1998. 'Measurement of hardened concrete carbonation depth'. *Materials & Structures* 21 no 6, pp 453 – 455, November 1998.

3. Results

3.1 Observations of core condition

All cores received were fragmentary (*Figure 5*) with the shear stresses associated with drilling and extraction apparently causing fractures at existing planes of weakness through the concrete. Examination of the fracture surfaces indicates these are associated with a layer of partially corroded hexagonal wire fabric ('chicken netting'), as illustrated by Figure 6. There is some suggestion this mesh may have been poorly encapsulated and not in intimate contact with the surrounding cementitious paste, which may have contributed to its vulnerability to corrosion, but it is not possible to state this absolutely given the physical erosion of material that may have occurred post extraction.

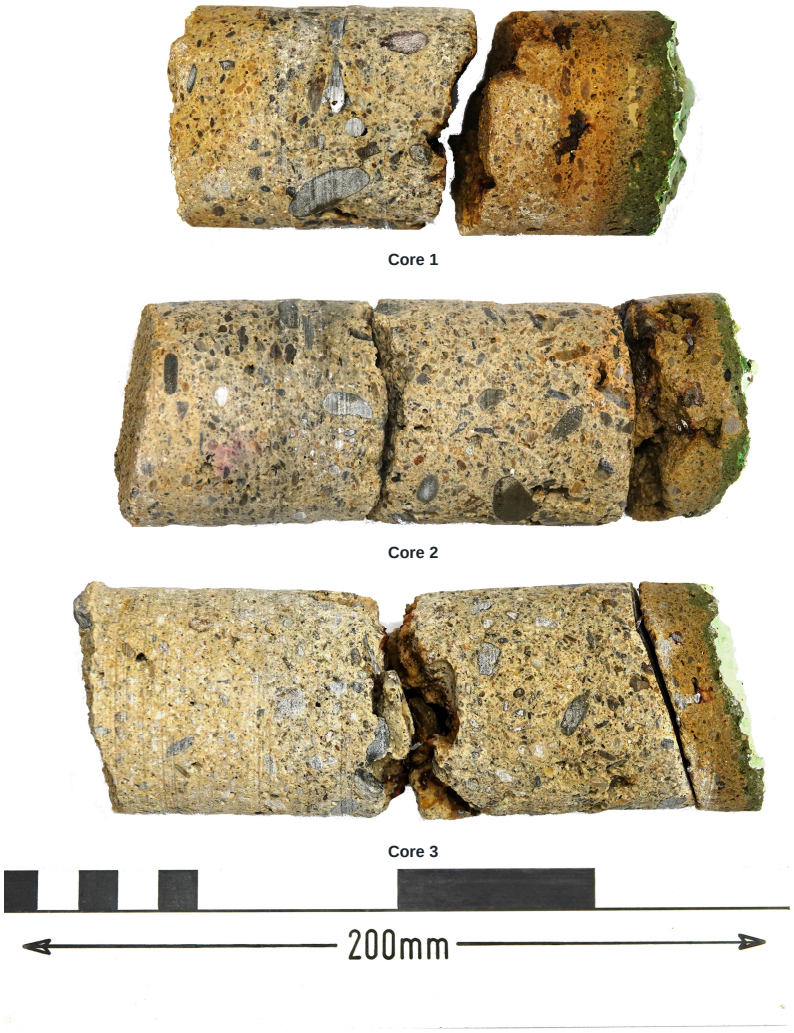


Figure 5 Photographic record of the as-received cores; all were fragmentary due to fracturing at planes of weakness through the concrete during the drilling process.

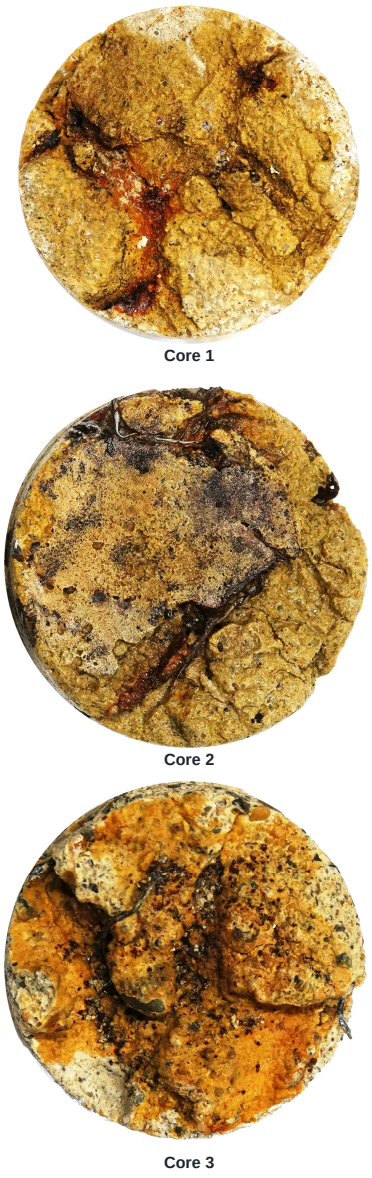


Figure 6 Views of the fracture surfaces within the cores. All correspond to locations where a layer of 'chicken mesh' wire reinforcement was present and heavily corroding.

Other salient observations regarding the nature of the cores include:

- The outer surface of the concrete is finished with a multi-coat solid plaster render, which is also prone to delamination. The final splatter dash texture coat is pigmented green, raising the possibility that the current film-forming paint coating is not the original finish.
- The hexagonal wire mesh is present at multiple depths through the supplied cores, meaning that a single, well-defined reinforcement cover depth cannot be assumed for corrosion risk assessment. The condition of mesh that is encapsulated within sound concrete is variable – some wires appear undamaged while others display evidence of corrosion products bleeding into the cementitious matrix.
- In addition to the fine wire mesh, Core 1 intersected a segment of rigid 3 mm diameter welded wire mesh (Figure 7).
- The concrete aggregate consists of a well-rounded greywacke coarse aggregate with a maximum particle size of approximately 10 mm and a brown quartz sand, possibly ex Ferny Hill. Shell fragments are present within the aggregate suggesting a marine source for the coarse aggregate.
- There is an impression that the cores have intersected multiple concrete placements, that is possibly consistent with small volume batching and amateur construction. It is unclear to what extent the sampled areas may have been hand-formed rather than cast.



Figure 7 Examples of the wire reinforcement extracted from the cores following compressive strength testing.

3.2 Compressive Strength

Specimens for compressive strength determination were prepared from the largest bottom fragment of each core; these are depicted prior to testing by Figure 8.



Figure 8 Prepared specimens for compressive strength, prior to testing.

The results of the testing are presented in Table 1. It is emphasised that:

- Due to the limited aspect ratio of the prepared samples, which fall below the recommended 1.5 minimum, the measured strengths should be considered indicative only, even though a mathematical correction has been applied to account for end restraint effects.
- The strengths are valid for structurally coherent sections of concrete only: As is evident from the photographs of the as-received cores (Figure 5), there appear to be planes of weakness within the body of the dinosaur structure associated with reinforcement corrosion.

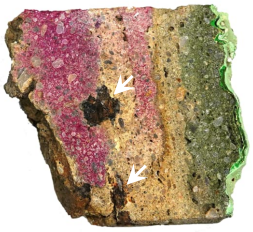
Table 1. Core compressive strength results.

Core Specimens		Core 1	Core 2	Core 3
Length after capping	(mm)	56.4	50.0	60.3
Diameter, mean	(mm)	55.03	55.32	54.08
Aspect ratio (L/D)		1.03	0.90	1.11
Requires correction for L/D?		Yes	Yes	Yes
Reinforcement / other defects present?		Yes[#]	Yes	Yes[&]
Fracture mode (ASTM C39)		Type 1 (normal cones)	Type 1 (normal cones)	Type 1 (normal cones)
Load at Failure	(kN)	98.2	98.3	75.3
Correction factor		0.878	0.837	0.901
Compressive Strength	**(MPa)**	**36.0**	**34.0**	**29.5**

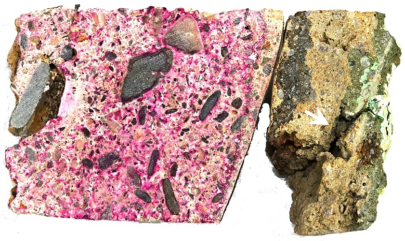
[#] Transverse 3 mm welded wire mesh 10 mm from end of core; fine chicken netting at mid-depth
[&] Fine chicken netting at mid-depth

3.3 Carbonation

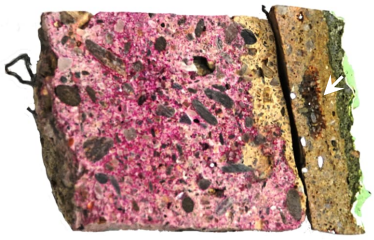
Carbonation of the core samples is variable and intermittent but extends locally to a maximum depth of approximately 40 mm (Figure 9). Typically, the outer solid plaster render is completely carbonated with the front marking the loss of protective alkalinity extending a further 5 – 10 mm into the underlying concrete substrate.



Core 1



Core 2



Core 3

Figure 9 Carbonation depth was determined by spraying phenolphthalein indicator solution on a longitudinal section of freshly exposed concrete cut through the outer core fragments. Carbonated concrete that no longer possesses the residual alkalinity necessary to passivate reinforcement will not be left colourless by application of the indicator, rather than being stained a magenta colour. Note the diffuse rust staining permeating the concrete / plaster render due to corrosion of wire mesh reinforcement (arrowed).

3.4 Chloride Analyses

The results of total chloride analysis of the provided concrete powder samples are stated in Table 2.

All measured concentrations are sufficiently elevated to indicate likely depassivation of the mild steel reinforcement, with a consequent vulnerability to corrosion. The majority of values exceed the typically recognised threshold for a high risk of corrosion.

In the absence of sufficient samples to construct a chloride concentration profile with depth (i.e. a sequence of progressively increasing depth increments from the same sampling location), it is not possible to determine whether this contamination arises from environmental exposure or from 'cast-in' contamination introduced through the use of poorly washed marine aggregates or a calcium chloride set-accelerating admixture.

Given the likelihood that the external concrete surfaces of the dinosaur would have been painted for aesthetic purposes for much of its life, thereby providing an appreciable hindrance to chloride ingress from wind-blown marine aerosols, cast-in contamination is considered a plausible and, on balance, more likely source. This interpretation is also consistent with the circumstantial evidence of observation of shell fragments in the concrete cores.

It is notable that, if the source of contamination is cast-in, no depth of concrete cover over the reinforcement would provide protection against this durability mechanism. The variation observed in the concentrations reported likely reflects the inconsistency associated with multiple small batches of concrete and the previously noted mixed construction methods.

Table 2. Chloride contamination analyses of powdered concrete samples.

Slide Sampling Location[&]	Client Reference	Reported Depth Increment	Chloride Concentration[#] (%w/w on concrete)
'Tail' *Walls supporting stair landing*	A	0 (?) – 40 mm	0.289
	B	0 (?) – 40 mm	0.358
'Belly'	C	0 (?) – 80 to 100 mm	0.236
	D	0 (?) – 80 to 100 mm	0.161
'Neck'	Es	0 (?) – 30 mm	0.143
	Fd	0 (?) – 50 mm	0.086

[&] Refer to Figure 2

[#] Chloride concentrations generally considered benign for risk of depassivation of mild steel (< 0.05 %w/w)[3,4] are printed in green. Concentrations associated with a 'high risk' of reinforcement corrosion (≥ 0.15 %w/w) under most circumstances are highlighted in red, while intermediate values that are sufficiently elevated to create a possible threat are shown in orange.

4. Conclusions

Based on the elevated chloride concentrations, observed corrosion of wire mesh reinforcement, and associated planes of weakness evident in the cores, there is reason for concern regarding the future durability of the Marlow Park dinosaur slide. It is a reasonable expectation that there may be an ongoing cost burden for a maintenance-led durability strategy to preserve the structure in good condition. Furthermore, there is no immediately obvious solution to mitigate the risk posed by the presence of apparently pervasive cast-in chloride contamination.

Without greater knowledge of the construction details for the slide – none of the reinforcement observed in the samples could be considered structurally essential and it is possible the dinosaur is essentially a mass concrete element – WSP is not able to offer an opinion on whether the deterioration noted is sufficient to constitute a safety risk. However, it is suggested this question is investigated further. At minimum, a detailed visual and auditory inspection for any sign of cracking or incipient delamination that may presage concrete spalling is recommended

I trust this information is helpful to your assessment of the slide. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding the results presented.

Kind Regards

Neil Lee

Neil Lee
Technical Principal – Concrete Materials

DRAFT GRANTS POLICY

Department: Corporate Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1 The purpose of this paper is to seek Council approval to consult on a draft of an updated Dunedin City Council's (DCC) Grants Policy (the Policy). The draft Policy is attached as Attachment A.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2 At its meeting on 12 February 2026, Council agreed to a set of new core policy settings for grant making. To reflect these settings, Council directed staff to review and update the Grants Management Policy, which had been in place since 2019.

3 The draft has been renamed from the Grants Management Policy to the Grants Policy to reflect the overarching nature of the Policy as a strategic framework for the governance, allocation, and administration of DCC grants. The Policy covers all Contestable Grants and Funding Agreements except for Otago the Museum Levy.

4 Four key matters relating to the draft Policy were raised at a workshop for Councillors on 27 August 2026 and are outlined in this report.

5 This report also details the in-house legal advice obtained on the level of consultation required for the draft Policy.

6 If approved by Council, DCC staff will proceed with public consultation on the draft Policy through its Long-Term Plan process.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council:

a) **Notes** the contents of this paper.

b) **Notes** the renaming of the Dunedin City Council's Grants Management Policy to Grants Policy.

c) **Approves** the draft Dunedin City Council Grants Policy for public consultation through the Long-Term Plan process.

BACKGROUND

7 On 12 February 2026, Council agreed to a set of core policy settings to improve clarity, transparency, and strategic alignment across the DCC's grants system. A copy of the Council paper is attached as Attachment B.

8 The policy settings include:

- a definition of what constitutes a Council grant,
- confirmation of Council's role and purpose in grant-making,
- agreed priorities for grant-making,
- confirmation of Council's preferred approach to delivering grants,
- confirmation of Council's preferred governance structure for grant decisions, and
- confirmation of Council's preferred method for determining the overall grants budget.

9 Following agreement on the core policy settings, Council requested that staff update the Grants Management Policy to reflect the agreed policy settings.

10 The Minutes from the Council meeting outlining the resolutions in full are included as Attachment C.

11 The draft Policy has been renamed from the Grants Management Policy to the Grants Policy to reflect its overarching purpose as a framework for the governance, allocation, and administration of DCC grants. This is a shift from the previous administrative and operational focus of the policy.

DISCUSSION

12 The Policy is an overarching document that sets the framework for how Council or its delegates do grant making. The Policy covers all grants (Contestable Grants and Funding Agreements, except the Otago Museum Levy), including setting parameters for grants that are funded by the DCC but administered by a third party.

13 The Policy does not make any decisions around budgets or funding intentions, and states that these are decided by Council through the Annual Plan and Long-Term Plan processes.

14 Alongside Council's agreed core policy settings, updates have been made to the Policy to reflect feedback from those responsible for administering Contestable Grants, including what works well and where improvements might help support operational efficiency.

15 Key changes proposed to the Policy include:

a) aligning the Policy with Council's resolutions on the policy settings for grant making, including Council's definition of a grant,

b) clarifying that grant eligibility criteria sits outside of the policy (while maintaining some overarching requirements and exclusions) and must be approved by Council or its delegate,

c) ensuring stronger alignment with the Council's strategies (including Te Taki Haruru and the Zero Carbon Policy) and Long Term Plan,

d) resolving operational issues in the current Policy (including clarifying whether an applicant can apply to two different grant funds in one financial year),

e) allowing grants to have rolling dates (where processes and timeframes are clearly defined),

f) making some previous overarching exclusions optional,

g) providing guidance for staff on the eligibility criteria and processes,

h) outlining the agreed delegations and processes for contestable grants over and under $5,000 (the Grants Subcommittee allocates mid-tier grants, multi-year, and large grants, and DCC staff are delegated to approve and allocate small grants $5,000 and under).

i) allowing applicants to apply for more than one contestable grant per year (where this is permitted in eligibility criteria), and

j) clarifying definitions of terms used within the policy.

Updates to the draft Grants Policy following the 27 August Council workshop

16 Following the 27 August 2026 Council workshop, the following changes have been made to the draft Policy on four key matters:

17 Prioritisation of local groups:

- Wording in the draft policy (section 4.1) states prioritisation of funding will be given to local groups but does not exclude national groups or organisations that have local branches in Ōtepoti Dunedin.
- This wording is to recognise that excluding all national groups may deter national organisations from coming to Ōtepoti Dunedin and may impact operations at a local level for larger, national groups, particularly in areas of health support groups.

18 Alcohol sponsorship:

- The draft Policy now states (section 13.9) that events or activities where an alcohol sponsor has naming rights will not be funded. Exceptions can be made where a strong case is provided to and approved by Council.
- Previous wording that stated applications without alcohol sponsorship of any kind will be prioritised has been removed. This is to reflect feedback around not wanting to penalise groups who receive small amounts of alcohol sponsorship funding and where alcohol is not a key part of the event/activity.
- This approach also avoids impacting groups who may seek small alcohol sponsorship to help diversify their revenue streams to avoid being reliant on a single funder.

19 Financial disclosures:

- Draft wording (section 14) around financial disclosures has been included for Council's consideration.
- The draft Policy position is that grant categories that are open to applications from private individuals may request financial disclosures if appropriate.

- Where requesting financial disclosures are required for a grant application, the draft Policy states this must be clearly outlined in the grant criteria alongside the application process.

- The draft Policy is clear that requiring financial disclosures will not always result in a funding application being declined, but that it may impact on the grant amount being awarded.

- As this clause in the Policy is only relevant to private individuals, it avoids impacting on groups or organisations who may have been working to build financial reserves.

20 Agreement of funding criteria for third parties who deliver DCC funds:

- The draft Policy now includes wording that states that grant criteria for any grants funded by the DCC but administered by a third party must be agreed with the DCC (section 8). The draft states that criteria should include agreement on what the funding can be spent on and if there are any exclusions.

Legal guidance is that the draft Policy should be formally consulted on

21 In-house legal advice was sought on the level of consultation required for the draft Policy. The advice received was that the community would need to be consulted through the Special Consultative Procedure as outlined in the Local Government Act 2002 due to likely high interest in changes to the draft policy. This will be undertaken as part of the DCC's upcoming Long-Term Plan process, where the community are asked questions for feedback on specific topics.

Annual Grants Report

22 In addition to seeking feedback on the Policy, an Annual Grants Report was proposed to Council at the 27 August 2026 workshop and is included in the draft Policy.

23 The purpose of the Annual Grants Report is to:

a) increase visibility of where and how grants funding is being spent,

b) provide Council with regular analysis of what is being achieved through funding, and

c) provide data to support Council on future strategic decisions around funding.

24 The first Annual Grants Report was provided to the Grants Subcommittee on 22 September 2026.

25 General feedback from the Grants Subcommittee was that the Annual Grants Report was well received. A copy of the report is provided as Attachment D.

OPTIONS

Option One – Approves the draft Grants Policy (with or without amendments) for consultation

26 Approve the draft Grants Policy (with or without amendments) for community consultation through the Long-Term Plan process.

Advantages

- Embeds Council's priorities and position on grant making.
- Provides a stronger framework for delegates (the Grants Subcommittee and DCC staff) to make decisions.
- Provides an opportunity to engage with the community on the draft Policy.

Disadvantages

- Feedback from the community may be more limited as the policy will be amongst other topics consulted on through the Long-Term Plan process.
- There may be an adjustment period for Council delegates using and applying the updated Policy.

Option Two – Does not approve the draft Grants Policy for consultation

27 This option would mean continuing to operate under the Grants Management Policy 2019.

Advantages

- Grant applicants and decision-makers will continue to operate under a familiar policy framework.

Disadvantages

- The policy that guides DCC grant making will not align with Council's agreed policy settings.
- There would be a missed opportunity to strengthen the overarching grants framework.
- Council's delegates will continue to operate under a policy that is not fully fit-for-purpose and does not address some of the key issues raised by Council during the review of the Policy.

NEXT STEPS

28 If Council decides not to approve consultation on the draft Policy, the DCC will continue to operate under the current Grants Management Policy 2019.

29 If approved, the draft Policy will be updated to reflect any resolutions on amendments.

30 If Council decides to proceed with consultation on the draft Policy through the Long-Term Plan process, a set of consultation question(s) will be developed to seek community feedback on the proposed changes.

31 Following consultation, Council will be provided with an analysis of the feedback received, the Policy will be updated to reflect feedback, and Council will be asked to approve a final draft of the Policy.

Signatories

Author:	Meghan Cooper - Kaitātari Kaupapa Here Matua - Senior Policy Analyst
Authoriser:	Gina Hu'akau - Community Partnerships Manager Nicola Morand - Manahautū (General Manager Community and Strategy)

Attachments

	Title	Page
⇩A	Draft Grants Policy	66
⇩B	Grants Review Council paper - 12 February 2026	89
⇩C	Grants Review Council meeting Minutes 12 February 2026	100
⇩D	Annual Grants Report	104

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	✓	☐	☐
Economic Development Strategy	✓	☐	☐
Environment Strategy	✓	☐	☐
Arts and Culture Strategy	✓	☐	☐
3 Waters Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Future Development Strategy	✓	☐	☐
Integrated Transport Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Parks and Recreation Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Other strategic projects/policies/plans	☐	☐	✓

The draft policy has been updated to align with Te Taki Haruru, the DCC's Māori Strategic Framework, and its Zero Carbon Policy.

Māori Impact Statement

The Policy seeks to ensure grant funding is equitable for Māori, including through alignment with the principles, values, and key intents of Te Taki Haruru that have been identified to be most important to consider in grant funding.

Sustainability

The draft grants Policy has been updated to align better with the DCC's Zero Carbon Policy, including through stating that grants funding should, where possible, support applications that either reduce emissions or have no impact on emissions in Ōtepoti Dunedin. The draft policy provides some examples of specific activities that could contribute to the DCC's Zero Carbon Plan 2030, and states that any application that is deemed to be at odds with the DCC's emissions goals should be carefully assessed and have possible ways to reduce emissions identified before proceeding.

LTP/Annual Plan / Financial Strategy /Infrastructure Strategy

The draft Policy gives effect to a key Level of Service in the DCC's Long Term Plan 2025 - 2034: the DCC provides grants to the community to support community wellbeing.

While the updated Long Term Plan is yet to be finalised, it is anticipated that the draft Policy will be in compliance. The draft Policy broadly supports Council's commitments to its core services.

Financial considerations

The draft Policy does not make any decisions around budgets or funding intentions, which the draft policy states are decided by Council through the Annual Plan and Long-Term Plan processes.

Significance

Legal advice has deemed any changes to the Grants Management Policy to be of high interest to the community in terms of the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

SUMMARY OF CONSIDERATIONS
Engagement – external Community hui (meetings), a sector survey, and facilitated workshops were carried out in the early stages of the grants review to assess whether the DCC's grant system was fit-for-purpose. Feedback from the community included the indication that the grants system lacked a coherent policy foundation.
Engagement - internal The DCC's Corporate Policy team has worked with the Finance team on identifying current grant budgets. The following DCC teams who currently manage or administer contestable grants were consulted throughout the drafting process: Events, Advisory Services, Ara Toi, Waste and Environmental Solutions, Enterprise Dunedin and Community Partnerships. Teams who manage funding agreements were also contacted.
Risks: Legal / Health and Safety etc. In-house legal guidance has been sought to determine the level of consultation required. Some initial advice has also been provided on the draft policy.
Conflict of Interest No conflict of interest has been identified.
Community Boards As funding agreements, Community Board grants are covered in the grants policy, but any impacts on funding to Community Boards are anticipated to be limited as funding and budget decisions sit outside of the Policy.

PLACEHOLDER – TITLE PAGE

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INTRODUCTION TO GRANT MAKING IN ŌTEPOTI DUNEDIN

Across Ōtepoti Dunedin, people continue to show a strong commitment to their local communities. Residents, volunteers, and community groups contribute their time, skills, and energy to initiatives that reflect their aspirations for a thriving and connected city. The Dunedin City Council (the DCC) recognises and values this commitment. The DCC aims to support this work through a grant making approach that is fair, accessible, and meaningful for our communities. Grant making is not only a funding mechanism but a way of supporting the people and organisations who contribute to the vibrancy and resilience of our city.

During the first Covid 19 lockdown, Ōtepoti Dunedin's community sector collaborated to produce Funding for Change in Ōtepoti (Funding for Change, 2020). This work brought together the experiences and insights of local groups and highlighted funding approaches that support communities to succeed. The Funding for Change report emphasised the importance of strong relationships, cultural competency, understanding Te Ao Māori and Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and ensuring funding processes are accessible and equitable. Funding for Change also reinforced the value of strategic investment, flexibility to support collaboration, trust, and simple, clear processes.

In 2022, the community sector produced Be the Change, a report that looks at how funding systems can be shifted to create change and equity. The report highlights key themes in funding equity as: honouring te Tiriti o Waitangi and seeking equitable outcomes for Māori; embedding a commitment to equity in funding systems; empowering grassroots community-led development; recognising people are the heart of community; shifting from consultation to collaboration and co-creation; and harnessing data and stories to enable and measure change. Themes from both Be the Change and Funding for Change continue to guide the DCC's approach to grant making and reflect our commitment to working alongside local communities.

In February 2026, Council agreed to a set of new core policy settings and an overarching purpose for grant making, including a shared definition of what a grant is and the role Council plays. By clearly outlining the application and approval processes, this policy provides assurance to the community that Council is committed to transparent decision making and the responsible management of all grant making programmes.

The DCC's grants programme is a key tool for Council to invest in community outcomes. Through a mix of Contestable Grants and Funding Agreements, Council can respond to the diverse needs of Ōtepoti Dunedin and support initiatives that positively contribute to outcomes for the community. Grant making is not intended to replace services that are the responsibility of central government, such as hospitals or schools. Instead, it ensures that ratepayers' money is used responsibly to enhance community outcomes and support local aspirations.

