

# Canterbury Mayoral Forum

## BOARD PACK

for

## Canterbury Mayoral Forum

Friday, 30 August 2024

8:30 am (NZST)

Held at:

Commodore Hotel

449 Memorial Avenue, Burnside, Christchurch

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# AGENDA

## CANTERBURY MAYORAL FORUM



<b>Name:</b>	Canterbury Mayoral Forum
<b>Date:</b>	Friday, 30 August 2024
<b>Time:</b>	8:30 am to 2:00 pm (NZST)
<b>Location:</b>	Commodore Hotel, 449 Memorial Avenue, Burnside, Christchurch
<b>Board Members:</b>	Nigel Bowen (Chair), Anne Munro, Craig Rowley, Craig Mackle, Dan Gordon, Gary Kircher, Marie Black, Neil Brown, Peter Scott, Phil Mauger, Sam Broughton
<b>Attendees:</b>	Mayor Monique Croon, Hamish Riach, Hamish Dobbie, Alex Parmley, Angela Oosthuizen, Jeff Millward, Stefanie Rixecker, Stuart Duncan, Will Doughty, Mary Richardson, Nigel Trainor, Paul Eagle, Maree McNeilly, Ann Fitzgerald
<b>Apologies:</b>	Sharon Mason
<b>Guests/Notes:</b>	Steve Gibling, Acting CE Selwyn DC for Sharon Mason, Councillor Craig Pauling (Item 2.1); Nick Leggett & Wayne Scott (Item 3.1); Marlon Bridge (item 5.1); Diane McDermott (item 7.1)

### 1. Opening meeting

#### 1.1 Karakia, welcome, introductions and apologies

8:30 am (5 min)

Nigel Bowen

##### Canterbury Mayoral Forum

Ko Ngā Tiritiri o te Moana ngā maunga

Ko ngā wai huka ngā awa i rere tonu mai

Ko Ngā Pākihi Whakatekateka o Waitaha te whenua

Ko Marokura, ko Mahaanui, ko Araiteuru ngā tai

Tīhei mauri ora!

The Southern Alps stand above

The snow-fed rivers continually flow forth

The plains of Waitaha extend out

To the tides of Marokura, Mahaanui and Araiteuru

Behold, there is life!

#### 1.2 Confirmation of agenda

8:35 am (5 min)

Nigel Bowen

#### 1.3 Minutes from the previous meeting

8:40 am (5 min)

Nigel Bowen

Supporting Documents:

1.3.a	Minutes : Canterbury Mayoral Forum - 31 May 2024	7
1.3.b	Minutes : CMF Water Reform - 15 Jul 2024	18

## 1.4 Action List

Nigel Bowen

Supporting Documents:

1.4.a	Action List	20
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## 2. For Discussion and Decision

### 2.1 Canterbury Water Management Strategy update

8:45 am (30 min)

Peter Scott

ECan Deputy Chair Craig Pauling

Supporting Documents:

2.1.a	CMF Canterbury Water Management Strategy update Aug 2024.docx	21
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## 3. Guest speakers

### 3.1 Nick Leggett, Infrastructure NZ and Wayne Scott, Aggregate & Quarrying Assn

9:15 am (60 min)

Nigel Bowen

Supporting Documents:

3.1.a	CMF Nick Leggett, Infrastructure NZ and Wayne Scott, Aggregate & Quarrying Assn Aug 2024.docx	39
3.1.b	CMF briefing note Nick Leggett and Wayne Scott Aug 2024.pdf	40

## 4. Morning tea

### 4.1 Morning tea

10:15 am (15 min)

## 5. For Discussion

### 5.1 Water reform

10:30 am (60 min)

Nigel Bowen

Marlon Bridge DIA

Supporting Documents:

5.1.a	CMF Water reform Aug 2024.docx	42
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## 6. For Discussion and Decision

### 6.1 Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan approval

11:30 am (10 min)

Dan Gordon

Supporting Documents:

6.1.a	CMF Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan approval Aug 2024.docx	43
6.1.b	CMF Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan approval Attachment 1 Aug 2024.pdf	47

### 6.2 Developing economic development priorities for Canterbury

11:40 am (10 min)

Hamish Dobbie

Supporting Documents:

6.2.a	CMF Developing economic development priorities for Canterbury Aug 2024.docx	93
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### 6.3 Canterbury Mayoral Forum mid-term achievements 2022-2024

11:50 am (5 min)

Hamish Riach

Supporting Documents:

6.3.a	CMF Canterbury Mayoral Forum mid-term achievements Aug 2024.docx	97
6.3.b	CMF Canterbury Mayoral Forum mid-term achievements 2024 Attachment 1 Aug 2024.docx	99
6.3.c	CMF Canterbury Mayoral Forum mid-term achievements Appendix Aug 2024.pdf	107

## 7. For information

### 7.1 Regional Public Service Commissioner update

11:55 am (15 min)

Diane McDermott

Supporting Documents:

7.1.a	CMF Regional Public Service Commissioner update Aug 2024.docx	108
7.1.b	CMF Regional Public Service Commissioner update Attachment 1 Aug 2024.docx	109

### 7.2 Chief Executives Forum report

12:10 pm (5 min)

Hamish Riach

Supporting Documents:

7.2.a	CMF Chief Executives Forum report Aug 2024.docx	111
7.2.b	CMF Chief Executives Forum report Attachment 1 Aug 2024.pdf	113

### 7.3 Mayoral Forum Activities and Engagements

Supporting Documents:

7.3.a	CMF Activities and Engagements Aug 2024.docx	114
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Supporting Documents:

7.3.b CMF Activities and Engagements Attachment 1 Aug 2024.pdf

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## 8. General business

### 8.1 General business

12:15 pm (5 min)

### 8.2 Meeting review

12:20 pm (5 min)

## 9. Close Meeting

### 9.1 Closing karakia

12:25 pm (5 min)

Nigel Bowen

Kia tau te rangimarie ki runga I nga iwi o te ao

Haumi e

Hui e

Taiki e

Let peace reign on all the people of the world

Fixed

Bound as one

### 9.2 Close the meeting

**Next meeting:** Canterbury Mayoral Forum - 29 Nov 2024, 8:30 am

Lunch with the Canterbury Coalition Government MPs immediately following at 12.30pm in the dining room

# MINUTES (in Review)

## CANTERBURY MAYORAL FORUM



<b>Name:</b>	Canterbury Mayoral Forum
<b>Date:</b>	Friday, 31 May 2024
<b>Time:</b>	8:30 am to 1:09 pm (NZST)
<b>Location:</b>	Te Whare Whakatere, Ashburton District Council, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton
<b>Board Members:</b>	Craig Rowley, Nigel Bowen (Chair), Marie Black, Anne Munro, Craig Mackle, Dan Gordon, Gary Kircher, Neil Brown, Sam Broughton, Craig Pauling
<b>Attendees:</b>	Hamish Riach, Hamish Dobbie, Alex Parmley, Nigel Trainor, Angela Oosthuizen, Jeff Millward, Sharon Mason, Stefanie Rixecker, Will Doughy, Mary Richardson, Maree McNeilly
<b>Apologies:</b>	Phil Mauger, Stuart Duncan, Ann Fitzgerald, Mayor Monique Croon, Paul Eagle
<b>Guests/Notes:</b>	Councillor Pauline Cotter attending for Mayor Phil Mauger; Ewa Jankowska for Ann Fitzgerald Cameron Smith (Senior Strategy Manager); Dann Olykan (Team Leader Strategy & Planning, Canterbury Water Management Strategy), Martin Espig (Principal Strategy Advisor, Canterbury Water Management Strategy) (Item 4.2) Jesse Burgess (Senior Strategy Manager) (Item 5.3) Marie Ward (Director Regional Public Service Commissioner); Rebecca Hibbert (Senior Advisor Regional Public Service Commissioner) (Item 6.1) Wayne Scott, Chief Executive Aggregate and Quarrying Association & Ross Copland, Chief Executive NZ Infrastructure Commission-Te Waihangā (Item 8.1)

## 1. Opening meeting

### 1.1 Karakia, welcome, introductions and apologies

Nigel welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanking Mayor Neil for hosting us in Ashburton. Special welcome to Craig Pauling, Acting Chair Environment Canterbury and Deputy Mayor Pauline Cotter from Christchurch City to their first meetings.

Apologies were received from Phil Mauger, Stuart Duncan, Monique Croon, Paul Eagle and Ann Fitzgerald.

### 1.2 Confirmation of agenda



#### Decision

The agenda was confirmed with no items of general business

<b>Decision Date:</b>	31 May 2024
<b>Mover:</b>	Nigel Bowen
<b>Seconder:</b>	Anne Munro
<b>Outcome:</b>	Approved

## 1.3 Minutes from the previous meeting

**Canterbury Mayoral Forum 23 Feb 2024**, the minutes were confirmed as presented.

Under general business from the February meeting there was an action to invite the Kaiwhakahaere and Deputy Kaiwhakahaere to the next meeting. This has not yet happened. It was agreed that Nigel will work with Craig Pauling to have a discussion through Te Ropu Tuia on the opportunities for engagement between the CMF and Papatipu Rūnanga.



### Decision

The minutes were confirmed.

**Decision Date:** 31 May 2024  
**Mover:** Marie Black  
**Seconder:** Sam Broughton  
**Outcome:** Approved



### Action

Nigel to work with Craig Pauling to have a discussion through Te Ropu Tuia on the opportunities for engagement between the CMF and Papatipu Rūnanga.

26 June: Meeting between Craig & Nigel 27 June

**Due Date:** 12 Jul 2024  
**Owner:** Nigel Bowen

## 1.4 Action List

Due Date	Action Title	Owner
8 Mar 2024	Action <b>Status:</b> In Progress	Maree McNeilly

## 2. Te Whare Whakaterere

### 2.1 Tour - Te Whare Whakaterere

Neil and Hamish led a tour of the new Te Whare Whakaterere Ashburton District Council civic centre and library. Jill Watson, Library Manager and Jane Riach welcomed Forum members to the new library, which includes the historic Pioneer Hall that forms part of the Children's Library, resource rooms - including a maker's room, AV studio and learning lab.

The Civic Centre includes the Council Chamber, which was named for Hine Paaka, who lived in the late 1600s and was the revered wife of Ngāi Tahu Chief Maru. There are cultural narratives throughout the building through patterned carpets, carvings, and window etchings.

Members noted their appreciation for the tour and congratulated Ashburton on the completion of their new sites.