This version of the Grants Policy 2026 replaces the Grants Management Policy 2019. The Grants Policy guides Council or its delegate in the administration and allocation of grant funding and outlines some of the requirements applicants need to meet. The updated policy reflects Council's ongoing commitment to working with its local community.

As part of the process to update this policy, the DCC commissioned Fundsorter - an organisation that helps community groups find funding and supports funders to make informed, strategic decisions – to produce a report that offers a clear picture of how grant funding flows across Ōtepoti Dunedin. This report shows where funding reaches communities, where gaps remain, and how the DCC's role fits within the wider funding ecosystem.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE GRANTS SYSTEM

The table below sets out the roles of Council, DCC staff, and the public/applicants in the grants system. These roles support grant making decisions that are aligned with Council's strategic priorities and administered in a consistent, transparent, and defensible manner.

Current delegation settings, including the role of the Grants Subcommittee in approving grants over $5,000 and DCC staff for grants $5,000 and under, are outlined in Appendix One.

Council	For the purpose of this policy, Council is defined as the decision-making body made up of Elected Members. Council is responsible for the governance of the city and setting the strategic direction. Council's role in the grants system is primarily **governance and strategic oversight**. Council is responsible for: • Setting overall funding levels for grants (annually) through its Annual Plan or Long Term Plan process (budgets). • Setting the strategic priorities for grant making through approving grant types. • Approving the overarching Grants Policy on a three-year cycle (or as updates are required). • Making or delegating decisions on grant applications (for example, through the Grants Subcommittee or the DCC). • Making or delegating decisions on individual grant allocations (for example, through a grants subcommittee).
DCC Staff	For the purpose of this policy, the DCC is the organisation that handles day-to-day operations and delivery of services, made up of staff, led by the Chief Executive, and governed by Council. DCC staff are responsible for the **day-to-day delivery of the grants system**, in line with Council direction. Staff responsibilities include: • Administering and operating grants in accordance to the direction set by Council. • Ensuring any changes to grant settings or processes are approved through the appropriate governance channels. • Ensuring grant opportunities, processes, and funding decisions are clearly communicated to the public. • Updating the Grants Policy on a three-year cycle (or as required). • Providing Council with a whole-of-organisation Annual Grants Report, prior to final budget deliberations and decisions. • Exercising delegated authority to allocate grants within approved budgets as set out in Appendix One.
The public/applicants	Members of the public/grant applicants have a responsibility to: • Provide accurate information when applying for grants (including information on grants currently or previously received). • Comply with any conditions of funding, including providing timely reporting and information about how money granted has been spent.

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GRANTS POLICY			
Approved by:			
Sponsor:			
Department responsible:			
Date approved:		**Reviewed:**	
Next review date:		**DOC ID:**	

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PURPOSE

- The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear and consistent framework for the governance, allocation, and administration of Dunedin City Council (DCC) grants in line with Council's agreed role and expectations.
- The Grants Policy aims to provide assurance to the community, ratepayers, and other interested parties, of Council's commitment to transparent decision-making and the responsible management of all its grants funding programmes.
- This policy gives effect to the DCC's commitment to the Treaty of Waitangi through Te Taki Haruru, the DCC's Māori Strategic Framework.

CONTEXT

- The DCC makes a significant contribution to benefit the local community, and its natural and built environment through two types of grant funding:
    - Contestable Grants (annual grants that are open to the public), and
    - Funding Agreements (including but not limited to Legislative Grants, grants funded by other agencies, Service Level Agreement types, Property Arrangements, and grants to other DCC related companies/trusts).
- The Grants Policy supports how Council invests funding through the grants programme.
- The Grants Policy recognises the significant value local groups and organisations contribute to the city, alongside the importance of protecting our natural and built environment.
- Definitions of terms used in this policy are included as Appendix Two.

ROLE OF COUNCIL AND THE DCC

- The Grants Policy recognises the Council's agreed role in grant making as:
    - **Stewardship –** ensuring public funds are allocated fairly, transparently, and strategically.
    - **Partnership –** working with community organisations as co-delivers of community outcomes.
    - **Enabler –** reducing barriers and administrative burdens.
    - **Accountability –** maintaining oversight and alignment with Council priorities.
- The Grants Policy also recognises the Council's agreed definition of a grant as:
    - A non-repayable financial contribution to an external organisation or individual for a specific project that advances strategic goals the Council cannot deliver alone. It supports community-led activities and services that deliver a measurable public benefit, as outlined in the Council's Long Term Plan, without expectation of commercial return. While primarily targeting not-for-profit organisations, grants may support for-profit activities where a clear and distinct community benefit is delivered and is demonstrably separated from private gain.
- As shown in the diagram below, the DCC has a range of responsibilities to the community. Funding other organisations and individuals to deliver services to achieve shared community outcomes is one part of the DCC's role.

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FUNDING PRINCIPLES

- The following funding principles will be applied throughout the processing of all DCC grants:
    - the DCC will be a part funder, rather than a main funder.
    - funding decision-making will be flexible and responsive to community needs, including through eligibility criteria that can be adapted with Council approval.
    - funding will be accessible and fair, ensuring all groups and organisations have an opportunity to apply for and receive support.
    - funding will uphold the values of Te Taki Haruru, through a commitment to outcomes for mana whenua and the wider Māori community.
    - funding will encourage partnerships and pathways that contributes towards positive outcomes for the community and community resilience.
    - funding processes will support community aspirations through meaningful and accessible opportunities for people to be involved.
    - funding will acknowledge and celebrate the social, cultural, and ethnic values of Ōtepoti Dunedin's communities.

SCOPE

- The Grants Policy outlines the processes for the administration and allocation of all grants funding.

- The DCC uses two funding models (Contestable Grants and Funding Agreements), which are both covered under this overarching policy.
- The Grants Policy outlines the responsibilities and obligations of any group or individual that is delegated to approve grants funding.
- The responsibilities of the Grants Subcommittee are defined in the DCC's Committee Structure and Delegations Manual (page 29).
- There are several different grant types, each with individual eligibility criteria and expectations or requirements of applicants. Eligibility criteria for individual grant types is approved by Council or its delegate.
- The drafting of this policy has been informed through engagement with Council, DCC staff, and the public.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

- The Grants Policy seeks to ensure all grants funding:
    - supports community engagement as outlined in the DCC's Long Term Plan,
    - complies with the role of Council as outlined in the Local Government Act 2002, and
    - encourages the creation and delivery of local community-focused groups, initiatives, and activities that contribute to Council priorities.

Te Taki Haruru

- Grants funding presents an opportunity to support mana whenua and the wider Māori community to thrive, through supporting initiatives, projects, and events that positively contribute to community outcomes.
- There is an expectation that funding aligns with the principles, values, and key intents of Te Taki Haruru, the DCC's Māori Strategic Framework.
- The Grants Policy seeks to apply the principles of Te Taki Haruru when considering funding for all groups, ensuring an approach to funding that is transparent and enables equitable access.

Zero Carbon Policy

- To align with DCC's Zero Carbon Policy, grants funding should, where possible, support applications that either reduce emissions or have no impact on emissions in Ōtepoti Dunedin.
- Types of applications that may reduce greenhouse gas emissions could include those that contribute towards the DCC's Zero Carbon Plan, such as applications that:
    - involve using resources in a more circular way,

- build more resilient and connected communities, including through resource sharing, and access to local amenities,
- support people to switch some journeys they currently make by driving to use of public transport, walking, bicycles, e-bikes or electric scooters,
- improve food resilience in Ōtepoti Dunedin or that encourage residents to make more sustainable food choices, or
- encourage uptake of more efficient energy storage and generation systems by communities.

- These examples have been identified as important ways to reduce emissions. However, there are many other ways to reduce emissions that may also be considered when grant making.
- Any grant application that is directly at odds with Councils emissions reduction goals should be carefully assessed and have possible ways to reduce emissions identified before proceeding.

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POLICY

This section outlines the policy requirements, including the responsibilities of Council or its delegate at all stages of preparing for and processing grant applications.

Further guidance for DCC staff is included as Appendix Three.

1. Funding

1.1. Grant categories are determined and confirmed by Council.

1.2. Grant budgets are approved during the Annual Plan / Long Term Plan process and grants awarded may have individual funding periods.

1.3. In general, the DCC is a part funder rather than a main funder. However, there may be circumstances where the DCC will fully fund an application, including to align with funding approaches agreed to by Council. Guidance for staff on when exceptions may apply is included as Appendix Three.

1.4. DCC grants funding allocation is subject to change. Visit the DCC's website for the information.

2. Decision making

2.1. Council or its delegate makes all decisions on grants. Grant delegation settings as at X date are included as Appendix One.

2.2. Previously awarded contestable grants are published through the DCC's public notification process. Successful applicants will be made aware that these details are shared publicly.

3. Conflicts of interest

3.1. Any groups or individuals delegated authority to approve grants funding must disclose actual or potential conflicts of interest as they arise.

3.2. The DCC has a full and robust process to identify and manage conflicts of interest, as outlined in its Conflicts of Interest Policy.

4. Who can apply for DCC grants

4.1. Priority will be given to fund local groups or organisations, however national groups or organisations that work in or have local branches in Ōtepoti Dunedin can still apply and be considered for grant funding.

4.2. Unless otherwise stated in individual grant criteria, the following are ineligible to apply for DCC grants:

4.2.1. political parties,

4.2.2. DCC staff for applications to run DCC events or community services, or

4.2.3. other local authorities, government agencies, or public sector entities.

5. Contestable Grants and Funding Agreements

5.1. A full list of Contestable Grants and Funding Agreements are included as part of the Annual Grants Report.

6. Eligibility criteria

6.1. All eligibility criteria must be approved by Council or its delegate (including any subsequent changes following initial approval).

6.2. All Contestable Grants must have their own eligibility and accountability criteria.

6.3. Criteria for Contestable Grants is available to the public and detailed on the DCC's website**.**

7. Funds administered by the DCC on behalf of a third party

7.1. Some grants use third party funding and are administered by the DCC on behalf of the third party.

7.2. Grants administered by the DCC on behalf of third parties have their own criteria that sit outside of the Grants Policy. Third party grant criteria and processes must be agreed with the third party/funder and detailed on the DCC's website.

8. Funds administered by third parties

8.1. Some grants use DCC funding and are administered by third parties.

8.2. Criteria for grants administered by a third party must be agreed with the DCC and detailed on the DCC's website. Criteria should include agreement on what the funding can be spent on, and if there are any exclusions.

9. Application of this policy

9.1. Application of this policy cannot be in conflict with any underlying legislation or other legal documentation establishing such grant.

10. Otago Museum Levy

10.1. The grant to the Otago Museum through the Otago Museum Trust Board Act 1996 sits outside of this policy.

11. All DCC contestable grant criteria must:

11.1. Be clearly defined in accessible language and publicly available. Accessible copies (including printed copies) must be made available to applicants if requested.

11.2. State clear opening and closing dates outlining the timeframes for when applicants can apply. Any exceptions to this must be agreed to by Council.

11.3. Outline the requirements and format needed for the funding application.

11.4. Provide a list of documentation applicants are required to include. Latest reviewed or audited financial accounts and balance sheets may be required for grants of a significant value.

11.5. Outline reporting and accountability requirements for successful applicants, including when a report back is required and in what form.

11.6. Clearly outline any dates that an approved activity must begin by (if applicable).

12. All applications must demonstrate:

12.1. The positive contribution funding would have on the local community.

12.2. Alignment with the Council's strategies and Long Term Plan.

12.3. How the applicant will contribute financially to what they are applying for. In-kind contributions can be considered.

12.4. A clear and distinct community benefit that is clearly separated from private gain (where funding would support for-profit activities).

12.5. Suitable information to support Council or its delegate in being able to assess the application and make an informed funding decision.

13. The DCC does not fund:

13.1. Any grant application that may be deemed unethical, infringes the rights of an individual or group, or that is considered detrimental to community welfare.

13.2. Any grant application that poses a conflict of interest to Council or its delegate that cannot be appropriately managed.

13.3. Any grant application that is directly at odds with Council's strategies or key directions, including Te Taki Haruru, or long-term plans.

13.4. Any grant application that is primarily for a religious ministry, political, or fundraising purpose. Exceptions may be made by Council or its delegate in cases where the application has a wider community benefit beyond its primary purpose.

13.5. Any grant application that has already commenced or is for equipment that has been purchased before the funding decision has been made (unless allowance has been made and the process is clearly outlined in the grant criteria).

13.6. Any grant application for initiatives that are within the responsibilities and functions of central government agencies or publicly funded systems, including but not limited to core education and health care. Further guidance around this exclusion can be found in Appendix Three.

13.7. Any grant application for activity that is illegal.

13.8. Any grant application that includes the use of DCC grant funding for the purchase or supply of alcohol.

13.9. Any grant application where an alcohol sponsor has naming rights will not be funded unless a strong case is provided to and approved by Council. This exclusion refers to naming rights only and does not extend all applications that have some form of alcohol sponsorship.

14. Financial disclosures for private individuals

14.1. Where grants allow applications from private individuals, the process may require applicants to provide financial disclosures. These must be clearly set out in the grant's eligibility criteria and documentation requirements and application processes must be clearly outlined.

14.2. Financial disclosures will not always result in the decline of funding but may limit how much an individual can receive.

15. Applications for more than one contestable grant

15.1. Generally, applicants can only apply to one contestable grant fund once within a single financial year (1 July – 30 June).

15.2. If an applicant wishes to apply for more than one contestable grant fund within the same financial year, they must declare any previous or current DCC funding being received. This declaration must include in-kind contributions such as reduced rent or rates relief. The applicant should explain why they are seeking access to more than one fund (for example, because the application is for a different project).

15.3. Council or its delegate will consider each application on its merits while also protecting the availability of funds for the wider community. Internal financial systems may also be used to check applications for funding already being received from the DCC.

15.4. It is at the discretion of Council or its delegate on whether funding is approved.

16. Accountability requirements

16.1. As the DCC is responsible for managing public money and its distribution to the local community through grants, grant recipients must meet accountability requirements to ensure funding is being used appropriately, transparently, and for its intended purpose.

16.2. It is the DCC's expectation that funded groups ensure their own compliance with relevant legislation and regulations, including the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015. Any concerns about compliance may result in current or future applications being declined.

16.3. All DCC grants funding, including in-kind contributions such as reduced rent on DCC owned buildings or rates relief, must be appropriately acknowledged. The way funding is acknowledged may differ depending on the recipient and the amount of funding received, but where possible should include public acknowledgement, including where applicable through the applicant's Annual Report.

16.4. All recipients of DCC grants funding are required to complete an accountability report and provide any other funding expenditure or evaluation documents requested by Council or its delegate. These must be completed either:

16.4.1. as soon as the funds are spent, or

16.4.2. within 12 months of receipt of grants funding, whether allocated funds were spent or not.

16.5. Any unspent funds must be returned to the DCC unless there is prior agreement for funds to be carried over.

16.6. Any discrepancies in funding (for example, where funds are spent on something that wasn't approved in the application) may result in a request that part or all the allocated funding is returned to the DCC.

16.7. A failure to meet all relevant terms and conditions associated with DCC grants funding may result in funding being stopped, the decline of future funding, and/or the repayment of part or all of the allocated funding.

16.8. Any exceptions to these accountability requirements must be detailed in the DCC grant criteria.

17. DCC responsibilities

17.1. Information on DCC grants funding opportunities, eligibility criteria, application closing dates, and associated application forms and documentation will be made publicly available on the DCC website. Notification of funding opportunities will also be advertised within appropriate local media channels.

17.2. DCC staff will be available to provide information and support to ensure all eligible applicants have a full and fair opportunity to apply for DCC funding. This includes offering opportunities for the public to attend workshops or meet with staff.

17.3. Council or its delegate will review all applications that have met the eligibility criteria.

17.4. There will be a clear process to assess each grant that is fair and transparent, within budget, and free from any real or perceived conflict of interest.

17.5. Any group or individual that is delegated authority by Council to approve grants will ensure records of all grants funding applications, assessments, approvals, funding terms and conditions, allocation and expenditure of funding be kept in accordance with the DCC's standard operating procedures.

17.6. The application process for contestable grants, from the closing deadline until notification of an outcome, is expected to take a maximum of nine weeks. Applicants will be informed should it be necessary to extend this period.

17.7. Late applications to the Contestable Grants process will not be considered. If an application has been submitted on time but is missing information or documentation, the applicant will be informed and allowed time for the additional information to be provided.

17.8. All applicants will be made aware of the outcome of their application and provided with an explanation for a declined application.

17.9. All decisions made by Council or its delegate are considered final.

18. Annual Grants Report

18.1. DCC staff will provide Council with an Annual Grants Report to support decision making around funding through the Annual Plan and Long Term Plan process.

18.2. The Annual Grants Report will provide Council with regular analysis of what is being achieved through grants funding and related Community Outcomes where possible. This includes through providing budget and expenditure information on all contestable grants and current funding agreements.

18.3. Further information on the Annual Grants Report is included as Appendix Four.

19. Monitoring and evaluation plan of the Grants Policy

19.1. Council holds primary responsibility for overseeing the ongoing implementation and compliance of the Grants Policy.

19.2. The Grants Policy shall be reviewed at a minimum every 3 years, and/or in conjunction with the DCC's Long Term Plan process. Reviews should also be undertaken at any time when there is a significant change to the funding environment (for example, through government reforms or restructuring within the organisation).

19.3. At the time of a review, a full list of all grant types and criteria will be provided to Council to ensure funding models and grant categories continue to meet both Council's strategic direction and the needs of the community.

19.4. This policy will also be updated if grant delegation settings (Appendix One) change.

19.5. With Council approval, practices outside of this policy may be permissible when in response to an extraordinary event, such as a civil defence emergency.

19.6. This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- The DCC Committee Structure and Delegations Manual.
- Staff Delegations and General Procedures.
- The DCC Conflict of Interest Policy.
- The DCC Gifts and Hospitality Policy.
- The DCC Koha Policy.

Relevant Legislation:	Local Government Act 2002, Health and Safety at Work Act 2015, Charities Act 2005, Incorporated Societies Act 2022, Income Tax Act 2007, Employment Relations Act 2000, Otago Museum Trust Board Act 1996, Waste Minimisation Act 2008.

Associated Documents:	

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Appendix One: Grant delegation settings as at X date

On 12 February 2026, the Council:

- **Confirmed** its preferred Governance Structure for Grant Decisions as a Grants Subcommittee + Staff Delegations + Council Oversight where:
  - staff allocate small grants under delegation.
  - a Grants Subcommittee (which includes community representatives) allocates mid-tier grants, multi-year, and large grants.

- The DCC Chief Executive has been delegated to approve and allocate small grants ($5,000 and under) in line with this policy and specific grant criteria.
- A Grants Subcommittee is delegated to approve all contestable grants over $5,000. The responsibilities of the Grants Subcommittee are defined in the DCC's Committee Structure and Delegations Manual (page 29).
- If individual grant criteria allow for funding over $5,000, all funding decisions for that grant must go through the Grants Subcommittee (even if the specific application being considered is for funding $5,000 or under).
- Panels can support staff and the Grants Subcommittee to make decisions through recommendations but are unable to approve grants unless a specific Council resolution has been made to allow this.

Process for assessing contestable grants

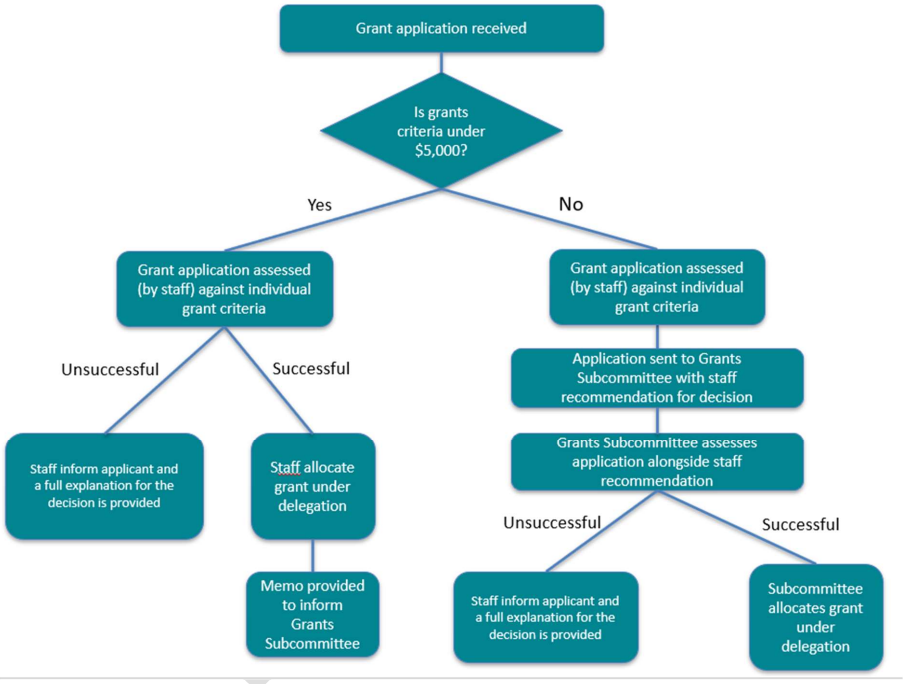
- All contestable grant applications will be initially assessed by DCC staff against the individual grant criteria.

Process for contestable grants $5,000 and under

- Following assessment, DCC staff will make a recommendation to the responsible General Manager on whether an application should be approved or declined.
- All grants $5,000 and under will be signed off by the General Manager responsible for the team who is administering the grant. The General Manager will consider staff recommendations and the eligibility criteria of the individual grant.
- If a grants $5,000 and under is successful, staff will provide a memorandum for noting to inform the Grants Subcommittee of the approved grant and subsequently inform the applicant.
- If a grant is unsuccessful, staff will inform the applicant and provide a full explanation for the decision.

Process for contestable grants over $5,000

- Following assessment, DCC staff will prepare a grant report, which includes a recommendation on whether the grant should be approved or declined and requests a decision by the Grants Subcommittee.
- The Grants Subcommittee take the staff recommendation and grant criteria into consideration when making its decision.
- If the grant is successful, the Grants Subcommittee will allocate the grant and DCC staff will inform the applicant.
- If the grant is unsuccessful, the Grants Subcommittee will let DCC staff know, who will then inform the applicant and provide a full explanation for the decision.



Appendix Two: Definitions

For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions apply:

- **Activity**
  - An activity is a specific task or action undertaken to achieve or contribute to a defined goal.
- **Annual Plan**
  - Councils produce Annual Plans to provide an update on what has changed since the Council adopted its most recent LTP and outlines what it plans to deliver in the coming financial year.
- **Community benefit**
  - A community benefit helps contribute to the DCC's community outcome priorities as defined in its Long Term Plan.
- **Contestable Grants**
  - The DCC awards some grants through a contestable process, which can help allow decision-makers (those delegated by the Council to award grants) to compare the benefits of the applications it receives to award limited funding as fairly and transparently as possible. Contestable funding is provided to support the delivery of a clearly defined project, activity, service, or event.
  - **Contestable** means that:
    - applications are invited through scheduled funding rounds, which are publicly advertised and have an opening and closing date (these dates may vary across different grants),
    - any eligible applicant has an equal opportunity to be considered for a grant,
    - a clearly defined assessment process will be applied to all applications, and
    - decisions on approved funding will be made publicly available.
  - All information on Contestable Grants can be found on the DCC's website.
- **Defensible**
  - In this context, the term 'defensible' refers to the ability of Council or its delegate to make decisions that are clearly grounded in a transparent process that applicants are able to understand.
- **Event**

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- Events, including different types of events, are defined in Dunedin's Festival and Events Plan 2025.

- **Funding Agreements** (approved during the Annual Plan and Long Term Plan process)
  - The DCC awards some funding outside of the contestable process and funding schedules. Some of these grants are multi-year and formalised through agreements such as Service Level Agreements or Property Arrangements. Grants that the DCC has a legislative requirement to fund also sit within this category.
  - Funding Agreements are decided through the Annual Plan or Long Term Plan process.
  - Legislative Grants and grants administered or funded by other agencies (third party grants) all fit under the Funding Agreements category.
- **Fundraising**
  - An event or activity for the sole purpose of raising money for a particular purpose or cause.
- **Grant**
  - A non-repayable financial contribution to an external organisation or individual for a specific project that advances strategic goals the Council cannot deliver alone. It supports community-led activities and services that deliver a measurable public benefit, as outlined in the Council's Long Term Plan, without expectation of commercial return. While primarily targeting not-for-profit organisations, grants may support for-profit activities where a clear and distinct community benefit is delivered and is demonstrably separated from private gain.
- **Private gain**
  - Money and/or resources that goes towards an individual, private company, or specific owner (rather than to a community or public organisation).
- **Project**
  - A project is a time-bound set of activities with clear objectives and deliverables.
- **Service**
  - A service is the ongoing delivery and provision of access or support to the community.
- **Te Taki Haruru**
  - The DCC's values-based Māori Strategic Framework that is dedicated to supporting Ōtepoti Dunedin communities to thrive. Te Taki Haruru provides a framework for the DCC to build meaningful, enduring partnerships with mana whenua (Māori who have a genealogical connection to the land and hold authority or jurisdiction over land or

territory) and mātāwaka (Māori living in the Ōtepoti Dunedin region who are not mana whenua).

- **Transparency**
  - Transparency means people can understand how funding decisions are made and how public money is spent.
  - In the context of grant making, transparency refers to:
    - ensuring assessments and decisions undertaken as part of the decision-making process are publicly available (while protecting confidentiality),
    - providing clear and publicly available information on grants available and the application processes, and
    - keeping records of all grant funding applications, assessments, approvals, funding terms and conditions, allocation and expenditure of funding.
- **Zero Carbon Plan**
  - The DCC's plan that maps out the changes Ōtepoti Dunedin needs to become a Zero Carbon City, and the actions the DCC will take to help bring about those changes.