## 3. Morning tea

### 3.1 Morning tea



## 4. CWMS Workshop

### 4.1 Canterbury Water Management Strategy - update

Chair Craig Pauling introduced himself and Dan Olykan and Martin Espig. He spoke to his whakapapa and acknowledged Hine Paaka and his tipuna. He explained his background and his close relationship to CWMS, noting a changing landscape, and a good time to be focusing on the review of approach to water issues, thinking of fresh ideas, local leadership around awa, and local catchments. He then spoke to the paper.

A question was asked about the progress of work regarding the AWA decision. Stefanie noted there was good progress and would share a timeline of the process and progress with the Forum.



#### Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum noted the ongoing importance of a Canterbury-led approach to freshwater management and the work underway to ensure the Canterbury Water Management Strategy continues to be relevant for our communities.

**Decision Date:** 31 May 2024  
**Mover:** Craig Rowley  
**Second:** Sam Broughton  
**Outcome:** Approved



#### Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum received the updates on the Canterbury Water management Strategy Zone Committee review including initial high-level insights, and partners' work towards implementing the Canterbury Water Management Strategy for January to March 2024.

**Decision Date:** 31 May 2024  
**Mover:** Craig Rowley  
**Second:** Sam Broughton  
**Outcome:** Approved



#### Action

Share the process and timeline of the progress of the work related to the AWA decision.

4 July Memo sent to Forum members from ECan on the process

**Due Date:** 5 Jul 2024  
**Owner:** Stefanie Rixecker

### 4.2 Canterbury Water Management Strategy Workshop

#### INTRODUCTION

Dann Olykan and Martin Espig presented a background of CWMS, touching on its history and philosophical underpinnings as an introduction to the workshop.

Dann discussed the evolution of water management in Canterbury from the early 90s to the present.

Initially, there was a lack of a comprehensive plan, leading to a 'water gold rush' that put pressure on councils. This led to the development of a more collaborative approach.

The droughts of 1998 and 1999 sparked interest in water storage. The development process was divided into three stages: understanding the water supply model for Canterbury, exploring possible storage solutions, and managing water use in the region.

The Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) emerged from this process, with the Canterbury Mayoral Forum (CMF) getting involved. The CWMS provided a wide range of targets and emphasized the need for collaboration and ambition.

Zone committees were established as essential entities to bring the strategy to life. These committees, composed of various interest groups and informed by science, have kept the strategy alive and resolved tensions through strong commitment to solutions.

The focus has shifted from water storage to environmental issues, climate change, and security. The key elements of this evolution include the initial idea to store water, the need for a paradigm shift, and the evolution to a balanced proposal.

It was noted that the planning framework of ECan incorporates Zone Committees' Zone Implementation Programmes (ZIPs) into the water and land plan. The pioneering role of Canterbury in Freshwater Farm Plans and the National Policy Statement (NPS) was acknowledged. The discussion also touched upon the Regional Policy Statement (RPS) and its Freshwater Management Units (FMU) process, which is a requirement under national law. The integrated planning process within the RPS was emphasized, suggesting a potential role for local catchment groups/Zone Committees in the future. The importance of this aspect was underscored as the review process continues.

It was clarified that catchment collectives have been organically growing from various sources such as irrigator schemes, biodiversity groups, biosecurity groups, and district drainage committees. These collectives are not formal structures of the council but are community-based. The relationship between these collectives and Zone Committees (ZCs) is not explicitly defined, but the importance of giving a voice to these community-based collectives was emphasized.

#### BREAK-OUT

Participants were divided into 3 groups and asked the following questions. They then reported back on their discussion outcomes.

Q1: What is the future need or role of local freshwater leadership in Canterbury?

Q2: What role do Mayors want the Canterbury Mayoral Forum to play in supporting local freshwater leadership?

#### Group 1

Q1: It was noted that there is a strong need for local leadership, which can vary depending on the chair and leadership. The focus should be on land and water, not just water. District council leadership is important and there is a desire for more involvement. Rūnanga capacity is a challenge.

Q2: The role of the Canterbury Mayoral Forum (CMF) was seen as tricky to define. There is a perception that ECan has staff, but Territorial Local Authorities (TLAs) do not. There is a need for better staff interaction and a shared approach. The group felt that everyone sees this as 'ECan's thing to do', but there is a need for Mayors to work together on this and secure more funding.

#### Group 2

Q1: Similar to Group 1, local leadership is important. Some have moved away from Zone Committees (ZCs), others have stayed. The need for a breadth of wider community involvement was emphasized. Shared goals and aims around one catchment area are important.

Q2: There is still a role for the CMF in legitimising the groups and defending them to Wellington. The group would like a more bespoke way of doing things and more ownership of issues.

#### Group 3

Q1: Like the other groups, there is a need for local leadership. There is a desire for less management structure and more focus on delivery and partnership. Local people making local decisions was seen as critical. Mana whenua involvement is a must-have.

Q2: The group supports working together in partnership and supporting ECan in leadership. There is a need to celebrate what's working well and assess whether the Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) is fit for purpose to deliver regional outcomes.

In all groups, the importance of local leadership, community involvement, and the role of the CMF were recurring themes. The need for a bespoke approach and the importance of celebrating successes were also highlighted. The groups acknowledged the challenges, including variable experiences with leadership and the capacity of rūnanga. The discussions provided valuable insights into the future role of local freshwater leadership in Canterbury and the role of the CMF in supporting this.

The workshop was deemed helpful for strengthening diverging views and gaining more certainty about the future of Zone Committees.