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Appendix Three: Guidance for DCC staff

Eligibility criteria

- Exceptions to DCC being a part funder:
  - Staff should speak to their General Manager to discuss any exceptions to the DCC being a part funder rather than a main funder.
  - Exceptions are more likely to be made for small grants (under $500).
- Exceptions to grants having clear opening and closing dates:
  - If agreed by Council, grants with rolling dates can be open for the financial year without having set funding rounds.
  - Processes for applications and timeframes should be clearly defined and available to the public. Generally, grants should be awarded and spent within the same financial year.
- Overhead costs:
  - A proportion of overhead costs (such as salaries or rent) relating directly to the project or activity may be included in funding applications.
- Financial contributions:
  - In-kind contributions can be considered when calculating an applicant's financial contributions. In-kind contributions can include volunteer hours, pro-bono services, and materials. Where possible, the applicant should include the estimated value of in-kind contributions.
- Making sure eligibility criteria is clearly defined and publicly available:
  - All eligibility criteria should be available on the DCC's website and in paper copy if requested.
  - Eligibility criteria should be in plain language and accessible to all (which can include adaptive formats, such as braille or read aloud versions).
- Informing applicants of requirements and the format needed for funding application:
  - Applicants should be informed that late applications will not be accepted.
  - The process for submitted applications that are missing information or documentation should be outlined.
- The list of documentation applicants are required to include should at a minimum include:
  - a copy of latest end of year accounts, that have been reviewed or audited as per their relevant rules/constitution. For small groups that are not incorporated, only a copy of end of year accounts is needed. Applicants are encouraged to talk with staff if they are unsure.
  - details of previous Council grants, discretionary funding, loans, and any other funding received from the DCC,
  - outstanding Expenditure Returns for previous funds received from the DCC,
  - a deposit slip with account number and name, and
  - a GST number (if the organisation is registered for GST).
- Exclusion of funding of Government functions and services:
  - This exclusion applies to core central government functions and services, such as school curriculum delivery and the provision of tertiary and primary healthcare services.
  - It does not automatically exclude organisations that receive government funding. Council or its delegate may fund initiatives undertaken by these organisations where they are not part of the organisation's core government funded responsibilities. For

example, the DCC may provide some funding for planting in a community garden at a school if strong local community buy-in is demonstrated.

- Reporting requirements for successful applicants:
    - Expectations of grants recipients should be clearly communicated, reasonable, and proportionate to the funding they receive.
    - Reporting requirements should outline a timeframe for when reporting is required – for example, it could be that written confirmation is required within 3 months of completion of the funded project, activity, service, or event.

Optional exclusions that may be included in criteria

- Facilitation of conferences, unless there is a public session(s) which must be advertised.
- Travel for meetings, events, or conference attendance. Exceptions can be made for instances where volunteer training is the primary purpose, or for participation or involvement with cultural performances, including regional or national competitions or events.
    - Staff should consider the Ōtepoti Dunedin community benefit of attendance when considering applications for travel. A community benefit could include sharing knowledge with other local groups.
- Grant applications for uniforms or costumes (exceptions may be made for cultural attire or dress and staff should consider the community benefit when assessing these applications).

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Appendix Four: Annual Grants Report

The Annual Grants Report will include:

- A full overview of funding over the past year (for all Contestable Grants and Funding agreements), including the amount budgeted and expenditure.
- The budgeted funding for the next financial year (where approved prior by Council), including which Contestable Grants are open to the community.
- Trends analysis of the DCC's grant making, noting challenges and potential opportunities.
- Any identified risks.
- Grant highlights about some of the applications funded in the last year and a summary of the ongoing long-term relationships the DCC has with the community through grant-making.

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GRANTS REVIEW

Department: Community Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1 This report consolidates the findings of the 2025 Dunedin City Council (DCC) Grants Review and seeks Council approval of core policy settings.

2 Options related to the six core policy settings are summarised in **Attachment A** 'Summary Table of Grant Options'.

3 The review confirms that DCC's grants system would benefit from improved clarity, transparency, consistency, and stronger alignment with Council strategy.

4 Community and sector feedback emphasised the need for a high-trust, partnership-oriented grants system that supports long-term outcomes while reducing administrative burden for applicants and staff.

5 A clear grants policy foundation will ensure future operational decisions are consistent, transparent, and defensible, and that future updates to the DCC Grants Management Policy (2019) reflect Council's intent.

6 This report asks Council to agree core policy settings for grant-making and agree the proposed next steps.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council:

a) **Agrees** the core policy settings for Council grant-making, including:

   i) A definition of what constitutes a Council grant;

   ii) Council's role and purpose in grant-making;

   iii) Council's priorities for grant-making;

   iv) Council's preferred approach to delivering grants;

   v) Council's preferred governance structure for grant decisions; and

   vi) Council's preferred method for determining the overall grants budget.

b) **Notes** that the agreed policy settings will inform the update of the Grants Management Policy (2019) and associated governance and operational arrangements.

c) **Agrees the proposed** next steps as outlined in this report including directing staff to prepare further options on strengthening alignment between grant-making and Council's

community outcomes through the next Annual Plan process, where supported by Council's agreed policy settings.

BACKGROUND

7 The 2025 Grants Review was initiated to assess whether DCC's grants system remains fit-for-purpose. Feedback was gathered through community hui, a sector survey, and facilitated workshops.

8 The review highlighted strong support for Council's ongoing role in funding the community sector, alongside consistent feedback that the current system would benefit from:

- Greater clarity and transparency;
- Improved alignment with Council strategies and outcomes;
- Reduced fragmentation across grant categories;
- More consistent governance and decision-making; and
- Increased ability to provide multi-year, sustainable funding.

9 Feedback also indicated that while the grants system is valued and broadly effective, it lacks a coherent policy foundation. DCC currently operates ten grant categories, only some of which are clearly defined in the Grants Management Policy (2019), resulting in strategic and operational inconsistency. Current grant categories and 2026/27 budgets are summarised in **Attachment B**.

10 On 11 December 2025, Council resolved to direct staff to continue the grants review and return with options on:

- The preferred approach to determining the grants funding quantum;
- Grant categories
- Governance and decision-making arrangements (including the Grants Subcommittee); and
- Timing of procurement for a grants management system.

11 Under DCC's 9-Year Plan (2025-2034), grants are administered across seven services and activities:

1. City Properties
2. Community recreation
3. Creative and Cultural Vibrancy
4. Resilient City
5. Treaty Partnership
6. Vibrant Economy; and
7. Waste Minimisation

12 There is one level of service under the Resilient City activity that relates specifically to contestable grants and is reported on annually (Dunedin City Council (2025) 9-Year Plan 2025-2034, P .152).

DISCUSSION

13 This report seeks Council to agree core policy settings to ensure that grant-making decisions are aligned with Council's strategic intent and administered in a consistent, transparent and defensible manner.

14 The six core policy settings for Council's considerations are:

i) **Definition of a Council grant** – what qualifies as a grant and how it differs from other funding tools.

ii) **Council's role and purpose in grant-making** – the intended function and responsibilities of Council as a funder.

iii) **Council's priorities for grant-making** – the outcomes and focus areas Council wishes to advance.

iv) **Council's preferred approach to delivering grants** – how grants are structured and administered.

v) **Governance structure for grant decisions** – who makes decisions and at what thresholds.

vi) **Determining the overall grants budget** – how the overall grants quantum is determined.

15 Options related to the six core policy settings are summarised in Attachment A '*Summary Table of Grant Options*'.

I. Definition of a Council Grant

16 A clear definition of a Council grant is essential to improve transparency, ensure consistent practice, and distinguish grants from other forms of financial support such as contracts, sponsorships, and procurement.

17 Across New Zealand local government, grants are widely recognised as a strategic governance tool rather than a transactional funding mechanism. While wording varies, best practice definitions consistently emphasise:

- Public benefit over private gain;
- Non-repayable funding (except in cases of non-compliance);
- Clear purpose and accountability;
- Alignment with Long-Term Plan (LTP) outcomes;
- Primary focus on not-for-profit organisations, with limited and controlled exceptions.

18 Most Councils restrict grant funding to not-for profit (NFP) or voluntary organisations to ensure public funds are directed toward community outcomes rather than private profit. Some Councils, however, permit limited eligibility for for-profit (FP) entities where:

- The funded activity delivers a significant public benefit;
- The activity would not be commercially viable without support;
- The community benefit is clearly defined, subsidised and reported; and
- Public funding does not underwrite private profit margins.

19 Examples include free public events, sustainability initiatives, or capacity-building projects with demonstrable community impact.

20 Drawing from common practice, an optimal definition typically includes:

a) **Non-Repayable Status** – Grants are not loans or investments and do not require repayment if conditions are met.

b) **Public Benefit Requirement** – The primary purpose is for public good, with transparent reporting.

c) **Purpose-Specific Use** – Grants are tied to funding a defined activity, with accountability mechanisms for unspent or misused funds.

d) **Strategic Alignment** – Grants advance LTP priorities (e.g., wellbeing, sustainability, resilience).

e) **Clarity on Applicant's Legal Status** – Grant criteria should clearly state whether eligibility is based on an organisation's status (NFP or FP) or on the nature of the activity being funded.

21 Two options are presented for consideration. Option One (excludes FPs), prioritises simplicity, consistency, and risk management. Option Two (includes FPs), offers greater adaptability but requires stronger governance controls to maintain public trust and ensure ratepayer funds deliver demonstrable community benefit.

22 If Option One is preferred, FP entities may continue to receive Council funding through other mechanisms, such as contracts, sponsorship, or service agreements.

23 Under *both* options, Council grants are:

- Approved by Council or its delegate;
- Provided to external organisations;
- Non-repayable, except in cases of non-compliance; and
- Focused on delivering community benefit.

24 For both options to be effective, they need to be clearly defined, consistently applied, and supported by robust assessment and accountability mechanisms.

Option One: Excludes For-Profit Entities

"A grant is a non-repayable financial contribution to an external not-for-profit organisation for a specific project that advances strategic goals the Council cannot deliver alone. It supports community-led activities and services that deliver a measurable public benefit, as outlined in the Council's Long-Term Plan, without expectation of commercial return."

Advantages

- Clear and simple eligibility criteria.
- Strong protection against private gain.
- Aligns with common practice across NZ Councils.
- Minimises reputational and legal risk.

Disadvantages

- Limits flexibility for innovative or emerging community solutions.
- Excludes some high impact projects delivered by social enterprises or small businesses.
- May require parallel funding mechanisms for similar outcomes.

Option Two: Includes For-Profit Entities in limited circumstances (Status Quo).

"A grant is a non-repayable financial contribution to an external organisation or individual for a specific project that advances strategic goals the Council cannot deliver alone. It supports community-led activities and services that deliver a measurable public benefit, as outlined in the Council's Long-Term Plan, without expectation of commercial return. While primarily targeting not-for-profit organisations, grants may support for-profit activities where a clear and distinct community benefit is delivered and is demonstrably separated from private gain."

Advantages
- Greater flexibility and responsiveness.
- Enables innovations, pilot projects, and sustainability initiatives.
- Reflects practice used by some large councils for targeted funds.

Disadvantages
- Increased complexity in assessment monitoring.
- Higher risk of perceived or actual subsidisation of private profit.
- Requires strong safeguards, clear criteria and transparent reporting.
- Greater administrative and reputational risk if boundaries are unclear.

II. Council's Role and Purpose in Grant-Making

25 Council's role in grant-making is one of strategic investment rather than gifting. Two role-statement options are presented for consideration, reflecting different approaches used across Councils.

Option One: Governance-Focused Role

Council's role is:

1) **Stewardship** – ensuring public funds are allocated fairly, transparently, and strategically.
2) **Accountability** – maintaining oversight and alignment with Council's priorities.

Advantages
- Clear, simple articulation of Council's core responsibilities
- Strong emphasis on prudent investment and risk management
- Clarifies Council's relationship with funded organisations.

Disadvantages
- Less supportive of community-led innovation.
- May be perceived as transactional rather than collaborative.
- Limited emphasis on reducing barriers for applicants.

Option Two: Partnership- Focussed Role (Status Quo)

Council's role is:

1) **Stewardship** – ensuring public funds are allocated fairly, transparently, and strategically.
2) **Partnership** – working with community organisations as co-deliverers of community outcomes.
3) **Enabler** – reducing barriers and administrative burden.
4) **Accountability** – maintaining oversight and alignment with Council's priorities.

Advantages

- Encourages collaboration and strengthens community relationships.
- Supports innovation, flexibility, and community-led delivery.
- Reduces administrative barriers, improving accessibility for smaller organisations.

Disadvantages

- Requires stronger relationship management and clearer expectations.
- Higher administrative effort to balance partnership with accountability.
- May increase perceived or actual risk if partnership boundaries are unclear.

26 This framing aligns with common practice across New Zealand local government and reinforces the legitimacy of Council's investment via grant-making in the community sector.

27 If approved, the grant definition and role statement will inform the update of the Grants Management Policy.

III. Council's Priorities for Grant-Making

28 The DCC currently operates ten grant categories (Attachment B). This structure provides stability and continuity over time and has supported a wide range of community organisations. However, the current framework is relatively fixed and can be challenging to adapt in response to emerging priorities or changing community needs. Alignment between existing categories and the community outcomes in the 9-Year Plan is also not always explicit.

29 Of the total grants budget, $3.39 million is available through fully contestable grants processes, with the balance largely committed through longer term commissioning or ongoing arrangements. While this approach provides certainty for essential services and facilities, it limits that proportion of funding that can readily redirected toward new initiatives, innovation or areas of emerging need.

30 Current grants predominantly provide partial operational funding to organisations delivering services, programmes, venues, and events that contribute to community wellbeing. These grants play an important role in sustaining the city's social and cultural infrastructure and often enable organisations to leverage funding from other sources. While these investments support the Council's community outcomes, their contribution is frequently indirect and not always clearly attributable.

31 **Key Policy Question:** Does Council wish to place greater emphasis on developing grant approaches that more directly advance its community outcomes, and, if so, is Council open to refining grant structures and budget settings over time to support this direction?

32 **Decision sought:** That Council confirms whether it wishes staff to further explore options to strengthen the alignment between grant-making and Council's community outcomes.

33 Subject to Council direction, if supported, staff will prepare a detailed options report for Council's consideration as part of the next Annual Plan process. This report would outline potential approaches, implications, and transitional considerations.

IV. Council's Preferred Approach to Delivering Grants

34 Developing a clear process for delivering grants is essential to improve transparency and consistency for grant applicants. Three options are presented:

Option One: Retain Current Grant Categories (ten) with Minor Refinements (Status Quo)

Maintain current grant categories.

Advantages
- Familiar to applicants; minimal disruption.
- Allows targeted investment in priority areas.
- Improvements can be implemented quickly.

Disadvantages
- May not address core issues around consistency and administrative burden.
- Does not move toward the collaborative or commissioned models supported in feedback.
- Some duplication and gaps remain.

Option Two: Consolidate to Four Broader Grant Categories

This option consolidates existing grants into four categories:

1. Contestable (includes Discretionary)
2. Commissioned (includes all Service Level Agreements, Property Arrangements, Other Grants, Grants to other DCC owned companies/trusts)
3. Grants funded by other agencies and
4. Legislative grants.

Advantages
- Simplifies the system.
- Reduces fragmentation and administrative burden.
- Easier to align grant sub-categories with outcomes.

Disadvantages
- Risk of losing specialist focus for niche sectors.
- May require additional training or capacity building.
- Transition may cause uncertainty for existing recipients.

Option Three: Consolidation and Include New Community Outcome Grants

A third option retains our existing grants but includes dedicated partnership-based funding to progress community outcomes, such as youth wellbeing or housing support. This approach reflects strong feedback for high-trust, long-term investment, but requires more staff capability and a clearer governance framework.

Advantages

- Aligns strongly with review feedback on partnerships and long-term outcomes.
- This approach supports multi-year, strategic investment in key community services.
- More impact-focused and reduces uncertainty for critical services.
- Increases flexibility for staff and applicants.

Disadvantages

- May require additional staff capability and capacity to design and manage partnerships and commissioned grants that focus on community outcomes.
- Budget implications will occur with this option as 'new community outcomes grants' have not been included in the 9-Year Plan.

v. Governance and Decision Making

35 Four governance models are presented, ranging from reinstating the Grants Subcommittee through to Council-wide decision-making, with two hybrid options combining staff delegations, Grants Subcommittee oversight, and Council approval for larger or multi-year grants.

Option One: The Grants Subcommittee and delegations are re-instated for the primary decision-making role.

The Grants Subcommittee makes allocation decisions for all grants above staff delegations, if any.

Advantages

- Maintains continuity and specialist governance.
- Smaller group enables more consistent decision-making.
- Can build expertise over time.

Disadvantages

- Feedback indicated the former Grant Subcommittee's composition may need to be reviewed for consistency.
- Less visibility and broader political input than Council or Committee of the Whole.
- May limit diverse perspectives depending on the Grant Subcommittee's composition.

Option Two: Council or a Committee of the Whole determines all grant allocations (Status Quo)

All councillors are involved in funding decisions related to grants above staff delegations, if any.

Advantages

- High transparency and broad political mandate.
- Ensures alignment with broader Council priorities.
- Helps address concerns about governance legitimacy.

Disadvantages

- More resource-intensive; slower decision-making.
- Risk of politicisation of grant allocations.
- Potential for inconsistent decisions due to diverse perspectives.

Option Three: Hybrid Model One – Grants Subcommittee + Staff Delegations + Council Oversight

Under this option:

a) Staff allocate small grants under delegation.
b) A Grants Subcommittee allocates mid-tier grants.
c) Committee of the Whole approves multi-year or large grants.

Advantages
- Balances efficiency, governance oversight, and transparency.
- Supports a tiered, principle-based system.
- Aligns with feedback seeking stronger governance and reduced administrative burden.

Disadvantages
- Requires clear, agreed grant thresholds and criteria for small, medium and large grants.
- More complexity in governance structure.
- Still requires review of who sits on the Subcommittee as representatives.

Option Four: Hybrid Model Two – Staff Delegations + Council Oversight (No Grants Subcommittee)

Under this option:

a) Staff allocate (small-medium) grants under delegation.
b) Council or a Committee of the Whole approves all other grants including multi-year or commissioned agreements.

Advantages
- Provides governance oversight and transparency.
- Supports a tiered, principle-based system.
- Aligns with feedback seeking stronger governance and reduced administrative burden.

Disadvantages
- Requires clear thresholds and criteria.
- More complexity in governance structure.
- May reduce opportunities for diverse community perspectives in decision making.

VI. Council's preferred method for determining the overall grants budget (quantum).

36 Historically, the grants budget has been set through the Annual Plan and LTP processes. While there have been occasional adjustments to individual grant categories, such as the introduction of the Event Attractions grant category, the overall structure has remained largely unchanged.

37 Some grants have been reduced or removed through the 9-year plan process. For example, Rates Relief Grants were reduced from $711,000 to $525,000. However, most grant budgets have remained static for many years, with no inflationary adjustments.

38 This creates pressure on contestable grants when new priorities emerge, either from Council or from community need.

39 To support clearer decision-making, staff have identified two options for how Council could determine the overall grants budget.

Option One: Maintain Current Annual Allocation Approach to Grants (Status Quo)

Council sets funding levels for grants annually through its Annual Plan budget.

Advantages
- Flexible: funding can respond to emerging priorities or financial pressures.
- Simple to administer; fits existing budgeting processes.
- Retains political discretion year-to-year.

Disadvantages
- Uncertainty for community organisations; limits long-term planning.
- Contestable pool sizes may fluctuate, reducing stability and impact.
- Misalignment with the review feedback seeking multi-year predictability.

Option Two: **Establish a Fixed Baseline Quantum for a Three-Year LTP Cycle**

Council sets a fixed contestable funding quantum for the duration of each Long-Term Plan (LTP), with only inflationary adjustments.

Advantages
- Provides certainty and stability for applicants and staff.
- Enables multi-year funding commitments.
- Supports strategic alignment over longer timeframes.

Disadvantages
- Reduces Council's year-to-year flexibility.
- Requires strong forecasting to avoid underfunding during periods of increased demand.
- More difficult to adjust quickly in financially constrained years.

40 Council is asked to assess each grant policy setting and determine which option most effectively aligns with its strategic vision for the city.

41 In relation to Council's resolution (11/12/2025), the remaining matter of procurement timing for a grants management system, will be considered once the core policy settings have been confirmed.

OPTIONS

42 **Option One:** Council **agrees** the proposed policy settings (with or without amendment), enabling staff to proceed with the next steps set out in this report.

43 **Option Two (Status Quo):** Council **does not** agree on one or more of the proposed policy settings, in which case the current grants framework and policy setting will remain in place until further direction is provided by Council.

NEXT STEPS

44 The next steps will depend on Council's preferred options:

a) Update the Grants Management Policy (2019) to reflect Council's agreed policy settings, ensuring future grant-making decisions are consistent, transparent, and defensible. Public consultation may be required under the Significance and Engagement Policy, depending on the scale and nature of the changes.

b) Develop implementation plans including transitional arrangements where required.

c) Draft and update governance delegations and terms of reference, including any changes to committees or subcommittees, for Council consideration.

d) Undertake pre-procurement analysis to identify suitable technology options for a grants management system, informed by the agreed policy settings.

e) Prepare indicative timelines implementation, including any structural or budget implications to be considered through future Annual Plan and Long-Term Plan processes.

Signatories

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Authoriser:	Nicola Morand - Manahautū (General Manager Community and Strategy)

Attachments

	Title	Page
⇩A	Summary of options presented	154
⇩B	Grants 2025-2026	156

11 OTAGO LOCAL AUTHORITIES' TRIENNIAL AGREEMENT 2026-2029

This report provided an overview of the 2026–2029 Otago Triennial Agreement, outlining the statutory requirement for a coordinated regional approach among Otago's local authorities and seeking Council approval of the agreement in its required format.

Moved (Mayor Sophie Barker/Cr Cherry Lucas):

That the Council:

a) **Approves** the Otago Local Authorities' Triennial Agreement 2026-2029.

b) **Authorises** the Mayor to sign the Otago Local Authorities' Triennial Agreement 2026-2029 on behalf of the Dunedin City Council.

c) **Notes** that the Triennial Agreement requires the Otago Mayoral Forum to identify and oversee progress on 'regional focus areas' – areas where a regional approach is either required or an improve outcomes for Otago.

Motion carried (CNL/2026/020)

12 GRANTS REVIEW

This report provided an overview of the 2025 DCC Grants Review, outlining recommended core policy settings to improve clarity, transparency, and strategic alignment across the grants system, and seeking Council agreement on these settings and the proposed next steps.

Manahautū - General Manager Community and Strategy (Nicola Morand) and Manager Community Partnerships (Gina Hu'akau) responded to questions.

Moved (Mayor Sophie Barker/Cr Christine Garey):

That the Council:

Adjourns the meeting until 3pm.

Motion carried

The meeting adjourned at 2.55pm and reconvened at 3.02pm.

Moved (Mayor Sophie Barker/Cr Cherry Lucas):

That the Council:

Adjourns the meetings for two minutes.

Motion carried

The meeting adjourned at 3.20pm and reconvened at 3.23pm.

During discussion Mayor Sophie left the meeting at 3.48pm. Deputy Mayor Lucas chaired the meeting.

Mayor Sophie returned to the meeting at 3.53pm and resumed the Chair.

Following Deputy Mayor Cherry Lucas moving and Mayor Sophie Barker seconding a motion. Cr Mandy Mayhem moved an amendment to Item 1 (e). Cr Marie Laufiso seconded the amendment.

Moved (Cr Mandy Mayhem/Cr Marie Laufiso):

That the Council:

e) **Confirms** its preferred Governance Structure for Grant Decisions is a Grants Subcommittee + Staff Delegations + Council Oversight where:

a) Staff allocate small grants under delegation.

b) A Grants Subcommittee (which include community representatives) allocates mid-tier grants, multi-year and large grants.

Division

The Council voted by division

For:	Crs John Chambers, Christine Garey, Doug Hall, Marie Laufiso, Mandy Mayhem, Benedict Ong, Andrew Simms, Mickey Treadwell and Steve Walker (9).
Against:	Crs Cherry Lucas, Russell Lund, Lee Vandervis, Brent Weatherall and Mayor Sophie Barker (5).
Abstained:	Nil

The division was declared CARRIED by 9 votes to 5

Motion carried (CNL/2026/021)

Moved (Cr Cherry Lucas/Mayor Sophie Barker):

That the Council:

1 **Adopts** the following policy settings for Grants:

a) **Defines** a Council Grant as:

A non-repayable financial contribution to an external organisation or individual for a specific project that advances strategic goals the Council cannot deliver alone. It supports community-led activities and services that deliver a measurable public benefit, as outlined in the Council's Long-Term Plan, without expectation of commercial return. While primarily targeting not-for-profit organisations, grants may support for-profit activities where a clear and distinct community benefit is delivered and is demonstrably separated from private gain.

b) **Confirms** Council's Role and Purpose in Grant-Making is:

i) Stewardship – ensuring public funds are allocated fairly, transparently, and strategically;

ii) Partnership – working with community organisations as co-deliverers of community outcomes;

iii) Enabler – reducing barriers and administrative burden; and

iv) Accountability – maintaining oversight and alignment with Council priorities

c) **Agrees** it's priorities for Grant-Making are to:

i) Prioritise the development of grant approaches that more directly advance its community outcomes; and

ii) Refine grant structures and budget settings over time to strengthen this alignment, with further options to be considered through a future Annual Plan process.

d) **Confirms** its preferred approach to delivering grants is consolidation plus development of new community outcomes grants, including:

i) Consolidation of existing grant categories to improve clarity and consistency; and

ii) Development of new partnership-based grants aligned to priority community outcomes (for example housing, youth wellbeing, and health), subject to future budget and implementation decisions.

f**)** **Notes** that grant funding levels will be set through the Annual Plan and Long-Term Plan processes.

2 **Notes** That the agreed policy settings will inform the update of the Grants Management Policy (2019) and associated governance, delegations, and operational arrangements.

3 **Requests** that staff

a) Draft an updated Grants Management Policy reflecting the agreed policy settings;

b) Develop implementation and transition arrangements, including any required updates to delegations and committee terms of reference;

c) Undertake pre-procurement analysis for a grants management system aligned with the agreed policy framework; and

d) Report back to Council through a future Annual Plan process with detailed options to strengthen alignment between grant-making.