Martin led a review process involving discussions with mayors, sessions with active ZCs, and feedback from surveys. Preliminary findings acknowledged the benefits of ZCs but also recognized changing contexts and concerns about their efficacy.

The findings are expected to be shared in August 2024.

The workshop concluded with a discussion on the need for effective and sustainable mechanisms to move forward, maintaining a holistic and strategic view, addressing concerns of fairness, equity, and funding, and the importance of local engagement and leadership layers.

## 5. For discussion

### 5.1 Water Reform - scoping options for a future delivery model

Hamish R spoke to the paper and noted that it outlines the perspective that Chief Executives Forum took on the matter. CEs thought that updating the data from PWC would be useful to all councils as they evaluate their options, rather than undertaking this individually.

Some members indicated support for allocating the funds to review the PWC three waters reports, however others requested that rather than endorsing this at the time of the meeting, it should be deferred depending on legislation that has been introduced on the 30th of May.

It was then noted that the decision should not be delayed until the next Mayoral Forum meeting in 3 months, and Secretariat was asked to coordinate an online meeting in approximately 6 weeks to discuss next steps.



#### Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum agreed to defer this item for six weeks, allowing time for the review and analysis of the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Bill

**Decision Date:** 31 May 2024  
**Mover:** Gary Kircher  
**Seconder:** Anne Munro  
**Outcome:** Approved



#### Action

Set up online meeting for week beginning 8 July to reconsider the allocation of regional forums budget to review the PWC three waters reports (April 2021), with up-to-date LTP information, and information received from the NTU/DIA Official Information Request, and other relevant data for regional TA consideration of potential options for future three waters service delivery.

18 June Teams meeting set up for 8am 15 July

**Due Date:** 21 Jun 2024  
**Owner:** Maree McNeilly

## 5.2 Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan update

Dan spoke to the paper and explained that the process of alignment through deliberations for Long Term Plans continues, and we are waiting for the outcome.

He emphasized that Canterbury Mayoral Forum should be proud of Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan as a tangible accomplishment for the Forum. He recognized that some councils are further in on the journey than others, but there is great value in hearing different ways that things can be achieved.

Once there is feedback from the LTPs, and hopefully resources commissioned to this work they would like to launch this appropriately and celebrate it, inviting important participants and stakeholders, ministers, and notable members of the community.

Recommendation is that mid-October is a good time for the launch, the week of the global week of Climate Change.

Dan acknowledged a presentation from James at the Mayoral Forum Dinner as really inspiring in what one can accomplish with a clear vision. He expressed acknowledgements to councils who indicated their support.

The forum members acknowledged the collaborative efforts on the plan and expressed appreciation for this work. It was also noted that the launch should be focused on seeking further support for the Plan.

Hurunui, McKenzie and Waitaki District Councils noted they were in general support of the Plan.

Waitaki District Council made an extra resolution to prepare a report for this for the whole district, looking at how to integrate plans with Otago, to be aligned across the region.



### Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum noted the project update on the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan and draft actions tabled at Canterbury councils for elected member feedback in April/May 2024 and that the Canterbury Climate Change Working Group is developing an implementation plan, to be provided to the Chief Executives and Mayoral Forums following the conclusion of region-wide long-term plan deliberations.

**Decision Date:** 31 May 2024  
**Mover:** Dan Gordon  
**Seconded:** Sam Broughton  
**Outcome:** Approved



### Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum provided feedback on the draft Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan, due to be designed and shared with Canterbury councils in June 2024 and supported the launch event for the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan.

**Decision Date:** 31 May 2024  
**Mover:** Dan Gordon  
**Seconded:** Sam Broughton  
**Outcome:** Approved



### Action

Check the appropriateness of launching the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan as part of the Global Climate Change week in October.

26 June: working with Climate Change Working Group secretariat on finalising the launch date.

9 August: date confirmed as 13 December

**Due Date:** 28 Jun 2024

**Owner:** Maree McNeilly

### 5.3 Regional Energy Inventory

The Chair welcomed Jesse Burgess, Senior Strategy Manager, Environment Canterbury, and Marie Ward and Rebeccah Hibbert from Public Service Commissioner's Office.

Jesse supported Sharon and spoke to the paper. It was recognized that Energy Security is crucial for the future, and that Economic Development Forum held successful workshops and agreed that the Canterbury Regional Energy Inventory is the right approach. It is aimed to be a current state assessment of the energy sector in Canterbury and assessment of challenges the sector faces.

Waikato Regional Council had recently undertaken such action and there are discussions with Waikato to engage on similar path that they've undertaken.

Rebeccah's offered support and recruitment is already under way for a position to support the development of the Inventory.

The Inventory will provide evidence base that is required and help engage with the key actors in the industry. Already engaged with Orion and Alpine Energy, conversations started on what the energy framework might look like. There are ongoing discussions with MBIE and soon with energy providers, line power/networks and operators to fill the gaps of knowledge.

It was explained that Inventory will be a desktop exercise, will be an approximately 8-month process, to be completed largely by the end of this year.

Forum members were really pleased to see this work go ahead and looking forward to the outcomes and understanding challenges better. Energy Inventory is seen as a positive piece of work and will support Canterbury aspirations.



#### Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum approved the proposed approach to the development of a Canterbury Regional Energy Inventory as a foundational piece of work to support regional energy conversations and processes and noted that a sub-group / steering group, with an associated Terms of Reference, will be established to finalise the Scope of Work, lead the procurement of any external expertise as required, oversee the development of the Canterbury Regional Energy Inventory.

**Decision Date:** 31 May 2024

**Mover:** Sam Broughton

**Seconded:** Nigel Bowen

**Outcome:** Approved



#### Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum agreed that the Energy Inventory will be reported back through the Canterbury Economic Development Forum, and that resourcing (one internal FTE) from the Regional Public Service Commission within the Ministry of Social Development is available to support the development of the Canterbury Regional Energy Inventory.

**Decision Date:** 31 May 2024

**Mover:** Sam Broughton

**Seconded:** Nigel Bowen

**Outcome:** Approved

## 6. For information

### 6.1 Regional Public Service Commissioner update

Marie Ward, Director Regional Public Service Commissioner; Rebecca Hibbert, Senior Advisor Regional Public Service Commissioner introduced themselves, recognizing that they were a relatively new team.

Ben Clark's position as RPSC has come up for review and the expressions of interest process is currently underway.

Marie comes from MSD and was a manager of a WI site in Ashburton, she started 2 weeks ago and is looking forward to meeting members of the Mayoral Forum.

Ngāi Tahu have come to the Regional Public Service Commissioner about the Greenpark Huts and will keep sharing and informing. There is also work on housing and they are actively looking at the government's 9 priorities and priorities around the regional leadership.

Forum members noted Greenpark Huts is a great opportunity and a great work to support community, building up on the good work done already, being a good model for communities to come together.

It was noted that "proactive relocation" should be the term used in references, and not "retreat", as it has bad connotations.



#### Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum received the Regional Public Service Commissioner update.

**Decision Date:** 31 May 2024  
**Mover:** Nigel Bowen  
**Seconder:** Craig Mackle  
**Outcome:** Approved

### 6.2 Chief Executives Forum report

Paper was taken as read. Chief Executives Forum recognized Alex Parmley who shared a very interesting presentation on his experiences from Europe explaining how to deal with some of the sustainability and climate changes challenges.



#### Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum received the quarterly report from the Chief Executives Forum and noted the updates on work under way or completed on the key actions in the Mayoral Forum's Plan for Canterbury 2023-2025.

**Decision Date:** 31 May 2024  
**Mover:** Craig Rowley  
**Seconder:** Anne Munro  
**Outcome:** Approved

### 6.3 Mayoral Forum activities and engagements



#### Decision

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum received the update on Mayoral Forum activities and correspondence since the Forum's last meeting on 23 February 2023.

**Decision Date:** 31 May 2024  
**Mover:** Sam Broughton



**Seconded:** Gary Kircher  
**Outcome:** Approved

This paper was taken as read.

## 7. General business

### 7.1 General business

Forum members raised the following items of general business:

- Engagement with the health system and whether it's working or not, it was suggested that Forum meets with the minister.
- Some members of the public have approached individual Mayors promoting the idea of a South Canterbury unitary authority. There is no support at the CMF for this.
- Otago and Canterbury Regional Councils are working with local rūnanga to explore a proposal for the future shared management of the Waitaki River, which is currently split, has many interests, and a complex regulatory framework.



#### Action

Secretariat to draft a letter from the Forum to the Minister of Health, seeking a meeting to discuss local issues.

28 June - draft letter sent to CMF for approval, waiting for final feedback

**Due Date:** 28 Jun 2024  
**Owner:** Maree McNeilly

### 7.2 Meeting review

## 8. For Discussion

### 8.1 Infrastructure Discussion

An apology was received from Wayne Scott - Chief Executive Aggregate and Quarrying Association

Ross Copland spoke briefly to Wayne Scott's item.

The Aggregates and Quarrying Association has identified significant challenges in sourcing construction and infrastructure resources. The supply chain for bitumen, a key component, is heavily influenced by its production location, leading to reliance on imports. These resources are low-value, bulky, and difficult to transport, with costs doubling when moved 30 km. Proximity to construction markets is crucial, but currently, materials are transported over large distances.

Aggregates are ubiquitous and must be considered in all aspects. Ross Copland urged the inclusion of noisy, dusty activities in zone plans for potential savings and efficiencies. Consent-related issues, such as water management and vehicle movement restrictions, increase costs. Truck movements continue but over greater distances, passing costs to consumers, with local government being the largest customer.

Forum members highlighted issues with quarries, particularly silica dust, which can conflict with residents and increase consent costs. Copland emphasized the need for mindful distance management and balance. More information is available on the AQA website.

Ross then spoke to his work at New Zealand Infrastructure Commission Te Waihangā and that they'd like to engage with local government.

A review of infrastructure strategy progress has been recently published. Government has changed since, there was some policy work consistent with that. This was a big piece of work and half of the actions that they recommended are on their way. The Forum was encouraged to share this report as useful for their staff. The presentation highlighted:

**30-Year Infrastructure Plan:** The incoming government manifesto was to create a high-level 30-year infrastructure plan focusing on sustainability, resilience, workforce, funding, and housing needs. Ross and his team were asked for input. Local governments will provide data, and there may be gaps and aspirations that councils would have addressed differently.

**Infrastructure Needs:** The plan considers different levels of needs over 10, 15, and 30 years. The first 10 years focus on a national view of infrastructure, including current projects. The next 10 years (5-15 years) will involve a structured independent review of infrastructure proposals and problems, including those without funding. The final 15 years (15-30 years) will focus on long-term needs.