Motion carried (CNL/2026/022)

Moved (Cr Cherry Lucas/Mayor Sophie Barker):

That the Council:

e) **Confirms** its preferred Governance Structure for Grant Decisions is a Grants Subcommittee + Staff Delegations + Council Oversight where:

i) Staff allocate small grants under delegation.

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For: Crs John Chambers, Christine Garey, Doug Hall, Marie Laufiso, Mandy Mayhem, Andrew Simms, Mickey Treadwell and Steve Walker (8).

Against: Crs Cherry Lucas, Russell Lund, Benedict Ong, Lee Vandervis, Brent Weatherall and Mayor Sophie Barker (6).
Abstained: Nil

The division was declared CARRIED by 8 votes to 6

Motion carried (CNL/2026/023)

Moved (Mayor Sophie Barker/Cr Cherry Lucas):

That the Council:

Adjourns for 10 minutes.

Motion carried

The meeting adjourned at 4.17pm and reconvened at 4.25pm.

13 GRANTS ALLOCATED $5K AND UNDER

This report provided details of the Waste Minimisation Community grants that were awarded under the Chief Executive Officer's delegation in the September 2025 round, and the Waste Minimisation Small grants awarded by the former Grants Subcommittee Chair during the period March 2025 and October 2025.

Moved (Mayor Sophie Barker/Cr Mandy Mayhem):

That the Council:

a) **Notes** that the Waste Minimisation Grants are funded by Waste Disposal Levy funds provided by the Ministry for the Environment and are not rates funded.

b) **Notes** the approved funding allocated to organisations for Waste Minimisation Small Projects and Waste Minimisation Community grants.

Motion carried (CNL/2026/024)

14 APPOINTMENT OF ADVISORY PANEL TO CONSIDER DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE COMMISSIONER APPLICATIONS

This report provided an overview of the statutory requirements for maintaining the District Licensing Committee, outlining proposed steps to ensure continuity and adequate hearing capacity through the recruitment of additional commissioners and the establishment of an advisory panel to assess applicants.

Moved (Mayor Sophie Barker/Cr Mandy Mayhem):

That the Council:

a) **Notes** that applications will be invited for District Licensing Committee commissioner roles.

DUNEDIN CITY COUNCIL | kaunihera a-rohe o Ōtepoti

GRANTS SUBCOMMITTEE
22 September 2026

ANNUAL GRANTS REPORT

Department: Corporate Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1 The Annual Grants Report provides Council with a summary of Dunedin City Council (DCC) grant funding delivered during the 2025/26 financial year.

2 The DCC supports a wide range of community outcomes through two funding mechanisms: Contestable Grants and Funding Agreements. Together, these approaches support diverse sectors across Ōtepoti Dunedin and hundreds of local community organisations.

3 The report also presents findings from an independent report undertaken by Fundsorter, which analysed grant-making across Ōtepoti Dunedin, including funding provided by central government, gambling bodies, philanthropic trusts, and local government.

4 The analysis provides insights into funding distribution across community sectors and highlights the areas receiving the greatest levels of investment.

5 This report explores opportunities to improve the impact, effectiveness, and strategic alignment of DCC grant-making and presents draft funding frameworks for the Grants Subcommittee's consideration.

6 The report seeks the Grants Subcommittee's feedback on the proposed format and content of an annual grants report to inform future reporting and funding oversight.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:

a) **Notes** the contents of the Dunedin City Council's Annual Grants Report (2026/27).

BACKGROUND

7 A separate report will be provided to Council next month seeking approval to consult on an updated draft DCC Grants Policy (the Policy) through the Long-Term Plan process.

8 The Policy includes a requirement for DCC staff to provide Council with an Annual Grants Report that presents an overview of all grants funding allocated by the DCC over the past financial year.

9 The purpose of the Annual Grants Report is to:

- increase visibility of where and how grants funding is being spent,
- provide Council with regular analysis of what is being achieved through funding, and

- provide data to support Council in its future strategic decisions regarding grants.

10 This paper is the first Annual Grants Report and sets out the proposed format and content of future annual grants reports that would be provided to Council through the Annual Plan process under the (draft) Grants Policy.

11 This report has been presented to the Grants Subcommittee to seek their feedback on the format and content of an annual grants report.

DISCUSSION

12 The DCC currently provides grant funding through two broad funding approaches: Contestable Grants and Funding Agreements.

Contestable Grants

13 Contestable Grants are annual grants that are open to applications from the public and awarded through a contestable process. Applications are assessed against funding criteria and priorities, and funding is allocated to those that best align with the objectives of the grant.

14 The DCC currently has fifteen Contestable Grant categories that each have a different purpose and criteria which are detailed on the DCC's website.

a) Biodiversity Grants

b) City Service and City Project Grants – Arts

c) City Service and City Project Grants – Community

d) Community Grants, plus

   i) Neighbourhood Matching Grants, and

   ii) DCC Small Community Project Grants.

e) Contestable Community Events Grants

f) DCC Community Arts Grants, plus

   i) DCC Small Arts Project Grants.

g) DCC Professional Theatre Fund

h) Hapori Māori Fund and Pasifika Innovation Funds

i) Premier and Major Events Grants

j) Place Based Grants

k) Rates Relief

l) Waste Minimisation Grants

15 Under the current delegation set by Council in February 2026 (Attachment A), the Grants Subcommittee is delegated to approve contestable grants over $5,000 and the Chief Executive is delegated to approve small contestable grants ($5,000 and under).

Funding Agreements

16 The DCC also provides grants through a range of Funding Agreements outside of the contestable process. Some of these grants are annual, others are multi-year and formalised through Service Level Agreements or Property Arrangements.

17 Funding Agreements are typically used where there is an ongoing service delivery requirement, a strategic partnership, or a property-related arrangement and, as such, represent the long-term relationships that the DCC has with different community groups.

18 A full list of current Funding Agreements and agreement expiry dates (where applicable) has been provided as Attachment B. The draft Grants Policy explains that Funding Agreements are approved by Council through its Annual Plan and Long-Term Plan process.

19 Funding arrangements that the DCC is legislatively required to support, such as the Tūhura Otago Museum Levy, also sit within this category but sit outside of the draft Grants Policy, as the levy funding amount is determined by a legislative process.

2025/26 Financial Year budget and expenditure

20 Attachments B and C provide an overview of the budget and expenditure of all grants in the 2025/26 Financial Year (FY). The annual Contestable Grants expenditure 92% of budget, while Funding Agreements expenditure was 98% of budget in 2025/26.

21 The data shows an underspend in the Contestable Grants budget of $307,389. This is mainly from an underspend in the Premier and Major Events Grant category ($280,000).

22 For other Contestable Grants, their expenditure against budget shows that overall, these grants are well utilised by the community.

23 For Funding Agreements, there was an overall underspend of $549,557 across a range of categories. The largest variances related to the Aukaha agreement (underspend of $206,113) and the Event Attraction Fund (administered by Dunedin Venues Management Limited with an underspend of $100,000) agreements. Aukaha grants are no longer included in the 2026/27 budget.

The funding landscape in Ōtepoti Dunedin

24 The DCC commissioned Fundsorter to produce an independent report looking at the funding landscape in Ōtepoti Dunedin. This report is included as Attachment D.

25 Fundsorter is an organisation that helps community groups find funding and supports funders to make informed, strategic decisions.

26 The Fundsorter Report (the Report) provides insights into the funding environment in Ōtepoti Dunedin to help understand the DCC's role in grant-making and how funding supports the local community.

27 The Tūhura Otago Museum Levy funding was not included due to the nature of the funding being legislative and to avoid distorting the data, as its size would significantly influence the overall results. In the 2025/26 FY budget, the levy accounted for 33.7% of the DCC funding considered across both contestable and non-contestable categories.

28 Grants to private individuals were also not included as the Report was designed to highlight funding for organisations. This means some contestable funding, such as the Hapori Māori Innovation Fund and the Pasifika Development Fund were excluded. Grants funding to Māori and Pasifika may therefore be slightly higher than represented in the Report.

29 Funding Agreements are referred to as 'non-contestable funding' in the Report.

Overview of the Ōtepoti Dunedin funding landscape

30 The Report identified several key themes within the general Ōtepoti Dunedin funding landscape including:

a) Funding allocation patterns: There is some misalignment between where funding is going and what funders identify their priorities to be. The data shows that of the $22m+ funding allocated through grants from 47 funders across the city, funding towards sports accounted for 21.6% of all funding. This is despite sport being a named priority in just 3.1% of stated funding priorities.

b) Concentrations of funding among recipients: There is a high concentration of funding among a small number of recipients. 58.9% of all funding went to 10% of recipients, and fewer than 60 grants across the city exceeded $50,000.

c) Community representation: The Report notes that minority communities are underrepresented in funding. Pacific peoples make up 3.9% of Ōtepoti Dunedin's population but receive 0.53% of funding. Rainbow communities are named as a priority for four funds but receive little actual funding. Ethnic communities receive only 0.35% of funding. Māori receive 4.3% of funding against a Māori population of 10.8%, but 42% of that funding comes from a single grant, meaning almost half of funding to Māori rests on a single funding decision.

DCC funding

31 The Report found that much of the DCC's funding goes towards areas that are already well funded in Ōtepoti Dunedin. $1.1 million goes towards facilities and capital works (40% of the overall funding towards facilities and capital works in the report often goes towards sports and recreation facilities), and approximately $1 million each toward arts and creativity, sport, and recreation – the top five areas covered by contestable funders outside of the DCC.

32 In contrast, DCC contestable funding covers a broad range of areas, supporting a wide range of categories and often those where funding from others is limited. Non-contestable funding (Funding Agreements) is more concentrated, with 26 of the 41 categories receiving nothing from non-contestable funding, which is often more long-term, sustainable funding.

33 The Report indicates significant overlap between areas supported through contestable grants and those supported through Funding Agreements.

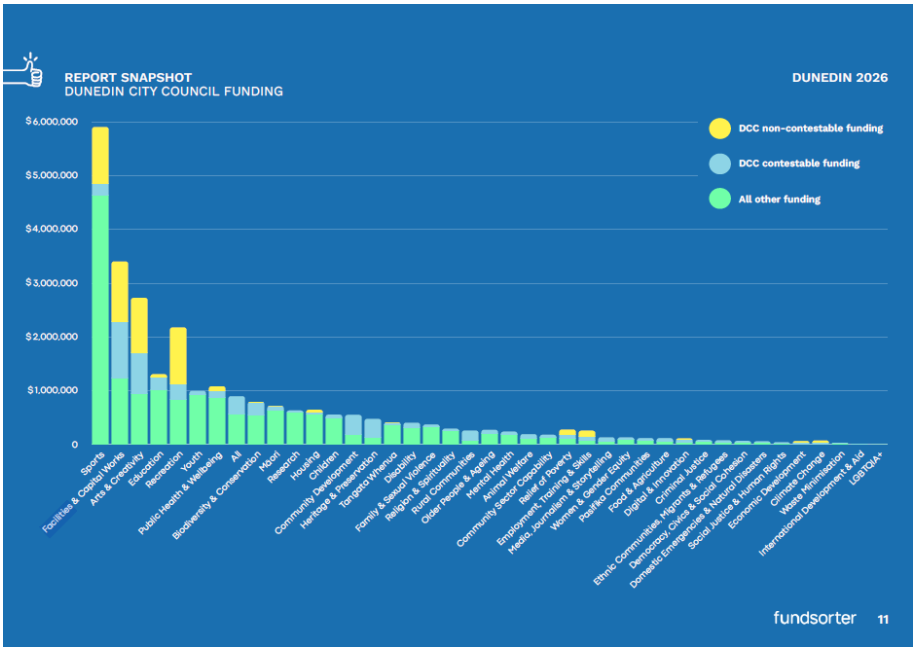


Figure 1: Snapshot of DCC funding across Ōtepoti Dunedin (Fundsorter, 2026)

National landscape

34 High levels of sports funding are consistent with funding patterns in other parts of the country. In the Christchurch, Waimakariri and Selwyn region, sport received 25.72% of the overall funding but was more consistently named as a high priority (Fundsorter, February 2026).

35 Funding for young people is underrepresented in Ōtepoti Dunedin. Despite 20.6% of residents being aged 15-24, the Report shows young people receive 4.4% of dollars across 196 grants. Comparatively, 28.2% of funding in Waikato focuses on children and young people (Fundsorter, July 2026).

Discussion points for Council

36 The findings in the Report provide Council with an opportunity to reflect on the DCC's role in the funding landscape across the city and how grants funding aligns with Council's strategic goals.

37 In particular, Council may wish to consider:

a) Whether the range of categories supported through DCC grant funding aligns with Council's expectations and intended role in funding across the city.

b) How effectively the DCC's grant funding responds to the community's needs.

c) Whether the DCC's grant funding approach encourages long-term stability for community organisations.

d) Whether DCC funding could play a more active role in addressing specific areas or gaps.

Strengths of the DCC's current funding approach

38 Providing funding through two different approaches (Contestable Grants and Funding Agreements) allows the DCC flexibility to support initiatives that contribute to community wellbeing. Strengths of this approach include:

a) Responsiveness: The DCC's Contestable Grants funding is responsive to changing community needs and allows for equitable access to funding opportunities through an open application process. This form of funding supports established organisations as well as newer organisations or services that emerge in response to growing needs.

b) Stability and sustainability: Funding Agreements, particularly when multi-year, provide stability and assurance to organisations that allow for future planning and long-term sustainability. Long-term Funding Agreements also reduce the administrative burden on both applicants and Council's delegates.

c) Enabling community organisations: One of the distinguishing features of DCC grant funding is its willingness to contribute toward operational expenses (OpEx), such as rent, utilities, and wages. This form of funding, which may only be in small amounts, helps organisations to keep things running from an operational perspective, while seeking larger grants from other funders.

d) Leading the way: DCC funding can help leverage support from other funders to provide funding if they see some is already being provided by the DCC, as this demonstrates a level of trust or validity in the organisation that is applying.

39 Grants funding also allows the DCC to build and maintain ongoing relationships with the community. Some examples of where Contestable Grants funding has gone in the 2025/26 include:

a) The Ōtepoti Garden Festival (Spring Programme) – The DCC provided a grant from the Community Events Grant funding to help deliver a free, family-friendly Garden Picnic Day at the Botanic Garden.

b) English Language Partners – The DCC provided a grant from the Community Grants funding to help cover rental costs. English Language Partners support adult former refugees and migrants living in Ōtepoti Dunedin.

c) Inspire Upcycling – the DCC provided a grant from the Waste Minimisation Grant funding to help support the reduction of textile waste for the op-shop, which generates around 8kg of textile waste per week from low-quality clothing donations.

Opportunities

40 Changes could be made to make the grants programme more impactful. There are opportunities to:

a) better align grant types with Council's Long Term Plan Community Outcomes,

b) simplify grant categories,

c) develop clearer pathways for applicants to move from Contestable Funding to a Funding Agreement, and

d) take a more considered and strategic approach to funding decisions (currently funding decisions are often made on an individual rather than system basis).

41 Examples of potential funding frameworks to support the use of grants as a strategic tool were introduced at the Council workshop on 27 August 2026. These examples have been provided as Attachment E for Council's consideration.

42 Staff welcome feedback and direction from the Grants Subcommittee on potential future changes to the grants programme.

OPTIONS

43 No options are presented as this report is for noting.

NEXT STEPS

44 Unless otherwise directed by Council, an Annual Grants Report will be prepared each year as part of the Annual Plan process.

45 If Council decides to change the funding approach to grants, the next Annual Grants Report will report back on progress towards any identified outcomes.

Signatories

Author:	Meghan Cooper - Kaitātari Kaupapa Here Matua - Senior Policy Analyst
Authoriser:	Gina Hu'akau - Community Partnerships Manager Nicola Morand - Manahautū (General Manager Community and Strategy)

Attachments

	Title	Page
A	Grants Review Council meeting Minutes 12 February	
B	Funding Agreements and expenditure 2025-26 FY	
C	Contestable Grants and expenditure 2025/26 FY	
D	Fundsorter Report - the funding landscape in Ōtepoti Dunedin	
E	Examples of funding frameworks	

SUMMARY OF CONSIDERATIONS

Fit with purpose of Local Government

This report supports democratic local decision-making by providing Council with information on grants funding allocated by the DCC. It promotes the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of communities by improving Council's understanding of how grants funding contributes to community outcomes.

Fit with strategic framework

	Contributes	Detracts	Not applicable
Social Wellbeing Strategy	✓	☐	☐
Economic Development Strategy	✓	☐	☐
Environment Strategy	✓	☐	☐
Arts and Culture Strategy	✓	☐	☐
3 Waters Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Future Development Strategy	✓	☐	☐
Integrated Transport Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Parks and Recreation Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Other strategic projects/policies/plans	☐	☐	✓

This report contributes to Council's strategic framework by providing information on how grants funding supports a broad range of community outcomes and strategic priorities.

Māori Impact Statement

The report supports Council's consideration of how grants funding contributes to outcomes for Māori and the wider community. The report includes information on DCC funding provided through the Hāpori Māori Fund and analysis of funding received by Māori within the wider Ōtepoti Dunedin funding landscape. Consistent with the aspirations of Te Taki Haruru, the report recognises the importance of partnership and shared understanding in supporting collective wellbeing.

Sustainability

The report identifies opportunities to improve long-term sustainability of DCC grants funding. It highlights the role grant funding plays in supporting the long-term social, economic, cultural and environmental sustainability of Ōtepoti Dunedin. The report also identifies opportunities to strengthen the strategic alignment of grants funding with Council priorities and community outcomes, supporting a more sustainable and effective approach over time.

LTP/Annual Plan / Financial Strategy /Infrastructure Strategy

The report relates to grants funding currently provided through Annual Plan and Long Term Plan budgets. It supports Council's consideration of the proposed Grants Policy, which includes annual reporting on grants funding.

Financial considerations

As this is a noting paper there are no identified financial impacts. Analysis of financial impacts can be provided if Council decides at any point to change its approach to grant-making.

Significance

As this is a noting paper there is an overall assessment of low significance in terms of the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

SUMMARY OF CONSIDERATIONS
Engagement – external The report includes analysis undertaken by Fundsorter relating to the funding landscape in Ōtepoti Dunedin. No external engagement was undertaken specifically for the purpose of the recommendation contained in this report.
Engagement - internal The DCC's Corporate Policy team has worked with Finance on identifying current grant budgets and 2025/26 Financial Year expenditure. Teams from across the DCC (including Parks and Recreation, Community Partnerships, Events, Enterprise Dunedin, Ara Toi, and Property Services) have been contacted to provide end of contract dates for Funding Agreements.
Risks: Legal / Health and Safety etc. There are no identified risks.
Conflict of Interest No conflicts of interest have been identified.
Community Boards There are no direct implications for Community Boards.

12 GRANTS REVIEW

This report provided an overview of the 2025 DCC Grants Review, outlining recommended core policy settings to improve clarity, transparency, and strategic alignment across the grants system, and seeking Council agreement on these settings and the proposed next steps.

Manahautū - General Manager Community and Strategy (Nicola Morand) and Manager Community Partnerships (Gina Hu'akau) responded to questions.

Moved (Mayor Sophie Barker/Cr Christine Garey):

That the Council:

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Motion carried

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Abstained:	Nil

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2 **Notes** That the agreed policy settings will inform the update of the Grants Management Policy (2019) and associated governance, delegations, and operational arrangements.

3 **Requests** that staff

a) Draft an updated Grants Management Policy reflecting the agreed policy settings;

b) Develop implementation and transition arrangements, including any required updates to delegations and committee terms of reference;

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Abstained: Nil

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13 GRANTS ALLOCATED $5K AND UNDER

This report provided details of the Waste Minimisation Community grants that were awarded under the Chief Executive Officer's delegation in the September 2025 round, and the Waste Minimisation Small grants awarded by the former Grants Subcommittee Chair during the period March 2025 and October 2025.

Moved (Mayor Sophie Barker/Cr Mandy Mayhem):

That the Council:

a) **Notes** that the Waste Minimisation Grants are funded by Waste Disposal Levy funds provided by the Ministry for the Environment and are not rates funded.

b) **Notes** the approved funding allocated to organisations for Waste Minimisation Small Projects and Waste Minimisation Community grants.

Motion carried (CNL/2026/024)

Funding agreements 2025/26 FY

Grant category	Approved 25/26 budget $	Actual spend 25/26 $	Purpose	End date of contract
Discretionary Funding				
Mayors Scholarship Grant	5,000	4,135	Scholarship offered via the University of Otago to support a student doing an undergraduate degree at the University of Otago. The purpose is to recognise former Mayors and increase the strength of the Town/Gown partnership.	Decided through the annual plan
Remissions (hardship grants for rates)	600	20,126	Rates remissions for residents experiencing hardship.	Decided through the annual plan
Otago Museum Rates Rebate	8,266	-	Rates rebate provided for the café and operational areas.	Decided through the annual plan
Significant Trees Grants	3,000	3,000	The Fund for Maintaining Significant Trees provides a financial incentive to assist owners with the maintenance of significant trees listed in Appendix A1.3 of the 2GP District Plan.	Decided through the annual plan
Sister Cities	18,500	10,000	The Sister City grants are provided to the respective Sister City organisations to support their role in fostering and maintaining Dunedin's international sister city relationships. The funding is administered by each organisation and may be used at their discretion to support activities, programmes, and initiatives that further their objectives and contribute to cultural, educational, community, and relationship-building outcomes in Ōtepoti Dunedin.	Decided through the annual plan
Strath-Taieri Community Board	10,000	9,919	Funding for the board to grant locally	Decided through the annual plan
Mosgiel-Taieri Community Board	10,000	7,798	Funding for the board to grant locally	Decided through the annual plan
Saddle Hill Community Board	10,000	9,423	Funding for the board to grant locally	Decided through the annual plan
West Harbour Community Board	10,000	9,875	Funding for the board to grant locally	Decided through the annual plan
Waikouaiti Coast Community Board	10,000	9,581	Funding for the board to grant locally	Decided through the annual plan
Otago Peninsula Community Board	10,000	9,420	Funding for the board to grant locally	Decided through the annual plan
JobDUD Internship	50,000	29,344	Private businesses can apply for a grant of up to $1,000 towards internship wages.	Decided through the annual plan
Total Discretionary Funding	**145,366**	**122,620**		
Community Service Agreements				
King's High School Artificial Surface	10,000	10,000	To assist with the development and maintenance of the artificial hockey turf at King's High School.	30 June 2030
Port Chalmers and Districts Lions Club	2,500	2,500	To assist with the costs of maintaining Lady Thorn Dell in Port Chalmers maintenance includes tree planting, plant removal, painting, litter collection and minor building, costs include but are not limited to paint, fertiliser, bark, bulbs and herbicide.	30 June 2027
Heritage Roses Otago	2,000	2,000	To assist with the costs of maintaining the Heritage Roses in the Northern Cemetery.	30 June 2027
Town Belt Initiative (Dunedin Amenities Society)	50,000	50,000	Contributes to the cost of employing an Education Coordinator to deliver the Town Belt Kaitiaki programme.	30 June 2034
Mountain Bike Otago	80,000	80,000	To assist Mountain Bike Otago with developing and maintaining the quality of the mountain bike tracks on approved DCC land to meet the grade specifications for each track, maintenance includes but is not limited to maintaining track width and slope, spraying, trimming vegetation, clearing drains, topping up gravel on tracks and signage. And upkeep of mountain bike tracks in Dunedin.	30 June 2031
Yellow Eyed Penguin Trust	15,000	15,000	To assist with the operational cost of the Trust managing the Okia Reserve. Operational work includes pest control, weed control and revegetation, maintaining a fire-break, maintaining tracks and existing fencing. It assist with the organisation and engagements of volunteers at the reserve.	30 June 2027
Dunedin Wildlife Hospital	100,000	100,000	To assist with the operational costs of the Dunedin Wildlife Hospital.	30 June 2028
Swim Coaching, Lessons and Pool Grants	226,000	226,000	Some funding goes to Sport Otago to support reimbursing schools for lesson costs (DCC contribute 50% and Kiwisport the remaining 50%). Funding also goes towards a number of community and school pool grants to assist with the operational costs associated with the delivery and access to swimming across Dunedin as Council run pools cannot always meet the demand. The remaining funding goes to the Dunedin Swim Coaching Board to assist with the running costs of the Elite Swimming Squads at Moana Pool, including lane and meeting room hire, and the delivery of quality swim coaching programmes.	30 June 2027

Library Taieri	2,000	2,000	Funding for the Outram Library and the Middlemarch library. We give them an annual grant for operating costs rather than provide a library service (eg physical library or book bus visits) in these areas.	Decided through the annual plan
Library Strath Taieri	7,000	7,000	Funding for the Outram Library and the Middlemarch library. We give them an annual grant for operating costs rather than provide a library service (eg physical library or book bus visits) in these areas.	Decided through the annual plan
Port Chalmers & Strath Taieri Middlemarch Museums	10,000	10,000	Financial support for the two museums - unable to find exactly what the money goes towards but has been going since 2012	Decided through the annual plan
Santa Parade	71,526	70,400	Funding for costs related to the storage of floats and equipment utilised for the annual Santa Parade.	30 June 2027 (contracted each year through the annual plan)
Dunedin Dream Brokerage	50,000	50,000	the Dunedin Dream Brokerage has a community service agreement and the funding they receive goes towards their annual operating costs. DDB works with the creative community and building owners around the city to foster unique and accessible creative projects in unused or vacant spaces and shop fronts. These events foster community interaction and engagement through engaging with the installations that are accessible and inclusive	30 June 2027
Tomahawk Smaills Beach Care Trust	15,000	15,000	To assist with the production of a minimum of 750 eco-sourced, native coastal PB3-quality plants, and to support the costs associated with growing, planting, and maintaining them, all plants must be native to the Dunedin ecological area, grown from eco-sourced seed or cuttings, hardened for coastal conditions, and meet the specified quality, potting, fertiliser, and health requirements.	30 June 2034
Dunedin Tracks Network Trust	50,000	50,000	To progress the Coastal Community Cycle Connection and the Taieri Trail. Funding will assist with planning, securing landowner permissions and easements, obtaining resource consents, and undertaking technical assessments, helping to accelerate the completion of these trails.	30 June 2034
Otago Nuggets and Southern Hoiho	50,000	50,000	Support for the 2 local basketball teams in the National Basketball League for 3 years from 2025/26.	30 June 2028
Dunedin Environment Centre Trust - Shetland Street Community Gardens	10,000	10,000	To assist with the operation of a community garden and plant nursery, and the planting and maintenance of Kaikorai Common, Bishopcourt (formerly Shetland Street Reserve), the Shetland Street Community Gardens, and Dunedin City Council land along the Kaikorai Stream.	30 June 2034
Total Community Service Agreements	**751,026**	**749,900**		

Service Level Agreements				
Dunedin Budget Advisory Services (DCC Electricity Fund)	185,000	195,000	$25,000 is for DBAS to deliver funding of $160,000 for people experiencing hardship in electricity. This fund supports around 400+ local residents every year.	30 June 2027
Cosy Home Trust	110,800	110,800	SLA for Cosy Home Trust to deliver insulation upgrades in accordance to the rules set by Government	30 June 2027
Aukaha Grants/SLA	250,000	43,887	To our rūnaka owned company to do consultant work for the DCC - such as resource management advice	Concluded
Edgar Stadium (Dunedin Indoor Venues Trust)	251,482	251,482	Funding towards operating Edgar Stadium	Decided through the annual plan
Surf Life Saving New Zealand	159,266	159,266	To assist with the cost of delivering of a weekday lifeguard service during the school holiday period at Brighton, St Clair, St Kilda, and Warrington beaches.	30 June 2027
Sport Otago Getting Dunedn Active	37,234	37,234	Getting Dunedin Active and Core Services (was two agreements now combined into one agreement) - To assist with delivering activities that encourage Dunedin residents to be physically active, including supporting participation in play, active recreation and sport, delivering community events, improving health outcomes through programmes such as Green Prescription and Active Families, administering community funding opportunities, and advocating for the development and maintenance of sport and recreation facilities across the region.	30/06/2034 (merged with the below in 26/27 budget)

Sport Otago Core Services	43,440	43,440	Getting Dunedin Active and Core Services (was two agreements now combined into one agreement) - To assist with delivering activities that encourage Dunedin residents to be physically active, including supporting participation in play, active recreation and sport, delivering community events, improving health outcomes through programmes such as Green Prescription and Active Families, administering community funding opportunities, and advocating for the development and maintenance of sport and recreation facilities across the region.	30/06/2034 (merged with the above in 26/27 budget)
Start-up Trust	294,300	294,209	Annual partner support (alongside the University of Otago and Otago Polytechnic) for not-for-profit charitable trust helping new businesses and entrepreneurs grow	30 June 2028
Dunedin Fringe Art Trust - Te Whare o Rukutia	50,000	50,000	Funding for the Fringe trust to manage Te Whare o Rukitia - our community gallery that offers free and accesible space for all community groups to put on performances/seminars, etc	30 June 2028
Green Island Combined Sports Bodies	45,000	45,000	To assist with the operational costs of running the Sunnyvale Sports Centre.	30 June 2034
Total Service Level Agreements	**1,426,522**	**1,230,318**		

Property Arrangements				
St Leonards Hall	8,500	8,500	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	30 June 2034
Civic Hall	2,000	2,000	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	30 June 2034
Portobello Hall	5,200	5,200	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	30 June 2034
Ravensbourne Hall	7,800	7,800	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	30 June 2034
Outram Hall	4,500	4,500	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	30 June 2034
Momona Hall	2,800	2,800	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	30 June 2034
Brighton Hall	5,150	6,438	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	30 June 2034
Fairfield Hall	11,500	11,500	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	30 June 2034
OceanView Hall	5,148	5,150	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	30 June 2034
Strath-Taieri Hall	40,500	46,825	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	30 June 2034
Port Chalmers Hall	8,500	8,500	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	30 June 2034
Mosgiel Coronation Hall	16,800	17,430	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	30 June 2034
Waitati Hall	5,500	5,500	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	30 June 2034
Karitane Hall	7,000	7,000	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	30 June 2034
Warrington Hall	5,500	5,500	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	30 June 2034
Waikouaiti Hall	23,908	24,355	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	30 June 2034
Allanton Hall	2,300	2,386	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	30 June 2034
Harwood Hall	5,500	5,500	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	30 June 2034
Regent Theatre Trust	210,000	210,000	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	Decided through the annual plan
Otago Wellness Trust	85,786	85,786	Grant towards groups who manage DCC assets (hall/land/both)	Decided through the annual plan
Total Property Arrangements	**463,892**	**472,670**		

Grants Funded by Central Government Agencies				
Waste Minimisation Grants (Ministry for the Environment)	140,000	185,806	Allocates funding for small projects, community initiatives and commercial innovation and development from the Waste Levy.	Decided through the annual plan
Arts Grants (Creative New Zealand)	93,420	93,420	Supports local, community-based arts, cultural, and creative projects. It is funded by Creative New Zealand and administered by DCC.	Decided through the annual plan
Total Grants Funded by Central Government Agencies	**233,420**	**279,226**		

Other Grants				
NZ Masters Games Trust	115,783	115,783	DCC and Wanganui District Council owned - this grant goes to trust to manage the games through a hybrid model.	SLA commits Council until 2036
Marae Development	78,792	78,792	Split three ways to our three local marae, outcomes in advancing Māori community interests.	Funding redirected to the Youth Development Fund in the 26/27 budget

Film Otago Southland (Regional Partnership)	15,000	38,908	Regional partnership with other local government entities, screen industry leaders and Southern Institute of Technology. Funding goes towards general operations including includes regional marketing and promotion, workforce development, IP development, advocacy, facilitation and hosting production enquiries with the hope they land and create work in the region. In some case Dunedin based: screenwriters can apply for research funding, and crew can apply for travel support to get to training opportunities elsewhere in the region to their home.	30 June 2027
Total Other Agreements	**209,575**	**233,483**		

Legislative Grants				
Otago Museum Levy	5,278,603	5,278,019	Legislatively required to fund through the Otago Museum Trust Board Act 1996.	Process for determining levy amount is outlined in the Otago Museum Trust Board Act 1996
Total Legislative Grants	**5,278,603**	**5,278,019**		

Service Level Agreements to DCC Owned Companies				
Dunedin Centre (DVML)	757,000	757,000	An annual grant provided to DVML to enable community groups to access either the Dunedin Centre or Forsyth Barr Stadium through free venue hire, including coverage of associated event costs such as security and cleaning fees. This fund is available through two community rounds each year.	Decided through the annual plan
Community Access Fund (DVML) (same fund as above but split into two grant periods)	750,000	750,000	An annual grant provided to DVML to enable community groups to access either the Dunedin Centre or Forsyth Barr Stadium through free venue hire, including coverage of associated event costs such as security and cleaning fees. This fund is available through two community rounds each year.	Decided through the annual plan
Event Attraction Fund (DVML)	2,045,000	1,945,000	Ringfenced funding to entice major events to the city.	Decided through the annual plan
Total Service Level Agreements to DCC Owned Companies	**3,552,000**	**3,452,000**		
Total	**12,060,404**	**11,818,236**		

Grant category	Approved 25/26 budget $	Actual spend 25/26 $	Purpose
Contestable events grants	83,210	73,911	This fund supports local community events that reflect and celebrate Dunedin's communities, city and its people
Māori and Pasifika Innovation Funds (Hapori fund)	90,000	87,400	The Hapori Māori Fund and Pāsifika Development Fund were established by Dunedin City Council to support local Māori and Pāsifika to be active across the economy. The fund can support creative, cultural, youth and social enterprises as well as general business activity.
Premier & Major Events Grants	805,678	525,678	A premier event has targeted appeal but delivers significant visitor spend and national or international profile for the city. A major community event celebrates events that are important to the city and its identity.
Dunedin Heritage Fund (contestable funding to a third party)	680,700	680,700	The Dunedin Heritage Fund is a contestable grant fund administered by Dunedin City Council and Heritage New Zealand. The fund supports the conservation and continued use of the City's key heritage places.
Place Based Grants	490,000	490,000	Place-based Community Grants are open to groups focused on delivering placed-based community development within specific geographical areas of the city (communities and suburbs).
City Services Grants - Community	231,550	231,550	City Service and City Project grants support key and unique organisations to deliver services and projects that help the city achieve its strategic goals.
City Service Grants - Arts	231,550	231,550	City Service and City Project Arts grants support key organisations and projects to help the city achieve its strategic goals.
Arts Grants	175,600	172,600	Arts, cultural, and creative initiatives contribute to a vibrant, exciting city and funding contributes to a range of grants that support these activities.
Rates Relief	542,481	539,080	Rates Relief grants support non-government and not-for-profit groups that make their property available to help improve our community's wellbeing. This includes organisations that deliver social, educational, recreational, cultural, and environmental activities.
Biodiversity Grants	81,300	75,309	The fund supports landowners and communities to protect, manage and enhance the condition and extent of indigenous biodiversity across Dunedin city.
Community Grants	202,900	199,802	Community grants are available to groups providing activities and facilities for the well-being of the residents of Ōtepoti Dunedin.
Total Contestable Grants	**3,614,969**	**3,307,580**	


DUNEDIN
The funding landscape
An analysis of grant funding across the Dunedin City Council area
fundsorter
August 2026

FOREWORD



Gina Huakau
Community Partnerships Manager
Dunedin City Council



Lani Evans
Co-Founder & CEO
Fundsorter

The Dunedin City Council (DCC) commissioned Fundsorter to prepare this report so we can better understand how local grant making supports local people and communities. Across Ōtepoti Dunedin, people contribute their time, skills, and energy to keep community groups, neighbourhood initiatives, local projects and events thriving. While we recognise that the DCC's grants help support this vital community work, we also know we're part of a wider network of funders who invest in positive outcomes for our city.

To plan well for the future, the DCC wanted a clearer picture of our role within this funding ecosystem and how it compares with other organisations active in Dunedin. To support this, we asked Fundsorter — an independent organisation that helps community groups find funding — to provide an objective, data-driven view of local grant making. Their analysis looks at what funders say they prioritise, where funding actually goes, and how the DCC's own grant allocations fit within that broader landscape by reviewing 47 funders relevant to Dunedin.

The DCC also recognises that over the coming years significant change is likely to occur for both local government and community organisations in regard to funding. This report provides reliable, locally grounded information to help identify gaps, overlaps, and opportunities for positive change, so that we can ensure the DCC's grants remain accessible, fair, and aligned with the outcomes our communities value.

Fundsorter exists to make funding better, reducing the administrative burden on community organisations, increasing equity, and strengthening the sector's collective insight. We believe that greater transparency, and regular, accessible data on where grants are going, helps everyone make better decisions. Funders can be more informed and strategic. Community organisations can advocate with stronger evidence. And together, we can develop a clearer picture of how funding is being prioritised across Aotearoa.

This report is part of that commitment. It offers a snapshot of funding priorities and flows in the Dunedin City Council area right now, and forms the foundation for tracking how those patterns shift over time. Data allows us to move beyond anecdotes and see the bigger picture — who is being funded, who is not, and what that reflects about our collective values and priorities.

We are pleased to be partnering with the Dunedin City Council on this report. We are grateful for their support in making this work possible. As you read this report, we invite you to consider what the findings mean for your own mahi — whether you are a funder, a community organisation or an interested citizen.



INTRODUCTION

There is a lack of accessible, aggregated data in the community sector, particularly about funding: where it goes, what funders prioritise, and how those priorities align with community need. **Greater transparency enables more informed decision-making.** It allows us to see how challenges shift over time, whether funding responds to those shifts, and where persistent gaps remain.

This report maps the funding landscape for the Dunedin City Council area by examining both stated funding priorities and actual grant distribution over a 12-month period. It provides an independent evidence base to:

- Inform funding strategy across the region
- Support more coordinated and complementary philanthropy
- Equip community organisations with credible data to strengthen advocacy
- Surface inequities not visible at an individual grant or organisational level

Aggregated regional analysis creates shared intelligence, and shared intelligence strengthens the wider ecosystem.

The analysis focuses primarily on contestable funding — funding distributed through an open or semi-open application process — though it does include some non-contestable grants. This report also examines service level agreements and their impact on the funding landscape.

The report aims to offer an aggregated view of where funding resources flow. It is not a definitive account of all investment: proactive funding, impact investment portfolios, and informal giving are not well captured here, and we have undoubtedly missed some funds in our data collection. Nevertheless, this report provides more information than we have had before, and gives us a starting point for discussion.

For community organisations, this report offers a stronger foundation for advocacy — whether that means seeking additional funding, highlighting gaps, or questioning allocation patterns. It may provide a basis for greater collaboration across the sector, grounded in shared evidence rather than anecdote.

For funders, the findings present an opportunity to reflect. We encourage you to:

- Understand funding trends in the city and position your work within the wider landscape.
- Regularly review whether funding decisions align with stated strategic priorities, and address any gaps between intent and allocation.
- Communicate clearly about both funding intentions and actual distribution. Greater transparency supports better-aligned applications and stronger coordination across funders.
- Ensure that stated priorities are matched by meaningful investment.

This report is intended as a contribution to shared understanding, not a judgement. Over time, consistent and openly shared data will build a more complete picture of funding flows and trends, and help us create a more equitable funding landscape.

A note on anonymity: we haven't named individual funders, other than the Dunedin City Council, which comissioned this report. We have reported by funder type and in aggregate, in order to describe the system.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report was comissioned by the Dunedin City Council. Ngā mihi nui for your support.

In total, this report analyses 1,768 grants worth $22,503,429, across a city of about 128,900 (roughly $175 per head), as well as $4.7 million of service level agreements and a $5.3 million legislative grant, both examined separately later in this report.We explored 47 funders operating in the Dunedin City Council. Of those, 42 were active during the 12-month time period (April 1st 2025 through to March 31st 2026), and also funded organisations (rather than grants to individuals, which are out of scope for this report).

We couldn't access detailed information for nine in-scope funders, so their grants could only be assigned to our general "All" category. That category also holds grants from better-documented funders where the individual grant record lacked detail. In total it accounts for $897,854, or 4.0% of the funding analysed. For two others, the available data didn't align precisely with our focus period, so we've used their last financial years as a proxy, on the basis that neither had a change of leadership or strategy that would materially affect the comparison. And five further funders either chose not to participate or weren't able to meet the required timelines.

Class Four gaming trusts provided 31.5% of the $22.3m analysed — the largest single source of contestable funding in the city. Philanthropic trusts and foundations (including family foundations, community trusts and community foundations) accounted for 28.5% and councils for 26.8%, with central government and statutory funders supplying 12.5%, and service clubs, corporate and iwi funders under 1% between them. The council share is contestable grantmaking only — other council commitments are covered later in this report.

How to read the numbers

Each grant is categorised by its focus, so a grant funding a teen sports programme is counted under both “sports” and “youth”. Grants carry 2.1 categories on average. That means we can look at the data three ways. Each answers a different question, and none is more correct than the others.

The gap between reach and share of dollars is where much of the interest lies. A cause can appear in a great many grants and still receive very little money, or appear rarely and command a lot. Both tell you something useful about how a cause is funded.

We also report the average and the typical grant amounts. The average is the total divided by the number of grants. The typical grant is the midpoint — half of all grants were larger and half were smaller. The gap between them matters: Dunedin's average grant is $12,728, but the typical grant is just $5,000, because a small number of very large grants pull the average up.

The three measures used throughout this report:

Reach

How often a cause appears, or the share of all grants that touched on it. Grants carry multiple categories, so these overlap and sum to more than 100%.
e.g. Sport: 31.6% of grants, nearly one in three

Dollars touched

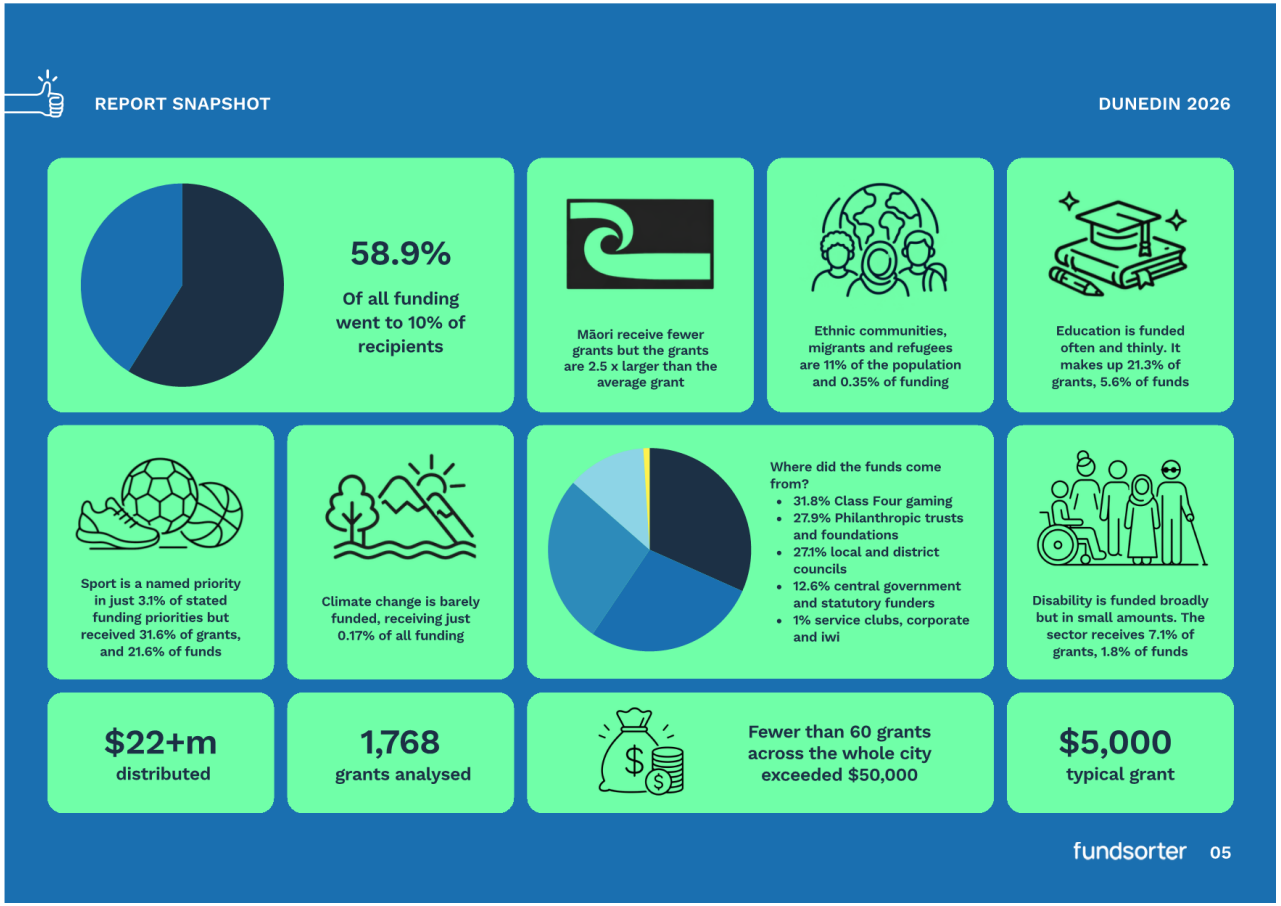
The full value of every grant that involved the cause. This also overlaps, and sums to more than 100%.
e.g. Sport: 29.2% of dollars ($6.6m)

Share of dollars

Each grant's value divided equally across its categories, so the total sums to 100%. This is our headline measure.
e.g. Sport: 21.6% of dollars ($4.9m)

Where we say a category “received” a percentage, we mean share of dollars.

fundsorter 04


REPORT SNAPSHOT
DUNEDIN 2026
58.9%
Of all funding went to 10% of recipients
Māori receive fewer grants but the grants are 2.5 x larger than the average grant
Ethnic communities, migrants and refugees are 11% of the population and 0.35% of funding
Education is funded often and thinly. It makes up 21.3% of grants, 5.6% of funds
Sport is a named priority in just 3.1% of stated funding priorities but received 31.6% of grants, and 21.6% of funds
Climate change is barely funded, receiving just 0.17% of all funding
Where did the funds come from?
31.8% Class Four gaming
27.9% Philanthropic trusts and foundations
27.1% local and district councils
12.6% central government and statutory funders
1% service clubs, corporate and iwi
Disability is funded broadly but in small amounts. The sector receives 7.1% of grants, 1.8% of funds
$22+m
distributed
1,768
grants analysed
Fewer than 60 grants across the whole city exceeded $50,000
$5,000
typical grant
fundsorter 05

KEY FINDINGS

What the data tells us about Dunedin and funding

Sport is first on every measure. It's the number one category on reach (31.6% of grants), dollars touched (29.2%) and share of dollars (21.6%) — more than twice the next largest category. The average sports grant is $11,765, below the average across the region. Sport gets a very large number of somewhat smaller grants, despite being named as a priority by just 9 of the region's 132 funds.

Young people are not well funded. 20.6% of Dunedin residents are aged 15 to 24 — far above the national picture, because this is a university city. Youth is the most-named fund priority. However, funding for young people accounted for 4.4% of dollars across 196 grants. A fifth of the population are youth, and the funding record doesn't reflect that.

Gaming trusts are Dunedin's largest source of contestable funding. Class Four gaming trusts provide 31.5% of the dollars and make 44.6% of all grants, so they're the funder most organisations are engaging with most frequently. Their typical grant is $5,745.

Biodiversity and conservation is well funded with a typical grant of $15,000, three times the typical Dunedin grant. But biodiversity and conservation takes 91% of every environmental dollar, leaving climate change and waste minimisation to share what's left, and the majority of that remainder comes from councils. Dunedin funds nature well, but funds the rest of the environment barely at all, and leans on one type of funder to do it.

Climate change is barely funded. Our most predictable crisis is almost invisible in contestable funding. Climate change receives just 0.17% of the pool, and no grants in the dataset explicitly name adaptation, flooding or sea-level rise as its purpose.

Everyone loves a building. Buildings are the one thing every funder in Dunedin agrees on. Councils, philanthropic trusts, gaming trusts and central government all fund capital works — 17 funders in total support facilities and capital works, one of the broadest funder groups for any category. What they're building is narrower than that suggests: 40% of the dollars spent on buildings and facilities goes to sports and recreation facilities.

Children aren't overlooked but they are underfunded. Children (aged 0 - 12) appear in 13.4% of all grants but receive just 2.5% of dollars, at an average of $7,736 and typical grant of $4,000 — the lowest typical grant amount of any major category.

Education has high reach, but small funds. Education is the second most-reached category (21.3% of all grants carry an education tag) but those grants account for just 5.6% of the dollars. Education gets exactly typical-sized grants; it just doesn't get the big ones. Only ten education grants in the year exceeded $50,000.

Arts and creativity funding lines up. 19 funds name arts and creativity as a priority (6.5% of all stated priorities in the region) and it receives 7.6% of the dollars. That gap of just over a percentage point makes arts one of the few categories where stated intent and actual delivery sit close together. It's the third largest category by dollars, though the typical arts grant of $4,258 sits below the city's $5,000 norm.

Māori receive fewer, larger grants. Only 4.3% of grants are categorised Māori, but those grants touch $2.4 million, or 10.6% of all dollars touched. The average grant involving Māori is $31,309, more than twice the regional average.

Relief of poverty is named more than it's funded. Ten funds name relief of poverty as a priority (3.4% of all stated priorities in the region) but it receives 0.80% of the pool across 63 grants. At an average grant of $9,604, poverty relief is underfunded relative to both stated intent and evident need. This is a consistent finding across regional datasets we have explored.

Arts, sport, education and recreation 40.1% of dollars granted. Disabled people, ethnic communities, rainbow communities, people in housing need and those in contact with the justice system take 5.3% between them.

Health funding is the one place intent and delivery meet. Public health and wellbeing appears in 11.9% of all grants and takes 4.5% of the dollars, a gap of about a percentage point, the closest match between what funders say they'll fund and what they actually fund of any large category in the dataset. It is also the most widely supported cause in the city, funded by 20 of the region's funders.

This analysis is not definitive, but it provides a starting point. Regular snapshots of this kind, taken over time, could help track trends, test assumptions, and support more deliberate and equitable allocation of resources across the region.

KEY FINDINGS

Funding against population

Comparing funding shares to population shares is a blunt instrument. Not every community needs funding in proportion to its size, and some groups are supported largely through government services rather than grants. But it's a useful way of asking whether the funding record looks like the region it serves.

A city of students and retired people funds neither. 20.6% of residents are aged 15 to 24, far above the national picture, and 17.3% are 65 or over — more than a third of Dunedin at one end or the other. Young people receive $38 per head, older people $12.

Pacific peoples. 3.9% of the population, 0.53% of dollars across 34 grants, $24 per head (as against $175 for the general population). Five of the region's funds name Pasifika communities as a priority, more stated intent than for most communities, but the money doesn't back it up.

Rainbow communities are named but not delivered to. Four funds name rainbow communities as a priority, but little funding reaches them, with few grants and small average grant sizes.

Ethnic communities are the fastest-growing part of Dunedin and the least funded. 9.3% of residents identify as Asian and 1.7% as Middle Eastern, Latin American or African. Funding is only 0.35% of dollars.

Māori funding rests on a single decision. Māori and tangata whenua work received 4.3% of Dunedin's share of dollars, against a Māori population of 10.8%. Forty-two percent of that arrived in one grant. Remove it and Māori funding here looks like everyone else's — small, local and annual.

Disabled people are funded as a group apart. 17% of New Zealanders are disabled. Of the city's 126 disability grants, not one also names Māori, Pasifika or ethnic communities. Disability is treated as a category of person rather than as a dimension of every other community.