**Local Government Ownership:** Local governments own about 26% of New Zealand's infrastructure. However, the rate of renewal is not keeping up with usage, leading to a potential infrastructure deficit.

**Asset Lifespan:** Infrastructure assets have an estimated lifespan. The plan considers what is wearing out now and what will wear out over the next generation.

**Future Drivers:** Four future drivers are considered: demographics (slowing population growth, aging population, and migration), climate change (which contributes to infrastructure damage), construction costs, and increasing levels of service expectation from the community.

**Wastewater Treatment:** There are significant concerns about wastewater treatment as an asset class. For example, Palmerston North requires a substantial upgrade, necessitating a conversation about trade-offs in spending.

**Demographics/Population Growth:** There's a slowing population growth and aging population but lots of immigrants and that contributes to an increase in demand for infrastructure. Half of New Zealand's growth is in Auckland, and Queenstown has experienced a 9% growth rate, doubling its population in 7.5 years. This creates growing demand for new infrastructure and maintenance of existing infrastructure.

**Healthcare Investment:** Questions are raised about whether enough is being invested in healthcare considering the aging population.

**Rising Construction Costs:** Construction costs are rising, partly due to COVID-19 (27% input cost inflation).

**Leadership and Capability:** Leadership is a significant part of the root cause analysis for infrastructure. Local governments may need more capability to deliver outcomes.

**Financing:** With bigger debt and the same revenue, there's less for infrastructure. Users, taxpayers, and ratepayers fund infrastructure. Local government borrowing capacity is being examined, and debt financing infrastructure is seen as necessary. A mix of pay-as-you-go and debt is considered good way to finance.

**Project Pipeline Tool:** Local councils have many small infrastructure projects in Long Term Plans (LTPs) of less than \$1m. The tool categorizes projects by size and scale, but coverage is currently more extensive for metro councils than smaller ones. Efforts are being made to expand this coverage.

Forum members noted infrastructure upgrade needs, such as three bridges built in the 1930s, and the government's awareness and action on this were questioned. The response highlighted mixed levels of asset management planning, particularly poor for social infrastructure like hospitals, schools, and police stations. While ministers set revenue levels, they don't have the authority to manage these assets. Ways to extend the life of the asset, such as enhanced monitoring programs with inspections, were suggested.



**30-Year Plan Funding:** It was acknowledged that the only way to get more money for the 30-year plan is from ratepayers and taxpayers. LGNZ and Sam Broughton were commended for their work in providing helpful data.

The discussion addressed capacity issues that need alternative funding sources besides rates and debt. The solution lies in pricing design and finding the right mix of user charges and funding. It was noted that intermittent users drive design capacity, and fixed costs should be allocated back to the exacerbator. This is challenging when the exacerbator is a non-resident or intermittent user.

Forum members pointed out the issue of funding lag and inflation, which creates a vicious cycle and a time delay in reacting to infrastructure needs. They indicated that direction and guidance on financing would be useful, given that infrastructure costs are ultimately borne by users, taxpayers, or rate payers.

Ross will provide links to a number of reports that the Infrastructure Commission has recently published on a number of the topics that have been discussed in this item.



### Action

Follow up with Ross Copland to get links to the various reports that he referenced in his discussion.

Ross's EA has sent through links - sent to Mayors, along with Ross's presentation 18 June 2024

**Due Date:** 14 Jun 2024

**Owner:** Maree McNeilly

## 9. Close Meeting

### 9.1 Closing karakia

### 9.2 Close the meeting

**Next meeting:** Canterbury Mayoral Forum - 30 Aug 2024, 8:30 am

Nigel thanked Ross for his presentation and gave him a certificate for 4 trees to be planted in Canterbury on his behalf.

Nigel thanked Neil and Hamish for hosting the Forum in Ashburton.

The meeting closed at 1.09pm.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

# MINUTES (in Review)

## CMF WATER REFORM



<b>Name:</b>	Canterbury Mayoral Forum
<b>Date:</b>	Monday, 15 July 2024
<b>Time:</b>	8:00 am to 8:30 am (NZST)
<b>Location:</b>	Microsoft Teams, Online only
<b>Board Members:</b>	Nigel Bowen (Chair), Marie Black, Craig Mackle, Dan Gordon, Phil Mauger, Sam Broughton, Anne Munro, Gary Kircher
<b>Attendees:</b>	Angela Oosthuizen, Hamish Riach, Hamish Dobbie, Jeff Millward, Mary Richardson, Maree McNeilly, Will Doughty
<b>Apologies:</b>	Craig Pauling, Craig Rowley, Neil Brown, Alex Parmley, Nigel Trainor, Sharon Mason, Stefanie Rixecker, Stuart Duncan
<b>Guests/Notes:</b>	Liz McMillan, Deputy Mayor Ashburton District Council for Neil Brown

### 1. Opening meeting

#### 1.1 Karakia, welcome, introductions and apologies

Nigel opened the meeting, welcoming those online and noting apologies from those unable to attend.

#### 1.2 Confirmation of agenda

The agenda is to address the paper on Water Reform -scoping options for a future delivery model that was deferred from the 31 May 2025 Mayoral Forum meeting.

### 2. For discussion

#### 2.1 Water Reform - scoping options for a future delivery model

Nigel welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that the North Canterbury CEs had updated him on Friday morning about work they had been doing in this space and asked them to update forum members.

Dan advised that the North Canterbury Councils had been asked by the Minister to undertake modelling work on the Local Water Done Well Policy and through that they agreed to look at shared services, CCO options and to re-run the numbers on a Canterbury wide model.

They have engaged consultants to do this work, however have a confidential agreement with the Minister and Department of Internal Affairs and had only just received approval from the Minister and DIA that they could share what was being undertaken.

Once the modelling work is completed they will then share with other Canterbury councils.

Following a range of questions it was advised that the work is being undertaken currently and is expected to be available at the end of August.

The modelling is based on the publicly available data from councils' long-term plans. There may be a need for a verification process at the end once the modelling has been completed.

It was asked what option is there to be involved in the process, rather than just receive the output at the end? It appears that it is again work done about us, without us – which was a criticism of the previous three waters approach.

The North Canterbury CEs will speak with the consultant and then come back to the other CEs to advise other information that the consultants may need.

It was agreed to let the paper lie, until the next Mayoral Forum when it will be clearer on the outcomes of the current modelling work and the recommendation to be considered at that meeting.



### Actions

The recommendations on the Water Reform scoping options for a future delivery model to be brought to the next Mayoral Forum when it will be clearer on the outcomes of the current modelling work and the recommendation to be considered at that meeting.

**Due Date:** 30 Aug 2024

**Owner:** Nigel Bowen

## 3. Close Meeting

### 3.1 Closing karakia

### 3.2 Close the meeting

**Next meeting:** Canterbury Mayoral Forum - 30 Aug 2024, 8:30 am  
meeting finished at 8.20am

**Signature:**\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:**\_\_\_\_\_

# Action List

## Canterbury Mayoral Forum



As of: 22 Aug 2024

### Action

In Progress

Secretariat to finalise briefings and arrange a meeting for Forum members with Ministers in Wellington.

1 March - briefings sent to Ministers

4 March - secretariat has been in contact with Matt Doocey's office and will continue to liaise with them on setting up a meeting in Wellington.

June: Meetings with Ministers Watts & Mitchell (Christchurch)

July: Meetings with Ministers Bishop & Brown (Christchurch)

**Due Date:** 8 Mar 2024

**Owner:** Maree McNeilly

**Meeting:** 23 Feb 2024 Canterbury Mayoral Forum, 4.2 Engaging with Central Government

### Action

In Progress

Secretariat to draft a letter from the Forum to the Minister of Health, seeking a meeting to discuss local issues.

28 June - draft letter sent to CMF for approval, waiting for final feedback

**Due Date:** 28 Jun 2024

**Owner:** Maree McNeilly

**Meeting:** 31 May 2024 Canterbury Mayoral Forum, 7.1 General business

### Actions

Not Started

The recommendations on the Water Reform scoping options for a future delivery model to be brought to the next Mayoral Forum when it will be clearer on the outcomes of the current modelling work and the recommendation to be considered at that meeting.

**Due Date:** 30 Aug 2024

**Owner:** Nigel Bowen

**Meeting:** 15 Jul 2024 CMF Water Reform, 2.1 Water Reform - scoping options for a future delivery model

# Canterbury Mayoral Forum

**Date:** 30 August 2024

**Presented by:** Peter Scott, Chair Environment Canterbury

## Canterbury Water Management Strategy update

### Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide an update on the Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) Zone Committee Review and seek nominations of two to three Forum members to support this work over the next two months (Part One).
2. This paper also provides updates (Part Two) on:
  - zone committee actions
  - central and regional government actions that may impact on freshwater outcomes, and
  - region-wide progress towards improved freshwater management outcomes (Appendix 1 and 2).

### Recommendations

**That the Canterbury Mayoral Forum:**

1. **receives the progress update for the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Zone Committee Review 2024**
2. **discuss whether the key themes identified in paragraphs 6 and 7 below are appropriate for informing the Review as options are developed**
3. **agrees to nominate two to three Forum members to work with Environment Canterbury's Chair and Deputy to develop options for how the Mayoral Forum can continue to support local freshwater leadership in preparation of a final report to the Mayoral Forum in November 2024**
4. **receives the update for April to June 2024 on the region-wide work underway to implement the Canterbury Water Management Strategy.**

## Part One – Update on the CWMS Zone Committees Review

### Summary of outcomes of the Canterbury Mayoral Forum workshop 31 May 2024

3. At the Canterbury Mayoral Forum (CMF) meeting on 31 May 2024, Environment Canterbury representatives and staff ran a one-hour workshop focused on future needs for local leadership in freshwater management. The workshop was led by Environment Canterbury's then-Acting Chair, Cr Craig Pauling. Forum members were provided with a briefing and summary presentation of preliminary findings from the Zone Committee Review.
4. The workshop enabled a strategic discussion on the CMF's role in supporting local leadership in freshwater management, and provided guidance as advice is developed for the next phase of the Zone Committee Review. To this end, a historic overview of the CWMS, role of zone committees, and previous involvement by the CMF was provided.
5. A range of views has been expressed across all key stakeholder groups engaged through the Review, including in the feedback received from Mayors during their interviews. Forum members then discussed two key questions in three separate groups followed by a collective debrief:
  - What is the future need or role of local freshwater leadership in Canterbury?
  - What role do Forum members want the Canterbury Mayoral Forum to play in supporting local freshwater leadership?
6. While no agreed collective position for the CMF was established, several general points were noted across the workshop groups concerning future needs for local leadership in freshwater management. These include:
  - a strong sense that local leadership and community involvement are crucial, with local people to be empowered to drive local solutions
  - importance of maintaining the community voice and breadth of wider community involvement, including mana whenua
  - importance of shared goals and aims especially within a catchment, maybe beyond water to include land-related issues (e.g. biodiversity and biosecurity, climate action)
  - acknowledgement that local challenges and the effectiveness of management efforts vary, including across zone committees. Relevant factors include the level of leadership, local Rūnanga and community capacity, and role of local councils in giving purpose and support
  - a shared view among some Mayors that one-size-fits-all solutions are thus not suitable, with support for bespoke local arrangements.