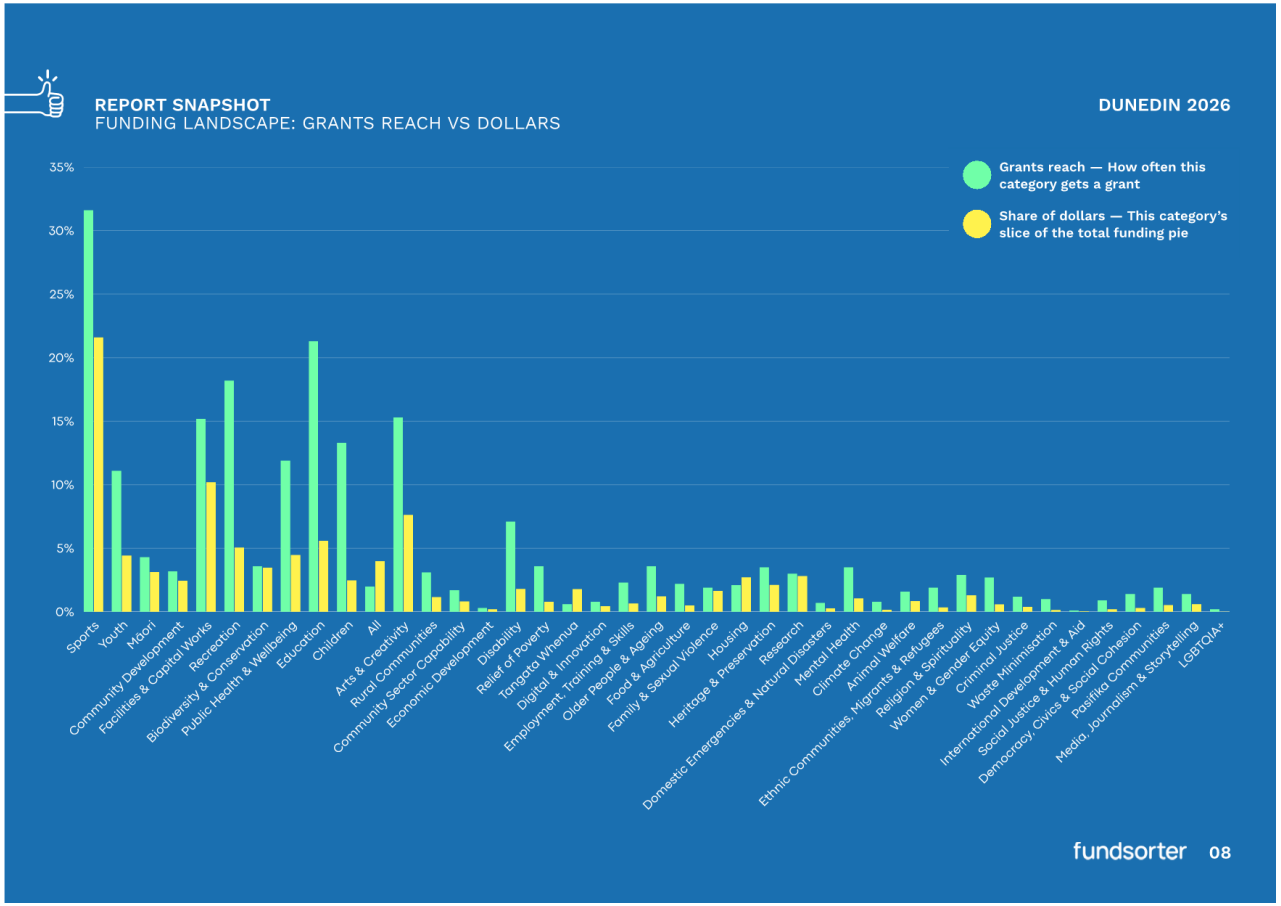
The shape of funding

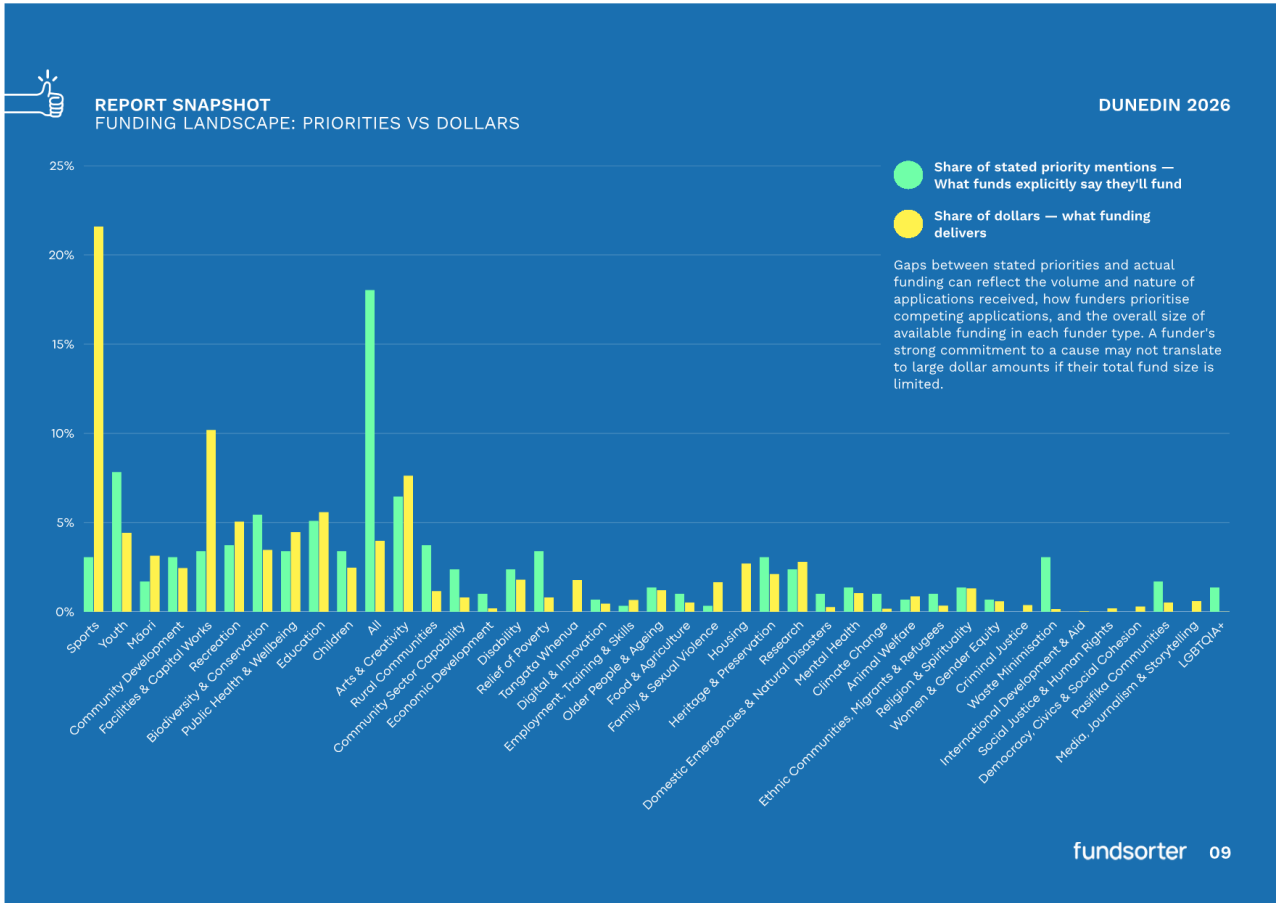
Most organisations received just one grant. 974 organisations received funding, and 67.9% of them received one grant from this dataset. At the other end, the top 10% of recipients received 58.9% of the money, and the top 1% took 20.4% of it.

The funding landscape runs on annual grants. Less than 10% of grants are multi-year, and those are concentrated in government grants; gaming trusts and philanthropic trusts make very few. This explains why organisations struggle to plan beyond 12 months.

Grants are mostly small. Fewer than 60 grants across the whole city exceeded $50,000. The typical grant is $5,000. Most organisations will need several grants to fund anything substantial.

Grant size	% of grants	% of dollars
Under $1,000	4.0%	0.2%
$1,000 - $4,999	37.8%	8.1%
$5,000 - $9,999	23.2%	11.7%
$10,000 - $49,999	30.8%	44.7%
$50,000 - $99,999	3.1%	15.6%
$100,000 +	1.2%	19.8%


REPORT SNAPSHOT
FUNDING LANDSCAPE: GRANTS REACH VS DOLLARS
DUNEDIN 2026
Grants reach — How often this category gets a grant
Share of dollars — This category's slice of the total funding pie
35%
30%
25%
20%
15%
10%
5%
0%
Sports
Youth
Māori
Community Development
Facilities & Capital Works
Recreation
Biodiversity & Conservation
Public Health & Wellbeing
Education
Children
All
Arts & Creativity
Rural Communities
Community Sector Capability
Economic Development
Disability
Relief of Poverty
Tongata Whenua
Digital & Innovation
Employment, Training & Skills
Older People & Ageing
Food & Agriculture
Family & Sexual Violence
Housing
Heritage & Preservation
Research
Domestic Emergencies & Natural Disasters
Mental Health
Climate Change
Animal Welfare
Ethnic Communities, Migrants & Refugees
Religion & Spirituality
Women & Gender Equity
Criminal Justice
Waste Minimisation
International Development & Aid
Social Justice & Human Rights
Democracy, Civics & Social Cohesion
Pasifika Communities
Media, Journalism & Storytelling
LGBTQIA+
fundsorter 08


REPORT SNAPSHOT
FUNDING LANDSCAPE: PRIORITIES VS DOLLARS
DUNEDIN 2026
Share of stated priority mentions — What funds explicitly say they'll fund
Share of dollars — what funding delivers
Gaps between stated priorities and actual funding can reflect the volume and nature of applications received, how funders prioritise competing applications, and the overall size of available funding in each funder type. A funder's strong commitment to a cause may not translate to large dollar amounts if their total fund size is limited.
25%
20%
15%
10%
5%
0%
Sports
Youth
Māori
Community Development
Facilities & Capital Works
Recreation
Biodiversity & Conservation
Public Health & Wellbeing
Education
Children
All
Arts & Creativity
Rural Communities
Community Sector Capability
Economic Development
Disability
Relief of Poverty
Tongata Whenua
Digital & Innovation
Employment, Training & Skills
Older People & Ageing
Food & Agriculture
Family & Sexual Violence
Housing
Heritage & Preservation
Research
Domestic Emergencies & Natural Disasters
Mental Health
Climate Change
Animal Welfare
Ethnic Communities, Migrants & Refugees
Religion & Spirituality
Women & Gender Equity
Criminal Justice
Waste Minimisation
International Development & Aid
Social Justice & Human Rights
Democracy, Civics & Social Cohesion
Pasifika Communities
Media, Journalism & Storytelling
LGBTQIA+
fundsorter 09

KEY FINDINGS

Dunedin City Council Funding

The Dunedin City Council is the largest funder in this dataset. Altogether, the council distributed $15.7m over the year. However, not all council community grants are included in the data above. We also received data on other funding from the Dunedin City Council: $9.9 million in legislative and service level agreements.

These are not contestable grants. Such arrangements are less flexible and less community-led, set by contract or by statute, renewed on a cycle, and shaped by council requirements rather than applied for. Around two-thirds of the council's community funding is allocated this way.

Just over half of that $9.9 million is a single legislative grant: $5,278,019 to the Otago Museum. It is set by statute rather than decided by the Council, and the museum does not apply for it. At around one-sixth of all the funding reviewed, including it would distort every category it touches, so it sits outside every other figure and chart in this report. That leaves $4.7 million of service level agreements and legislative funding.

It is a significant lever. Where a contestable round responds to what the community brings forward, this funding lets the Council decide directly what the city supports from one year to the next.

Most of it goes to areas already well represented in Dunedin's contestable funding: $1.1m to facilities and capital works, and $1m each to arts and creativity, sport and recreation — all categories already in the top five areas of the report on contestable grants.

Other categories also appear in this funding: employment and training ($108,360), relief of poverty ($97,500), public health ($76,750) and education ($50,676), and smaller amounts to climate change, housing, economic development, biodiversity & conservation, Māori, tangata whenua and digital & innovation.

Twenty-six of the 41 categories receive nothing from non-contestable funding, including disability, mental health, older people, and many other communities.

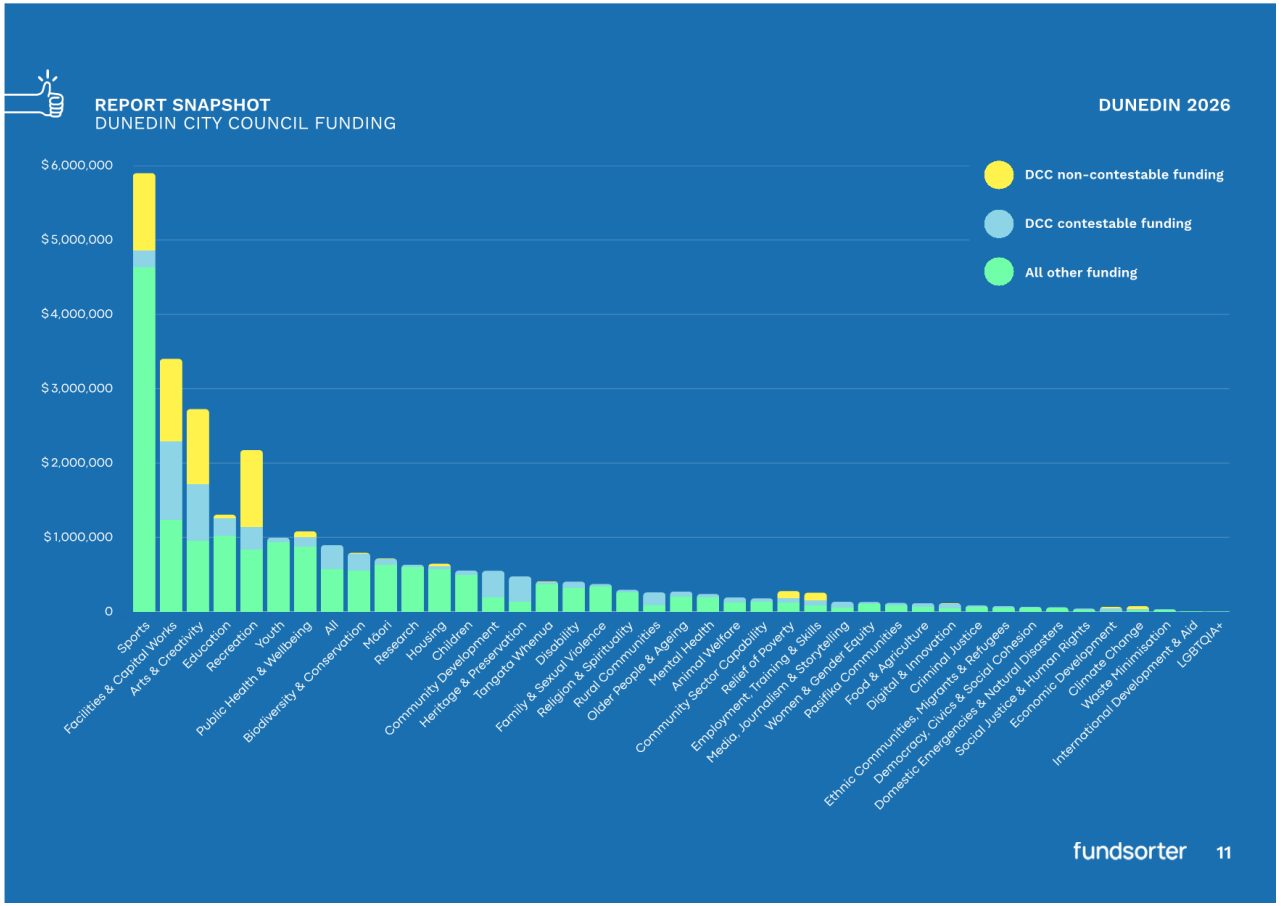
Where the money comes from

Three kinds of funding. The chart on the next page splits each category into three kinds of funding, because they behave differently: one is decided by contract, one by contest, and one by everyone else. Together they show where the Council is the main funder of a cause, where it is one voice among many, and where a cause depends entirely on funders outside the Council.

Dunedin City Council non-contestable funding, $4.7m. Service level agreements and statutory funding, set by contract or by statute and renewed on a cycle. Organisations do not apply for these.

Dunedin City Council contestable funding, $5.4m. Grants from the Council's open funding rounds, which eligible organisations apply for and which are decided competitively.

Other contestable funding, $17.1m. Contestable grants from every other funder in the dataset: gaming trusts, philanthropic trusts and foundations, central government and statutory funders, service clubs, corporates and iwi.


REPORT SNAPSHOT
DUNEDIN CITY COUNCIL FUNDING
DUNEDIN 2026
$6,000,000
$5,000,000
$4,000,000
$3,000,000
$2,000,000
$1,000,000
0
DCC non-contestable funding
DCC contestable funding
All other funding
Sports
Facilities & Capital Works
Arts & Creativity
Education
Recreation
Youth
Public Health & Wellbeing
All
Biodiversity & Conservation
Māori
Research
Housing
Children
Community Development
Heritage & Preservation
Tangata Whenua
Disability
Family & Sexual Violence
Religion & Spirituality
Rural Communities
Older People & Ageing
Mental Health
Animal Welfare
Community Sector Capability
Relief of Poverty
Employment, Training & Skills
Media, Journalism & Storytelling
Women & Gender Equity
Pasifika Communities
Food & Agriculture
Digital & Innovation
Criminal Justice
Ethnic Communities, Migrants & Refugees
Democracy, Civics & Social Cohesion
Domestic Emergencies & Natural Disasters
Social Justice & Human Rights
Economic Development
Climate Change
Waste Minimisation
International Development & Aid
LGBTQIA+
fundsorter
11

NOTES ON THE DATA

Data exclusions

Grants for individuals. This report is designed to highlight funding for organisations, not individuals. Individual funding comes from a range of different places, including grants and scholarships which we do not collect or analyse. When we do find grants for individuals in datasets, we do not include those. In this dataset we excluded several medical and research grants made to individuals, and approximately $170,000 worth of grants to individuals from the Dunedin City Council.

Data quality

Low quality data. We receive data in a wide variety of formats, and with varying levels of detail. When detail is light, we engage in an enrichment process, where we investigate the kaupapa of organisations to provide a better basis for understanding the purpose of grants.

Assumptions

Availability and accuracy of information. The report assumes that publicly available documentation and information provided by funders accurately reflect actual funding practices. Where information is incomplete or unclear, reasonable interpretations have been made.

Stability of funding objectives. It is assumed that the stated objectives of contestable grant programmes have been broadly stable over the period examined, and that any minor changes do not materially affect the overall purpose or intent of the funds.

Categorisation notes

"All" grant funding. Some funders have very broad strategies that encompass any work that is beneficial to the community. These are so broad that they cannot be allocated to more specific categories. An example of this would be a trust that "funds for charitable, philanthropic and sporting purposes." On the grants side, "all" appears as a category when a funder has not provided adequate detail on individual grants.

Māori versus Tangata Whenua. These are two distinct categories in our funding data. Māori is funding tagged for outcomes benefiting Māori, or for projects led by Māori or kaupapa Māori organisations. Tangata Whenua is funding that is specifically for hapū or iwi.



FUNDING CATEGORIES

Fundsorter, in consultation with those working in the community sector, has created a list of funding categories that broadly represent the work carried out by the community or for-purpose sector. We understand that these categories are not perfect, but believe they are a good starting point for data analysis and conversations.

All. Funders with no stated cause, population, or kaupapa focus (e.g. discretionary community grants, general foundation rounds, community trust funds); used exclusively and never combined with other tags.

Climate Change. Climate change mitigation (emissions reduction, renewable energy, sustainable transport, carbon sequestration) and adaptation (community resilience, disaster risk reduction, climate justice), including related policy, research, advocacy, and education.

Biodiversity & Conservation. Protecting, restoring, and sustainably managing species, ecosystems, and genetic diversity, including predator control, ecological restoration, freshwater and marine health, and kaitiakitanga and mātauranga Māori conservation approaches.

Waste Minimisation. Reducing waste across the full hierarchy — source reduction, reuse, repair, recycling, composting, and resource recovery — including circular economy and landfill diversion initiatives.

Food & Agriculture. Access to nutritious food, sustainable food production, and healthy food systems, including community gardens, food rescue, food sovereignty, regenerative farming, sustainable fisheries, and mahinga kai.

Disability. Disability rights, inclusion, and practical support for disabled people and their whānau, including assistive technology, respite, supported employment, accessible infrastructure, the Deaf community and NZSL, and tāngata whaikaha.

Mental Health. Psychological, emotional, and psychiatric wellbeing across prevention, treatment, and recovery, including counselling, peer support, crisis response, suicide prevention, and kaupapa Māori approaches (hauora hinengaro).

Public Health & Wellbeing. Physical health services, health promotion, and population wellbeing, including disease prevention, clinical care, health education and equity, and kaupapa Māori models such as Te Whare Tapa Whā.

Children. The wellbeing, development, and protection of children and tamariki (pre-birth to age 12, sometimes 18), including early childhood education, parenting support, child protection, and hardship support.

Youth. Projects by or for young people and rangatahi (roughly ages 12–24, sometimes 35), including youth development, mentoring, leadership, cultural connection, and youth justice.

Older People & Ageing. Wellbeing, participation, and dignity for older people and kaumātua, including aged and palliative care, isolation and elder abuse prevention, and age-friendly and intergenerational initiatives.

Employment, Training & Skills. Building employment pathways, workforce skills, and economic self-sufficiency, including vocational training, job placement, social enterprise, financial capability, and support for people facing barriers to work.

Education. Learning across all life stages, from early childhood through tertiary and lifelong learning, including schooling, teacher development, educational resources, and kaupapa Māori settings such as kura kaupapa and kōhanga reo.

Digital & Innovation. Technology, digital systems, and social innovation as the primary focus, including AI for good, digital inclusion, civic tech, Indigenous data sovereignty (Te Mana Raraunga), and the testing and scaling of new social solutions.

FUNDING CATEGORIES

Economic Development. Growing local and regional economies and community wealth through entrepreneurship, small business support, financial inclusion, and Māori and iwi economic self-determination, with an economic-outcome lens.

Research. The generation of new, generalisable knowledge through original systematic investigation across all disciplines, tagged only where a fund explicitly supports research, study, or knowledge generation.

Māori. Outcomes benefiting Māori or projects led by Māori, iwi, hapū, or kaupapa Māori organisations across all domains, including any indigenous-focused fund Māori can apply to.

Tangata Whenua. Work specifically by or for hapū and iwi as distinct governing entities (iwi/hapū trusts, PSGEs), governed by tribal leadership or exclusively for members of a named iwi/hapū within a rohe.

Pasifika Communities. Initiatives led by or for Pacific peoples in Aotearoa across cultural, social, health, economic, and wellbeing outcomes, including language, arts, Pacific-led research, and MVPFAFF+ communities.

Ethnic Communities, Migrants & Refugees. New Zealand–based support for ethnic minorities, migrants, refugees, and diaspora groups, including settlement services, cultural identity, anti-racism advocacy, and social cohesion.

LGBTQIA+. Supporting Rainbow communities' rights, visibility, and wellbeing, including community services, sexual and mental health, anti-discrimination advocacy, gender-affirming care, takatāpui, and MVPFAFF+.

Social Justice & Human Rights. Advancing equity, justice, and human rights through advocacy, movements, and systemic reform, including civil liberties, reproductive rights, racial justice, and Te Tiriti–based advocacy.

Women & Gender Equity. Initiatives where women, girls, or gender minorities are the primary beneficiaries or gender drives disadvantage, including gender-based violence, reproductive health, pay equity, and leadership, encompassing wāhine, trans women, and gender-diverse people.

Arts & Creativity. Artistic and creative expression across all forms, including individual artists, arts organisations, community participation, cultural events, infrastructure, toi Māori, and Pacific arts.

Heritage & Preservation. Protecting, restoring, and transmitting cultural, historical, built, and natural heritage, including historic buildings, collections, taonga, oral and language history, urupā, marae, and wāhi tapu.

Media, Journalism & Storytelling. Media production, journalism, and storytelling across all platforms, including public interest journalism, documentary, community media, media literacy, reo Māori broadcasting, and Pacific and ethnic media.

Domestic Emergencies & Natural Disasters. Relief, response, and recovery for New Zealand communities affected by emergencies and disasters, including immediate relief, civil defence, rebuilding, and preparedness and resilience.

Housing. Housing provision and support addressing unaffordability, insecurity, and homelessness, including social and affordable housing, emergency housing, tenancy support, home modifications, and papakāinga.

Relief of Poverty. Reducing poverty and material hardship through both direct assistance (food, financial help, budgeting) and structural work addressing the systemic causes of disadvantage, including colonisation and Māori land loss.

Criminal Justice. The criminal justice system, its reform, and the people affected, including prison reform, restorative justice, reintegration, and te ao Māori approaches such as Te Pae Oranga and Te Ao Mārama.



FUNDING CATEGORIES

Family & Sexual Violence. Preventing and responding to family, domestic, and sexual violence and child and elder abuse, including crisis services, recovery, prevention, abuse-in-care support, and kaupapa Māori approaches.

Rural Communities. Wellbeing, services, and infrastructure in rural areas and small towns, including rural halls, connectivity, farming families, the primary sector, provincial "regional" New Zealand, and rural Māori and papakāinga.

Community Development. Building community capacity, power, and self-determination so local people lead and decide, including community organising and participatory planning — not merely activities that happen "in the community."

Democracy, Civics & Social Cohesion. Strengthening democratic systems, civic participation, and social cohesion, including electoral integrity, civic education, peace building, countering disinformation and extremism, and Treaty-based participatory governance.

Community Sector Capability. Building the capability, sustainability, and effectiveness of community organisations and the wider sector, including governance, fundraising, systems, workforce, networks, and Te Tiriti partnership practice.

Facilities & Capital Works. The construction, renovation, and fit-out of community facilities and fixed infrastructure (halls, marae, clubrooms, accessibility and seismic works), excluding standalone portable equipment.

Sports. Organised sport and physical activity from grassroots to elite, including club and youth sport, disability sport, facilities, events, and initiatives addressing barriers for underrepresented groups.

Recreation. Voluntary leisure and recreational activities for enjoyment, connection, and wellbeing, including outdoor pursuits, hobby groups, events, and the tracks, trails, parks, and halls that enable them.

International Development & Aid. Work whose primary beneficiaries are communities outside New Zealand, including humanitarian aid, long-term development, global advocacy, and international partnerships, excluding NZ-based work.

Religion & Spirituality. Religious practice, faith community life, and spiritual wellbeing across all traditions, including worship, chaplaincy, interfaith work, sacred spaces, and Māori and Pacific faith traditions.

Animal Welfare. The welfare and humane treatment of domestic, companion, farm, and wild animals, including rescue and rehoming, anti-cruelty advocacy, farm animal welfare, and stronger welfare standards.

ABOUT FUNDSORTER

Fundsorter is a social enterprise designed to help community organisations reduce the time and effort spent finding and applying for grants.

The tool brings together a comprehensive database of funding opportunities, a smart matching algorithm, and an AI-driven drafting tool that continually learns and improves. After creating a profile, organisations share information about their funding needs. Fundsorter then identifies the most relevant opportunities and generates tailored application drafts for selected funds. Soon, the system will also be able to generate accountability reports, streamlining the entire grants process from start to finish.

Our kaupapa is focused on creating a more equitable funding landscape in Aotearoa. We do this by making the grant-seeking process more efficient, more equitable and accessible for all; by providing education opportunities to connect community organisations to the emerging tech paradigm and; by collating, analysing and disseminating data that can help funders and communities make better informed decisions.

We are a small New Zealand–based team with experience in the community sector, philanthropy, technology and research. We work closely with users and funders to make sure our tools are useful, accurate, and grounded in how funding actually works.

Thank you to everyone who supported this mahi.

Report team



Lani Evans
Co-founder + CEO



Alanna Irving
Co-founder + CPO



Tonielle Purdy
Graphic Designer
For Good Studio

fundsorter

Funding framework examples

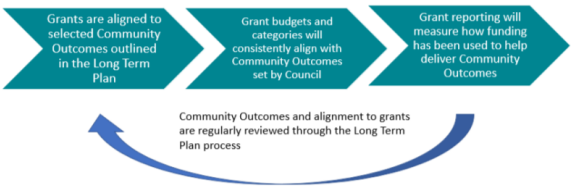
1 There's currently no framework linking grants funding to Council's strategic outcomes. As a result, there's also limited data on how grant funding helps progress Council's Community Outcomes which are outlined in the Long Term Plan.

2 Examples of funding frameworks to assist Council with future funding decisions could include:

a) Grant funding based on Long Term Plan Community Outcomes:

i) Council could align grant categories with specific Community Outcomes in the Long Term Plan.

ii) Grant making would be used as a tool to advance strategic priorities and ensure that grants funding is aligned to Long Term Plan priorities.



b) Contestable Grant funding is redirected towards targeted strategic investment:

i) Council could redirect all Contestable Grants funding towards one or two specifically identified strategic goals (such as young people or homelessness).

ii) Strategic goals can be identified and updated through each Long Term Plan process.



c) A portion of funding could be used to advance Community Outcomes, with the remaining ringfenced for targeted investment:

i) Council could decide the percentage of funding it would like to go towards progressing Community Outcomes and targeted investment.

ii) Funding would continue to take the form of both Contestable Grants and Funding Agreements, with Council deciding the percentage split.

iii) DCC funding would retain its breadth, with Council having the ability to strategically decide which Contestable Grants could move to Funding Agreements and which no longer align.



3 With all frameworks, updates on progress could be reported to Council through the Annual Grants Report. The framework approach could be reviewed regularly through the Long Term Plan process.

4 Any changes in funding approaches would need to be worked through with the community.

SUBMISSION - BUILDING AMENDMENT BILL

Department: Corporate Policy and Corporate and Regulatory

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1 This report seeks Council approval of the Dunedin City Council (DCC) submission (Attachment A) on the Building Amendment Bill (the Bill) to the Transport and Infrastructure Committee. Submissions close on 15 November 2026.

2 The Bill aims to amend the Building Act 2004 and other legislation with the intention of removing inefficiencies in the building system that increase costs and delay delivery.

3 The draft submission generally supports the Bill's proposed building-system reforms, including proportionate liability, mandatory professional indemnity insurance, expedited consenting for qualifying sustainable buildings and the extension of exemptions for off-site constructed small dwellings. It seeks changes where proposals could create additional responsibilities or risk for Building Consent Authorities (BCA), particularly administration of private home warranties and the transfer of regulatory functions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council:

a) **Approves** the draft Dunedin City Council submission, with any amendments agreed at the meeting on the Building Amendment Bill.

b) **Authorises** the Chief Executive to make any minor editorial amendments to the draft submission before it is lodged.

c) **Authorises** the Mayor or delegate to speak to the submission at any hearing.

BACKGROUND

4 The Bill is the culmination of a series of building and construction reforms announced by the Government in 2023.

5 The DCC previously submitted to the former Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment on the “Making it easier to build granny flats” consultation in August 2024 and “Improving efficiency in the inspection process” in November 2024. These consultations have informed amendments to the Building Act.

6 The purpose of the Bill is to amend the Building Act 2004 and other legislation with the intention of removing inefficiencies in the building system that increase costs and delay delivery.

7 Proposed amendments in the Bill include:

- establishing a proportionate liability system for defective building work
- introducing mandatory professional indemnity insurance for design professionals (such as architects, designers, engineers, and surveyors) that contribute to the compliance of building work
- introducing mandatory warranties for residential building work with a total value of $100,000 or more requiring building consent
- encouraging uptake of solar energy by creating a fast-track building consent pathway for qualifying residential buildings
- repealing the Building Research Levy Act 1969 and introducing a new system for allocating funding for building sector research
- enabling voluntary consolidation and collaboration across the Building Consent Authority system
- further changes to support the off-site construction of small stand-alone buildings (granny flats).

DISCUSSION

8 The DCC submission addresses amendments relevant to DCC's regulatory role and its functions as a Building Consent Authority (BCA).

10-day Project Information Memoranda (PIMs):

9 The DCC submission notes PIMs provide important information that assists Building Consent Authorities in the efficient processing of building consent applications. It recognises that there are clear advantages in applicants obtaining a PIM before submitting a building consent application, as proposed in the Bill, enabling site-specific and regulatory matters to be identified and addressed earlier in the design process.

10 The DCC submission recommends that if PIM and building consent applications will operate under separate statutory timeframes, DCC recommends separating the application processes and introducing dedicated forms for each. This would better reflect their distinct purposes and encourage applicants to seek PIM information at an earlier stage of project development.

10-day building consents for solar and sustainability:

11 The DCC submission supports the proposal to reduce the statutory processing timeframe for building consent applications from 20 working days to 10 working days for whole-building projects that meet prescribed sustainability and solar generation criteria, as it will encourage the delivery of more sustainable buildings and contribute to positive environmental outcomes across New Zealand.

12 The DCC submission notes that the successful implementation of this proposal will depend on the criteria being adequately defined and straightforward to assess, and on BCAs being adequately resourced to meet the shortened processing timeframes while maintaining the quality and consistency of assessments.

Proportionate liability:

13 The DCC submission supports the proposed move to proportionate liability. This approach will better align liability with responsibility and reduce the risk of ratepayers being exposed to significant financial costs resulting from the failures of private parties involved in the design and construction of buildings.

14 The DCC submission notes that proportionate liability will not apply retrospectively to building work already completed, meaning that councils' risk exposure will continue for those buildings.

Mandatory professional indemnity insurance for designers:

15 The DCC submission supports this amendment in the Bill, as designers should have the financial capacity to meet their share of liability where design errors contribute to building defects.

16 The DCC submission notes the importance of this under proportionate liability arrangements, where owners may otherwise face difficulties obtaining redress from all liable parties.

Mandatory Home Warranties:

17 The DCC submission supports the introduction of mandatory home warranties as a means of improving consumer protection and increasing confidence in the residential building sector.

18 However, the DCC submission notes that the proposal is likely to create additional administrative obligations for BCAs, including the assessment of warranty documentation, the provision of notifications, and the issuing of certificates. These functions will require additional time and resources.

19 In its submission, DCC considers that responsibility for verifying and administering private home warranty arrangements should rest with the parties to the building contract rather than BCAs. Home warranties are private insurance products, and their administration and enforcement should not form part of a council's regulatory role.

20 The DCC submission also considers that the proposed one-year warranty period for general defects is insufficient. Many significant building defects do not become evident within the first year following completion, particularly where defects develop gradually over time.

Transfer of functions:

21 The DCC submission supports the introduction of more comprehensive legislative provisions governing the transfer of functions under the Building Act. Clearer requirements and processes will provide greater certainty for all parties involved and help ensure accountability where functions are transferred between organisations.

22 DCC notes, however, that either party may terminate a transfer arrangement and that the transferor must reassume the functions if the transferee can no longer perform them. While this may be necessary to maintain continuity of service, it could create practical challenges for councils that no longer retain the necessary capability, systems or resources.

Off-site construction of exempt small stand-alone dwellings:

23 The DCC submission supports the proposed extension of the building consent exemption for small standalone dwellings to include those constructed off-site. The DCC recognises that off-site manufacturing can deliver significant benefits, including improved build quality, greater construction efficiency, and reduced material waste.

OPTIONS

Option One – Approves the Dunedin City Council draft submission on the Building Amendment Bill

Advantages

- Opportunity to contribute to national discussion on amendments to the building and construction system that will impact on Ōtepoti Dunedin and its residents.
- Opportunity to advocate at a national level in the DCC's unique role of regulator and Building Consents Authority for the city.

Disadvantages

- There are no identified disadvantages for this option.

Option Two – Does not approve the Dunedin City Council draft submission on the Building Amendment Bill

Advantages

- There are no identified advantages for this option.

Disadvantages

- Missed opportunity to contribute to national discussion on amendments to the building and construction system that will impact on Ōtepoti Dunedin and its residents.
- Missed opportunity to advocate at a national level in the DCC's unique role of regulator and Building Consents Authority for the city.

NEXT STEPS

24 If Council approves the draft DCC submission on the Building Amendment Bill, staff will submit it to the Transport and Infrastructure Committee by the closing date of 15 November 2026.

Signatories

Author:	Danielle Tolson - Policy Analyst Grant Sutton - Principal Advisor Building Services
Authoriser:	Mike Hart - Acting Manager, Building Services Paul Henderson - General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services

Attachments

	Title	Page
⇩A	Draft DCC submission on the Building Amendment Bill	148

SUMMARY OF CONSIDERATIONS

Fit with purpose of Local Government

This decision promotes the social, economic, and environmental well-being of communities in the present and for the future.

Fit with strategic framework

	Contributes	Detracts	Not applicable
Social Wellbeing Strategy	✓	☐	☐
Economic Development Strategy	✓	☐	☐
Environment Strategy	✓	☐	☐
Arts and Culture Strategy	☐	☐	✓
3 Waters Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Future Development Strategy	✓	☐	☐
Integrated Transport Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Parks and Recreation Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Other strategic projects/policies/plans	✓	☐	☐

This submission aligns with the DCC's Housing Plan 2022, Zero Carbon Policy, and Te Taki Haruru, the DCC's Māori Strategic Framework.

Māori Impact Statement

The DCC submission aligns with the Te Taki Haruru principle of Autikaka, wherein communities, resources and customary practices are protected through responsible regulatory measures and practices.

Sustainability

The decision to make a submission has no direct sustainability implications. The draft submission supports measures intended to encourage more sustainable buildings and solar generation.

LTP/Annual Plan / Financial Strategy /Infrastructure Strategy

There are no implications.

Financial considerations

There are no direct financial implications arising from making the submission. Some provisions of the Bill, if enacted in their current form, could have future financial and resourcing implications for DCC in its role as a BCA.

Significance

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

Engagement – external

There has been no external engagement.

Engagement - internal

This submission has been prepared by the Building Services and Corporate Policy teams.

SUMMARY OF CONSIDERATIONS
Risks: Legal / Health and Safety etc. There are no material risks arising from making the submission. The draft submission identifies regulatory, financial and operational risks associated with aspects of the Bill if enacted in their current form.
Conflict of Interest There is no conflict of interest.
Community Boards There are potential implications for Community Boards if amendments in this Bill occur in Community Board areas.

DUNEDIN CITY COUNCIL | kaunihera a-rohe o Ōtepoti

5 November 2026

Transport and Infrastructure Committee
Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

Via email: ti@parliament.govt.nz

Tēnā koe

DUNEDIN CITY COUNCIL SUBMISSION ON THE BUILDING AMENDMENT BILL

1 Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Building Amendment Bill (the Bill).

2 The Dunedin City Council (DCC) makes this submission in its roles as a territorial authority and Building Consent Authority (BCA). Its comments and recommendations follow.

Building (Forms) Regulations 2004 – 10-day Project Information Memorandum (linked to proposed section 34 of the Bill)

3 DCC recognises that Project Information Memoranda (PIMs) provide important information that assists BCAs in the efficient processing of building consent applications. We also acknowledge that property owners and designers benefit from access to PIM information during the planning and design stages, prior to submitting a building consent application.

4 Form 2 of the Building (Forms) Regulations 2004 facilitates combined building consent and PIM applications. In practice, many applicants interpret this as an expectation that both applications be lodged simultaneously. However, there are clear advantages in applicants obtaining a PIM before submitting a building consent application, enabling site-specific and regulatory matters to be identified and addressed earlier in the design process.

5 Now that PIM and building consent applications will operate under separate statutory timeframes, DCC recommends separating the application processes and introducing dedicated forms for each. This would better reflect their distinct purposes, encourage applicants to obtain PIM information earlier, and ensure that separate PIM plans are provided for the property file.

10-day building consents for solar and sustainability (proposed section 48 of the Bill)

6 DCC supports the proposal to reduce the statutory processing timeframe for building consent applications from 20 working days to 10 working days for whole-building projects that meet prescribed sustainability and solar generation criteria. It is of the view this measure will encourage the delivery of more sustainable buildings and contribute to positive environmental outcomes across New Zealand.

7 DCC notes that the successful implementation of this proposal will depend on BCAs being adequately resourced to meet the shortened processing timeframes while maintaining the quality and consistency of assessments.

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8 To support efficient and consistent decision-making, we recommend that the sustainability performance criteria be clearly defined, objective, and straightforward to assess. This will assist BCAs in applying the provisions consistently and provide greater certainty for applicants.

9 DCC also notes that the proposed provisions may create opportunities for unintended use of the expedited consent pathway. For example, an applicant could include sustainability or solar generation features in an application to qualify for the reduced processing timeframe and subsequently seek an amendment to remove those features following the granting of consent.

Proportionate liability (proposed section 393D of the Bill)

10 DCC supports the proposed move to proportionate liability. It is of the view that this approach will better align liability with responsibility and reduce the risk of ratepayers being exposed to significant financial costs resulting from the failures of private parties involved in the design and construction of buildings.

11 DCC notes that proportionate liability will not apply retrospectively to building work already completed, meaning that councils' risk exposure will continue for those buildings.

Requirement for designers to hold professional indemnity insurance (proposed section 393L of the Bill)

12 DCC supports mandatory professional indemnity insurance for designers. As design decisions are a critical factor in the successful delivery of building projects, designers should have the financial capacity to meet their share of liability where design errors contribute to building defects. This is particularly important under proportionate liability arrangements, where owners may otherwise face difficulties obtaining redress from all liable parties.

Mandatory home warranty (proposed sections 393R to 393ZE of the Bill)

13 DCC supports the introduction of mandatory home warranties as a means of improving consumer protection and increasing confidence in the residential building sector.

14 However, the DCC notes that the proposal is likely to create additional administrative obligations for BCAs, including the assessment of warranty documentation, the provision of notifications, and the issuing of certificates. These functions will require additional time and resources.

15 The DCC view is that responsibility for verifying and administering private home warranty arrangements should rest with the parties directly involved in the building contract, rather than with BCAs. As home warranties are fundamentally private insurance products, their administration and enforcement should not form part of a council's regulatory role. If BCAs are responsible for verifying that home warranties are in effect, owners may incorrectly assume that BCAs hold a level of responsibility, resulting in increased public enquiries about warranty coverage and disputes.

16 DCC is also of the view that the proposed one-year warranty period for general defects is insufficient. Many significant building defects do not become evident within the first year following completion, particularly where defects develop gradually over time. Weathertightness failures are a common example, often not becoming apparent until moisture ingress has caused measurable damage.

Transfer of functions (proposed sections 233 to 236 of the Bill)

17 DCC supports the introduction of more comprehensive legislative provisions governing the transfer of functions under the Building Act. Clearer requirements and processes will provide greater certainty for all parties involved and help ensure accountability where functions are transferred between organisations.

18 However, the DCC notes that transfer arrangements may be terminated at any time by either the transferor or transferee, and that the transferor is required to reassume those functions if the transferee is unable to continue performing them. While this provision may be necessary to ensure continuity of service, it could create significant practical challenges for councils. In particular, where a function has been transferred for an extended period, the specialist teams, resources, systems, or organisational capability previously used to undertake that work may no longer be in place.

Exempt granny flats can be constructed off-site (proposed change to schedule 1A of the Bill)

19 DCC supports the proposed extension of the building consent exemption for small standalone dwellings to include those constructed off-site. Council recognises that off-site manufacturing can deliver significant benefits, including improved build quality, greater construction efficiency, and reduced material waste.

20 Small standalone dwellings, commonly referred to as granny flats, have been identified as a relatively low-risk building activity. Where these dwellings are constructed within a controlled manufacturing environment, the risk of defects and construction-related issues is further reduced through improved quality assurance processes and greater consistency in workmanship. The DCC therefore supports the proposal as a proportionate and practical approach to facilitating the delivery of additional housing.

Changes to the payment of building levies (section 18)

21 DCC requests that guidance be provided to assist with the transition between levy systems and to clarify the process when an older building consent is amended resulting in an increase or decrease of levies.

Conclusion

22 Thank you again for the opportunity to provide feedback on this consultation.

23 The DCC would welcome the opportunity to speak to its submission at any hearings.

Nāku noa, nā

Sophie Barker
MAYOR OF DUNEDIN
TE KOROMATUA O ŌTEPOTI

EXCEPTION FOR NON-ELECTED MEMBER VOTING AND QUORUM RIGHTS

Department: Civic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1 From 18 March 2027, non-elected members of specified committees cannot vote or be counted for quorum unless an exception applies.

2 The Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee (ARAC) has an independent Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson. The Committees quorum is three members and must include at least one independent member.

3 Section 260A of the Local Government Act 2002 allows an exception to be made by an Order in Council where the Minister of Local Government considers it necessary or desirable.

4 This report seeks Council consideration as to whether to apply for an indefinite exception so that ARAC can retain its current arrangements. The exception would apply only to the two independent positions of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson. Elected members would continue make up five of the Committees seven positions and retain the voting majority.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council:

a) **Approves** an application to the Minister of Local Government requesting that the Minister recommend the making of an Order in Council under section 260A of the Local Government Act 2002, specifying an indefinite exception for the Dunedin City Council Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee from the application of clauses 23(4) and 31A(1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, limited to no more than two non-elected members appointed to the offices of independent Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, so that those office-holders may:

   i) be counted as members of the Committee for the purpose of determining the number of members required to constitute a quorum and whether a quorum exists at a meeting; and

   ii) vote at any meeting of, or in respect of any decision made by, the Committee.

b) **Approves** the application to the Minister of Local Government attached as Attachment A.

c) **Delegates** authority to the Mayor and Chief Executive to make minor amendments to the application before it is submitted, provided the amendments are consistent with Council's decision and do not change the statutory provisions, Committee, roles, duration or scope of the exception being sought.

d) **Notes** that the Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee currently comprises the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, three Councillors and two independent members, with an independent Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, and has a quorum of three members which must include at least one independent member.

e) **Notes** that if an Order in Council is not in force when the new legislative provisions take effect, changes will be needed to ARAC's governance arrangements, including its quorum requirements.

BACKGROUND

5 The Local Government (System Improvements) Amendment Act 2026 introduced changes to Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA). From 18 March 2027, unless an exception applies, non-elected members of specified committees will no longer be able to:

- be counted towards a committee's quorum, under clause 23(4); or
- vote at meetings or on decisions of the committee to which they have been appointed, under clause 31A(1).

6 Section 260A provides that the Governor-General may, by Order in Council made on the recommendation of the Minister, specify an exception from Schedule 7 clauses 23(4) and 31A(1) for a particular specified committee.

7 An exception may be granted for a fixed period or indefinitely, and conditions may be attached. Before recommending an exception, the Minister must be satisfied that it is necessary or desirable.

8 Current ARAC arrangements

Matter	Current Position
Chairperson	Bruce Robertson, Independent Member
Deputy Chairperson	Rachael Dean, Independent Member
Membership	Mayor, Deputy Mayor, three Councillors, and two Independent Members
Quorum	Three members, including at least one Independent Member
Appointment Term	Both Independent Members appointed from 6 March 2026 for a term of three years

DISCUSSION

9 ARAC assists and advises Council and the Chief Executive on risk management, internal control, financial management, compliance, and internal and external reporting and accountability.

10 The Committees responsibilities include:

- monitoring implementation of changes arising from External Auditor recommendations;
- reviewing the Annual Report and recommending its adoption to Council;
- reviewing the Council policy framework and recommending it to Council for approval;
- setting and monitoring the Internal Audit Plan, appointing the Internal Auditor, receiving findings and monitoring implementation of changes arising from Internal Auditor recommendations; and
- obtaining independent external advice and independently accessing management information.

11 Decisions on the adoption of Council policy and the Annual Report remain with Council.

Independent Chair of Audit and Risk Committee

12 ARAC currently has an independent Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson. These appointments reflect the specialist nature of the Committee's work and Council's approach to providing independent oversight of its risk management, financial reporting and assurance arrangements.

13 Independent members bring experience and perspectives from outside Council. Their involvement provides an opportunity for matters to be considered independently of Council's management and political decision-making processes. Independent appointments can also provide continuity between Council terms.

14 The legislative changes would not prevent independent members from continuing to contribute to ARAC's work. However, unless an exception applies, they would no longer be able to vote or be counted towards a quorum.

15 Council therefore needs to consider whether to retain ARAC's existing voting and quorum arrangements by seeking an exception or amend the Committee's arrangements to comply with the new requirements.

Considerations for seeking an exception

16 ARAC's independent Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson are currently appointed as full voting members of the Committee. The quorum requirement also provides for at least one independent member to be present. These arrangements were established as part of Council's approach to the Committee's oversight and assurance role.

17 Independent members could continue to contribute their knowledge and experience without voting rights. However, retaining voting rights would allow them to continue participating in the Committee's decisions and recommendations on the same basis as other members.

18 The legislative changes place greater emphasis on voting and quorum decisions being made by elected representatives. The proposed exception would provide a departure from those general requirements for ARAC. Elected members would nevertheless continue to hold five of the seven Committee positions and the voting majority.

19 Council would also retain responsibility for appointing Committee members, determining its terms of reference and delegations, and making decisions reserved to Council.

20 The proposed exception would be limited to ARAC and to no more than two non-elected members holding the positions of independent Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson. It would not apply to non-elected members of other Council committees.

21 An indefinite exception is proposed because it relates to the ongoing governance arrangements for ARAC rather than the current appointments. The exception would apply to the positions of independent Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, regardless of who holds them.

22 If an exception is granted, Council would retain the ability to review or amend ARAC's membership and governance arrangements in future.

Alternative arrangements

23 Council could choose not to seek an exception and instead amend ARAC's governance arrangements to comply with the new legislative requirements.

24 Under this approach, independent members could continue to provide expertise, advice and oversight as members of the Committee but would not have voting rights or be counted towards a quorum.

25 Changes would be required to the Committee's quorum provisions. Council would also need to consider whether any further changes to the Committee's terms of reference or operating arrangements were appropriate.

26 This approach would align ARAC's voting and quorum arrangements with the new legislative requirements. It would, however, change the current role of the independent Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson in Committee decision-making.

27 The exception would enable Council to retain the current arrangements while maintaining an elected member majority. If the application is not successful, the Committee's governance arrangements will need to be amended.

OPTIONS

Option One – Apply for an exception

28 Council applies to the Minister of Local Government for an exception allowing the independent Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of ARAC to continue voting and being counted towards a quorum.

Advantages

- Retains the existing governance arrangements for ARAC.
- Allows the independent Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson to continue participating fully in Committee decisions.
- Avoids the need to amend the Committee's voting and quorum arrangements, provided the exception is granted.

Disadvantages

- The exception would depart from the new general legislative requirements for non-elected committee members.
- Ministerial approval is required and is not guaranteed.

Option Two – Do not apply for an exception

29 Council does not seek an exception and instead amends ARAC's governance arrangements to comply with the new legislative requirements.

Advantages

- Aligns the Committee's voting and quorum arrangements with the new legislative requirements.
- Does not require an application to the Minister.

Disadvantages

- Requires changes to the Committee's existing governance arrangements.
- Independent members would no longer have voting rights or be counted towards a quorum.
- Changes the role of the independent Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson in Committee decision-making.

NEXT STEPS

30 If approved:

a) The Application (Attachment A) together with the certified Council resolution will be submitted to the Minister of Local Government by 18 November 2026.

The application will address the matters identified by the Minister, including

- the issue the exception would address;
- why existing governance arrangements would not adequately address the issue;
- how Council would manage without an exception;
- the role of ARAC and its non-elected members; democratic legitimacy and public accountability; and
- the broader statutory framework.

b) If the requested exception is not granted, amendments to ARAC's governance arrangements will be prepared before the statutory restrictions apply.

Signatories

Author:	Robyn Dillon - Manager Governance
Authoriser:	Nicola Morand - Manahautū (General Manager Community and Strategy)

Attachments

	Title	Page
⇩A	Draft letter to Hon Simon Watts	159

SUMMARY OF CONSIDERATIONS

Fit with purpose of Local Government

This decision enables democratic local decision making and action by, and on behalf of communities.
This decision promotes the social well-being of communities in the present and for the future.
This decision promotes the economic well-being of communities in the present and for the future.
This decision promotes the environmental well-being of communities in the present and for the future.
This decision promotes the cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.

Fit with strategic framework

	Contributes	Detracts	Not applicable
Social Wellbeing Strategy	☐	☐	☐
Economic Development Strategy	☐	☐	☐
Environment Strategy	☐	☐	☐
Arts and Culture Strategy	☐	☐	☐
3 Waters Strategy	☐	☐	☐
Future Development Strategy	☐	☐	☐
Integrated Transport Strategy	☐	☐	☐
Parks and Recreation Strategy	☐	☐	☐
Other strategic projects/policies/plans	☐	☐	☐

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Māori Impact Statement

There is no know impacts for Maor identified from this ARAC only application.

Sustainability

<Enter text>

LTP/Annual Plan / Financial Strategy /Infrastructure Strategy

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Financial considerations

There are no material unbudgeted Implications identified. The work will be met from existing budges.

Significance

The decision is considered low in terms of the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy and concerns one committee and does not change levels of service, strategic direction or ownership of a strategic asset.

Engagement – external

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Engagement - internal

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Risks: Legal / Health and Safety etc.

If the Order in Council is not in force when the statutory requirements apply. ARAC's current quorum would be inconsistent with the statutory settings and contingency changes would be required.

SUMMARY OF CONSIDERATIONS
Conflict of Interest The proposal affects the duties and voting rights attached to the independent offices. Any required conflict management steps should be confirmed before Council considers the application.
Community Boards There have been no direct implications identified for Community Boards.

DUNEDIN CITY COUNCIL | kaunihera a-rohe o Ōtepoti

5 November 2026

Hon Simon Watts
Minister of Local Government
By email: s.watts@ministers.govt.nz

Dear Minister

REQUEST FOR EXCEPTION: DUNEDIN CITY COUNCIL AUDIT, RISK AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE

I write on behalf of Dunedin City Council to request that you recommend making an Order in Council under section 260A of the Local Government Act 2002 to enable the Council's Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee (ARAC) to retain voting and quorum rights for its independent Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.

Specifically, Council seeks an indefinite exception from clauses 23(4) and 31A(1) of Schedule 7 of the Act, limited to no more than two non-elected members appointed to these offices. The exception would allow these members to be counted when determining ARAC's quorum and to vote on matters considered by the Committee.

Council approved this application on 5 November 2026. A certified copy of the Council resolution and the supporting Council report are enclosed.

Role and importance of independent oversight

ARAC plays an important role in supporting sound governance, financial accountability and effective risk management at Dunedin City Council. It provides oversight and assurance to Council and the Chief Executive across risk management, internal controls, financial management, compliance, and internal and external reporting.

Its responsibilities include setting and monitoring the Internal Audit Plan, appointing the Internal Auditor, receiving audit findings, and monitoring the implementation of recommendations arising from internal and external audits.

Council has deliberately structured ARAC to include an independent Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, recognising the value of specialist expertise, objective scrutiny and independent judgement in these areas.

The independent members bring perspectives and expertise that complement those of elected members. Their participation strengthens the Committee's ability to challenge assumptions, assess risks objectively and provide robust advice and assurance to Council.

Importantly, their contribution extends beyond providing technical advice. As voting members, they participate directly in the Committee's collective consideration of issues, decisions and recommendations. This helps ensure that independent judgement is embedded in ARAC's assurance processes rather than being confined to an advisory role.

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Council considers this an important safeguard in maintaining effective oversight, sound decision-making and public confidence in its financial management and governance arrangements.

Impact of the legislative changes

Without an exception, ARAC's independent members could continue to attend meetings and provide advice but would no longer be able to vote or be counted for statutory quorum purposes.

While their expertise would remain available to the Committee, this would materially change their role in its governance and decision-making processes. Independent members would no longer participate fully in the collective decisions and recommendations for which the Committee is responsible.

Council would also need to amend ARAC's existing quorum provision and reconsider its chairing and decision-making arrangements to comply with the new legislative requirements.

Council considers that preserving the independent members' full participation is desirable because it supports the effectiveness, independence and continuity of ARAC's assurance function.

Existing governance arrangements and democratic accountability

The proposed exception would not diminish Council's democratic accountability or transfer responsibility for Council decisions to independent members.

ARAC's existing arrangements provide the following safeguards:

Matter	Current position or safeguard
Membership	Mayor, Deputy Mayor, three Councillors and two independent members.
Independent offices	Independent Chairperson and independent Deputy Chairperson.
Quorum	Three members, including at least one independent member.
Voting majority	Elected members hold five of the seven positions and retain the voting majority.
Council control	Council appoints the independent members and determines ARAC's membership, terms of reference and delegations.
Reserved decisions	All matters reserved to Council remain with Council.

These arrangements ensure that ARAC benefits from independent professional judgement while remaining accountable to the democratically elected Council.

The independent members' voting rights are confined to matters within ARAC's responsibilities and delegations. Council retains ultimate responsibility for its governance, financial management and statutory obligations.

Scope and duration of the requested exception

Section 260A provides for an Order in Council to specify an exception from the relevant restrictions for a particular specified committee. An exception may apply for an indefinite or specified period

and may be subject to conditions. The Minister must be satisfied that an exception is necessary or desirable.

Council seeks an exception that:

- Applies only to Dunedin City Council's Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee.
- Is limited to no more than two non-elected members appointed to the offices of independent Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.
- Enables those members to be counted for determining the number of members required to constitute a quorum and whether a quorum exists at a meeting.
- Enables those members to vote at meetings of, or in respect of decisions made by, ARAC.
- Applies for an indefinite period.

The exception is sought in respect of the offices rather than the individuals currently holding them. An indefinite exception is appropriate because independent leadership is an enduring feature of ARAC's governance model, rather than a temporary arrangement associated with particular appointees.

The request is confined to preserving the effectiveness of ARAC's independent assurance function and existing governance arrangements. It does not seek voting or quorum rights for non-elected members of any other Council committee.

Conclusion

Council considers that the proposed exception meets the statutory test of being necessary or desirable.

It would preserve the benefits of independent expertise, leadership and participation in ARAC's oversight and assurance responsibilities while maintaining elected-member control, Council oversight and democratic accountability.

In Council's view, this represents an appropriate balance between the legislative intention to strengthen democratic accountability and the practical benefits of independent assurance in local government.

If the exception is not granted, Council will amend ARAC's governance arrangements before the statutory restrictions take effect, including its quorum provision, and reconsider the Committee's chairing and decision-making arrangements.

For these reasons, I ask that you recommend the making of an Order in Council under section 260A on the terms outlined above. Council would appreciate consideration of this request in advance of the statutory restrictions taking effect to provide certainty for ARAC's ongoing operations.

Please contact the Manager Governance at Dunedin City Council if you require any further information in support of this application.

Yours sincerely

Sophie Barker
Mayor of Dunedin

Enclosures

1. Certified Council resolution dated 5 November 2026
2. Council report: Exception for non-elected member voting and quorum rights

PROPOSED EVENT ROAD CLOSURES

Department: Transport

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1 The DCC has received temporary road closure applications relating to the following events:

i) Orange Parade

ii) Community Christmas Event

iii) Brighton Gala Day

iv) World Surf League

2 This report recommends that Council approves the temporary closure of the affected roads.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council:

a) **Resolves** to close the roads detailed below (pursuant to Section 319, Section 342, and Schedule 10 clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974 (LGA 1974)):

i) Orange Parade

Friday, 20 November 2026	9.00am to 9.45am	• Great King Street, from Frederick Street to end
	9.25am to 9.55am	• Frederick Street, between Great King Street and George Street
	9.35am to 10.15am	• George Street, between Frederick Street and The Octagon
	9.15am to 11.00am	• The Octagon Central Carriageway, between George Street and Princes Street
	10.00am to 2.45pm	• Left downhill lane of Upper Stuart Street, between Littlebourne Road and Queens Drive

ii) Community Christmas Event

Sunday, 13 December 2026	1.30pm to 9.00pm	• Lanark Street, between Irvine Street and Gordon Road

iii) Brighton Gala Day

Sunday, 17 January 2027	8.00am to 7.00pm	• Brighton Road, between Bath Street and Taylor Street

* *Detours via Bath Street, Cole Street and Taylor Street*

iv) World Surf League

Sunday, 14 March 2027 UNTIL Tuesday, 23 March 2027	8.00am (14 March 2027) UNTIL 6.00am (23 March 2027)	• Forbury Road, between Victoria Road and Esplanade
		• Esplanade, between Forbury Road and Beach Street
		• One lane of Beach Street, from Bedford Street to Cliffs Road
		• Second Beach Road, from Beach Street to end

BACKGROUND

3 Council's Dunedin Festival and Events Plan supports the goal of a successful city with a diverse, innovative, and productive economy and a hub for skill and talent.

4 The areas proposed to be used for these events are legal roads and can therefore be temporarily closed to normal traffic if statutory temporary road closure procedures are followed. The procedures are set out in Section 319 of the LGA 1974 and give Council the power to stop or close any road (or part of a road) within the parameters of Section 342 and Schedule 10 of the LGA 1974 (Schedule 10 is included as Attachment A).

5 These procedures include:

- Consultation with the New Zealand Transport Authority Waka Kotahi and the Police.
- Public notice being given of the proposal to close any road (or part of a road), and public notice of a decision to close the road.
- Council being satisfied that traffic is not likely to be unreasonably impeded.

6 A resolution of Council is required where a proposal to temporarily close a road relates to public functions.

7 Council is required to give public notice of its decision. This notice will be published after this meeting and prior to the event, if approved.

DISCUSSION

Consultation and Notification

8 The Police and the New Zealand Transport Authority Waka Kotahi have no objections to the proposed road closures.

9 On Saturday, 3 October 2026 the proposed temporary road closures were advertised in the Otago Daily Times (Attachments B) with a deadline for feedback.

10 Schedule 10 clause 11(e) states a road cannot be closed more than 31 days in the aggregate in any one year. This limit will not be exceeded by the approval of the proposed temporary road closures.

Traffic Impacts

11 The event locations of these events have had identical road closures for the same, or similar event(s) in prior years without causing unreasonable delays to the travelling public.

12 Emergency services and public transport services will be managed through the temporary traffic management process.

13 The Temporary Traffic Management Plan process ensures that other issues such as temporary relocation of certain parking (e.g. taxi, mobility and Authorised Vehicles Only) are managed.

OPTIONS

14 Note any amendment to this report's recommendations cannot be implemented without further consultation with the affected parties, New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi, the Police, and verifying that traffic impacts are acceptable.

Option One – Recommended Option

15 That the Council closes the sections of road as recommended in this report.

Advantages

- Roads can be closed, and the event will be able to proceed.
- The closures will assist in realising the economic, social, and cultural benefits associated with the events.

Disadvantages

- There will be temporary loss of vehicular access through the closed areas. However, there are detours available, and safety can be assured using temporary traffic management.

Option Two – Status Quo

16 That the Council decides not to close the roads in question.

Advantages

- There would be no detour required for the travelling public, and the roads would be able to be used as normal.

Disadvantages

- The events would not be able to go ahead, and the benefits of the events would be lost.

NEXT STEPS

17 Should the resolution be made to temporarily close the roads, Council staff will accept the temporary traffic management plans that have been received for the events and notify the public of the closures.

Signatories

Authoriser:	Simon Smith - Acting Group Manager Transport Scott MacLean - General Manager, City Services

Attachments

	Title	Page
⇩A	Local Government Act 1974, Schedule 10	167
⇩B	ODT Advert - 3 October 2026	172

SUMMARY OF CONSIDERATIONS

Fit with purpose of Local Government

This decision promotes the social well-being of communities in the present and for the future.

Fit with strategic framework

	Contributes	Detracts	Not applicable
Social Wellbeing Strategy	✓	☐	☐
Economic Development Strategy	✓	☐	☐
Environment Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Arts and Culture Strategy	✓	☐	☐
3 Waters Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Future Development Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Integrated Transport Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Parks and Recreation Strategy	☐	☐	✓
Other strategic projects/policies/plans	✓	☐	☐

Events contribute to the Strategic Framework. Events contribute to the Economic Development Strategy, the Social Wellbeing Strategy. There is a Festival and Events Plan 2018-2023.

Māori Impact Statement

Mana whenua have not been directly engaged with in relation to these road closures.

Sustainability

There are no implications for sustainability.

LTP/Annual Plan / Financial Strategy /Infrastructure Strategy

There are no implications, as the decision is a regulatory one and there are no direct costs to Council.

Financial considerations

There are no financial implications. The cost of the proposed road closure is not a cost to Council.

Significance

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

Engagement – external

There has been external engagement (as required by the LGA 1974), with the Police and New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi. Affected parties were notified and provided a time period for feedback.

Engagement - internal

There has been engagement with DCC Events and Transport. There is support for the events to proceed.

Risks: Legal / Health and Safety etc.

There are no identified risks should the recommended resolution be made.

Conflict of Interest

There are no known conflicts of interest.

Community Boards

There are no implications for Community Boards.

Schedule 10
Conditions as to stopping of roads and the temporary prohibition of traffic on roads

ss 319(h), 342

Schedule 10: inserted, on 1 April 1979, by section 3(1) of the Local Government Amendment Act 1978 (1978 No 43).

Stopping of roads

1 The council shall prepare a plan of the road proposed to be stopped, together with an explanation as to why the road is to be stopped and the purpose or purposes to which the stopped road will be put, and a survey made and a plan prepared of any new road proposed to be made in lieu thereof, showing the lands through which it is proposed to pass, and the owners and occupiers of those lands so far as known, and shall lodge the plan in the office of the Chief Surveyor of the land district in which the road is situated. The plan shall separately show any area of esplanade reserve which will become vested in the council under section 345(3).

Schedule 10 clause 1: amended, on 1 October 1991, by section 362 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (1991 No 69).

2 On receipt of the Chief Surveyor's notice of approval and plan number the council shall open the plan for public inspection at the office of the council, and the council shall at least twice, at intervals of not less than 7 days, give public notice of the proposals and of the place where the plan may be inspected, and shall in the notice call upon persons objecting to the proposals to lodge their objections in writing at the office of the council on or before a date to be specified in the notice, being not earlier than 40 days after the date of the first publication thereof. The council shall also forthwith after that first publication serve a notice in the same form on the occupiers of all land adjoining the road proposed to be stopped or any new road proposed to be made in lieu thereof, and, in the case of any such land of which the occupier is not also the owner, on the owner of the land also, so far as they can be ascertained.

3 A notice of the proposed stoppage shall, during the period between the first publication of the notice and the expiration of the last day for lodging objections as aforesaid, be kept fixed in a conspicuous place at each end of the road proposed to be stopped:

provided that the council shall not be deemed to have failed to comply with the provisions of this clause in any case where any such notice is removed without the authority of the council, but in any such case the council shall, as soon as conveniently may be after being informed of the unauthorised removal of the notice, cause a new notice complying with the provisions of this clause to be affixed in place of the notice so removed and to be kept so affixed for the period aforesaid.

4 If no objections are received within the time limited as aforesaid, the council may by public notice declare that the road is stopped; and the road shall, subject to the council's compliance with clause 9, thereafter cease to be a road.

5 If objections are received as aforesaid, the council shall, after the expiration of the period within which an objection must be lodged, unless it decides to allow the objections, send the objections together with the plans aforesaid, and a full description of the proposed alterations to the Environment Court.

Schedule 10 clause 5: amended, on 2 September 1996, pursuant to section 6(2)(a) of the Resource Management Amendment Act 1996 (1996 No 160).

6 The Environment Court shall consider the district plan, the plan of the road proposed to be stopped, the council's explanation under clause 1, and any objection made thereto by any person, and confirm, modify, or reverse the decision of the council which shall be final and conclusive on all questions.

Schedule 10 clause 6: replaced, on 1 October 1991, by section 362 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (1991 No 69).

Schedule 10 clause 6: amended, on 2 September 1996, pursuant to section 6(2)(a) of the Resource Management Amendment Act 1996 (1996 No 160).

7 If the Environment Court reverses the decision of the council, no proceedings shall be entertained by the Environment Court for stopping the road for 2 years thereafter.

Schedule 10 clause 7: amended, on 2 September 1996, pursuant to section 6(2)(a) of the Resource Management Amendment Act 1996 (1996 No 160).

8 If the Environment Court confirms the decision of the council, the council may declare by public notice that the road is stopped; and the road shall, subject to the council's compliance with clause 9, thereafter cease to be a road.

Schedule 10 clause 8: amended, on 2 September 1996, pursuant to section 6(2)(a) of the Resource Management Amendment Act 1996 (1996 No 160).

9 Two copies of that notice and of the plans hereinbefore referred to shall be transmitted by the council for record in the office of the Chief Surveyor of the land district in which the road is situated, and no notice of the stoppage of the road shall take effect until that record is made.

10 The Chief Surveyor shall allocate a new description of the land comprising the stopped road, and shall forward to the Registrar-General of Land or the Registrar of Deeds, as the case may require, a copy of that description and a copy of the notice and the plans transmitted to him by the council, and the Registrar shall amend his records accordingly.

Schedule 10 clause 10: amended, on 12 November 2018, by section 250 of the Land Transfer Act 2017 (2017 No 30).

Temporary prohibition of traffic

11 The council may, subject to such conditions as it thinks fit (including the imposition of a reasonable bond), and after consultation with the Police and the New Zealand Transport Agency, close any road or part of a road to all traffic or any specified type of traffic (including pedestrian traffic)—

(a) while the road, or any drain, water race, pipe, or apparatus under, upon, or over the road is being constructed or repaired; or

(b) where, in order to resolve problems associated with traffic operations on a road network, experimental diversions of traffic are required; or

(c) during a period when public disorder exists or is anticipated; or

(d) when for any reason it is considered desirable that traffic should be temporarily diverted to other roads; or

(e) for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate 31 days in any year for any exhibition, fair, show, market, concert, film-making, race or other sporting event, or public function:

provided that no road may be closed for any purpose specified in paragraph (e) if that closure would, in the opinion of the council, be likely to impede traffic unreasonably.

Schedule 10 clause 11: replaced, on 14 August 1986, by section 14(1) of the Local Government Amendment Act (No 3) 1986 (1986 No 50).

Schedule 10 clause 11: amended, on 26 March 2015, by section 5 of the Local Government Act 1974 Amendment Act 2015 (2015 No 20).

11A The council shall give public notice of its intention to consider closing any road or part of a road under clause 11(e); and shall give public notice of any decision to close any road or part of a road under that provision.

Schedule 10 clause 11A: inserted, on 14 August 1986, by section 14(1) of the Local Government Amendment Act (No 3) 1986 (1986 No 50).

11B Where any road or part of a road is closed under clause 11(e), the council or, with the consent of the council, the promoter of any activity for the purpose of which the road has been closed may impose charges for the entry of persons and vehicles to the area of closed road, any structure erected on the road, or any structure or area under the control of the council or the promoter on adjoining land.

Schedule 10 clause 11B: inserted, on 14 August 1986, by section 14(1) of the Local Government Amendment Act (No 3) 1986 (1986 No 50).

11C Where any road or part of a road is closed under clause 11(e), the road or part of a road shall be deemed for the purposes of—

(a) *[Repealed]*

(b) the Traffic Regulations 1976:

(c) the Transport (Drivers Licensing) Regulations 1985:

(d) *[Repealed]*

(e) the Transport (Vehicle Registration and Licensing) Notice 1986:

(ea) the Land Transport Act 1998:

(f) any enactment made in substitution for any enactment referred to in paragraphs (a) to (ea)—

not to be a road; but nothing in this clause shall affect the status of the road or part of a road as a public place for the purposes of this or any other enactment.

Schedule 10 clause 11C: inserted, on 14 August 1986, by section 14(1) of the Local Government Amendment Act (No 3) 1986 (1986 No 50).

Schedule 10 clause 11C(a): repealed, on 10 May 2011, by section 100(3) of the Land Transport (Road Safety and Other Matters) Amendment Act 2011 (2011 No 13).

Schedule 10 clause 11C(d): repealed, on 1 May 2011, by section 35(4) of the Land Transport Amendment Act 2009 (2009 No 17).

Schedule 10 clause 11C(ea): inserted, on 1 March 1999, by section 215(1) of the Land Transport Act 1998 (1998 No 110).

Schedule 10 clause 11C(f): amended, on 1 March 1999, by section 215(1) of the Land Transport Act 1998 (1998 No 110).

12 The powers conferred on the council by clause 11 (except paragraph (e)) may be exercised by the chairman on behalf of the council or by any officer of the council authorised by the council in that behalf.

13 Where it appears to the council that owing to climatic conditions the continued use of any road in a rural area, other than a State highway or government road, not being a road generally used by motor vehicles for business or commercial purposes or for the purpose of any public work, may cause damage to the road, the council may by resolution prohibit, either conditionally or absolutely, the use of that road by motor vehicles or by any specified class of motor vehicle for such period as the council considers necessary.

14 Where a road is closed under clause 13, an appropriate notice shall be posted at every entry to the road affected, and shall also be published in a newspaper circulating in the district.

15 A copy of every resolution made under clause 13 shall, within 1 week after the making thereof, be sent to the Minister of Transport, who may at any time, by notice to the council, disallow the resolution, in whole or in part, and thereupon the resolution, to the extent that it has been disallowed, shall be deemed to have been revoked.

16 No person shall—

(a) use a vehicle, or permit a vehicle to be used, on any road which is for the time being closed for such vehicles pursuant to clause 11; or

(aa) without the consent of the council or the promoter of any activity permitted by the council, enter or attempt to enter, or be present, on any road or part of a road that is for the time being closed to pedestrian traffic pursuant to clause 11; or

(b) use a motor vehicle, or permit a motor vehicle to be used, on any road where its use has for the time being been prohibited by a resolution under clause 13.

Schedule 10 clause 16(aa): inserted, on 14 August 1986, by section 14(2) of the Local Government Amendment Act (No 3) 1986 (1986 No 50).

Schedule 11
Width of roads, access ways, and service lanes

[Expired]

s 325(1)

Schedule 11: expired, on 1 January 1993, by section 325(3).

ODT Advert – 3 October 2026

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE

(Pursuant to the Local Government Act 1974)

Orange Parade – various streets

The DCC is considering closing Great King Street, from Frederick Street to end, 9am to 9.45am; Frederick Street, between Great King and George Streets, 9.25am to 9.55am; George Street, between Frederick Street and the Octagon, 9.35am to 10.15am; the Octagon central carriageway, between George and Princes Streets, 9.15am to 11am, and the left downhill lane of upper Stuart Street, between Littlebourne Road and Queens Drive, 10am to 2.45pm, on Friday, 20 November for this event.

Community Christmas event – Lanark Street

The DCC is considering closing Lanark Street, between Irvine Street and Gordon Road, on Sunday, 13 December, 1.30pm to 9pm, for this event.

Brighton gala day – Brighton Road

The DCC is considering closing Brighton Road, between Bath and Taylor Streets, on Sunday, 17 January, 8am to 7pm, for this event. Detours via Bath, Cole, and Taylor Streets.

World surf league – various streets

The DCC is considering closing Forbury Road, between Victoria Road and Esplanade, Esplanade, between Forbury Road and Beach Street, one lane of Beach Street, from Bedford Street and Cliffs Road, and Second Beach Road, from Beach Street to end, between 8pm Sunday, 14 March 2027 until 6am Tuesday, 23 March 2027, all hours, for this event.

These will be considered the meeting of the Dunedin City Council on Thursday, 5 November. Please provide any feedback on the proposals by emailing *tmp@dcc.govt.nz* before 5pm on Saturday, 10 October.

NOTICE OF MOTION

NOTICE OF MOTION - FILLING EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL VACANCIES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1 In accordance with Standing Order 26.1, the following Notice of Motion has been received from Cr Benedict Ong for inclusion on the agenda for the meeting being held on Thursday, 5 November 2026:

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council:

a) **Notes** that under section 117 of the Local Electoral Act 2001, an extraordinary vacancy arising more than 12 months before a triennial election must be filled by a by-election, and that Council may fill a vacancy by appointment only where it arises within 12 months of a triennial election.

b) **Requests** that Council write to the Minister of Local Government asking that the Local Electoral Act 2001 be amended to allow a local authority, by resolution, to fill an extraordinary vacancy at any point in the term by appointing the next-ranked unsuccessful candidate for that ward or constituency from the most recent election or by-election, as determined under the electoral system in use.

c) **Requests** a report from the Chief Executive to accompany the letter and to inform any Council submission on local electoral law reform.

Attachments

	Title	Page
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From:	Richard Briggs
To:	Council 2025-2028 (Elected Members)
Cc:	Councillor Support; Executive Leadership Team (ELT)
Subject:	Notice of Motion: Filling Extraordinary Council Vacancies
Date:	Friday, 23 October 2026 01:45:56 p.m.

Kia ora koutou,

In accordance with Standing Order 26.1, I have received the following Notice of Motion from Councillor Ong for consideration by Council.

Standing Order 26.1 requires a Notice of Motion to be delivered to the Chief Executive at least 5 clear working days before the meeting at which it is to be considered. As this requirement cannot be met for the Council meeting on 29 October 2026, the Notice of Motion will instead be included on the agenda for the Council meeting on 5 November 2026.

The Notice of Motion is:

Filling Extraordinary Council Vacancies

That the Council:

a) Notes that under section 117 of the Local Electoral Act 2001 an extraordinary vacancy arising more than 12 months before a triennial election must be filled by a by-election, and that Council may fill a vacancy by appointment only where it arises within 12 months of a triennial election.

b) Requests that Council write to the Minister of Local Government asking that the Local Electoral Act 2001 be amended to allow a local authority, by resolution, to fill an extraordinary vacancy at any point in the term by appointing the next-ranked unsuccessful candidate for that ward or constituency from the most recent election or by-election, as determined under the electoral system in use.

c) Requests a report from the Chief Executive to accompany the letter and to inform any future Council submission on local electoral law reform.

Rationale Provided

By-elections impose a significant cost on ratepayers, and in the most recent case the seat was filled for less than three years of a term. Appointment of the next-ranked candidate would respect the most recent expression of voters' preferences, fill the seat without delay, and avoid that cost. The Act already permits appointment within 12 months of an election; this motion asks that Parliament consider whether that

window should be extended.

Ngā mihi

Richard

Richard Briggs
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