- some consideration for how district councils play an important role and should be more involved.
7. Concerning the future role of the CMF in supporting local freshwater leadership, general points include:
- a view that the CMF and district/city councils want to continue enabling and supporting local efforts, including by providing the political leadership required to legitimise and empower local freshwater leadership
  - a sense that collaboration and partnership among the CMF and with Environment Canterbury are important, including support for implementation led by Environment Canterbury
  - acknowledgement that a sense of shared ownership among the CMF has diminished but could be refreshed. Recognition that Environment Canterbury often has local staff on the ground, with potential for district council staff to be more involved through shared working models
  - several ideas for how the CMF and district councils could support grassroots efforts, including through linked up funding and resourcing, providing communications support, ensuring regulatory oversight, or offering shared secretariat and administrative support.
8. While the scope for exploring specific feedback items or views of individual Forum members remained limited, the workshop provided valuable insights into the role of the CMF in supporting local freshwater leadership. Feedback from the workshop on the 31 May 2024 will be incorporated into the next phase of the Zone Committee Review.
9. The CMF workshop has highlighted that a collaborative partnership with Environment Canterbury remains important for the CMF, including stronger involvement from district councils going forward.

## **Progress update**

10. The information-gathering stage of the CWMS Zone Committee Review 2024 has now been completed. In addition to the engagements detailed in the progress update to the CMF meeting on 31 May 2024, one more interview with a Canterbury Mayor was conducted in June and a group of youth representatives on zone committees submitted a summary of rangatahi feedback to a self-designed set of questions related to the Review in July 2024.
11. Environment Canterbury also received feedback from Timaru District Council on the future directions for Ōrāri Temuka Ōpihi Pareora (OTOP) Zone Committee in August 2024. Additional feedback will still be incorporated into the Review where feasible.
12. The main focus of the Review is now shifting to the development of advice and options for the future of local freshwater leadership in Canterbury. Key to this is understanding

what needs to be delivered locally over the coming years to support local environmental outcomes, and what engagement with local communities is required to support this.

13. This work is being framed as what *function(s)* need to be delivered locally, which will in turn enable advice on what *form* of community engagement/leadership structure will best enable this. As an example, one possible function is the need to work closely with communities to inform environmental limits, targets and the range of regulatory and non-regulatory solutions required to achieve these limits. This will enable a discussion on whether a formal zone committee-like structure vs catchment groups vs something else is best placed to serve this function.
14. Agreed key dates and milestones for the Review are provided in Table 1.

**Table 1:** CWMS Zone Committee Review – key dates and milestones

Date	Milestone
Aug 2023	CMF agrees to a Review of zone committees
Dec 2023	Initial engagement with ZC Chairs and Deputies ( <i>completed</i> )
Apr 2024	Engagement with mayors, mana whenua and zone committees ( <i>completed</i> )
May 2024	Workshop with CMF ( <i>completed</i> )
Jul - Aug 2024	Briefing and updates to key CWMS parties
Aug 2024	Progress update to CMF
Sept - Oct 2024	Proposed – Workshop(s) with a small group of Forum members
Nov 2024	Final report to CMF

### **Nomination of two to three Forum members to support next steps**

15. The engagement and overall progress with the Review to date has highlighted a broad range of partly diverging views regarding zone committees and possible ways forward for supporting local community engagement and leadership across Canterbury. Relevant preliminary insights were provided to the CMF as part of the briefing for the 31 May 2024 meeting. Given these diverging views more dedicated time with Forum members, or a subset of Forum members, is required to develop suitable options.
16. To maintain the current momentum and support the development of options, Environment Canterbury recommends that the CMF nominates two to three members to work with Environment Canterbury's Chair and Deputy to workshop what community leadership the CMF will support into the future. Environment Canterbury would facilitate workshop(s) in September to October, with the aim to provide well-refined and tested options for consideration by the CMF at their 29 November 2024 meeting.
17. Environment Canterbury staff will provide a draft report of findings from the information-gathering stage of the Review to members in advance of the proposed workshop(s), before submitting a final report in November 2024.



## **Final report to the Canterbury Mayoral Forum in November**

18. Forum members should note that support, and ultimate accountability, of some options presented at the November 2024 meeting may sit with individual councils. For example, while endorsed by the CMF, zone committees are joint committees of the regional council and relevant territorial authority, and as such required decisions by relevant councils when these were established. Should a similar joint committee approach be endorsed by the CMF, it would ultimately require agreement by individual councils, as would a decision to disestablish these committees.
19. The nature of November's final report to Forum members, the recommendations provided within it, and the nature and need for individual council decision-making to support a CMF endorsement, will be dependent on what options are developed over the coming months.

## **Part Two – Region-wide updates**

### **CWMS zone committee updates**

20. All zone committees allocated their 2023/24 Action Plan budgets of \$75,000 each to implement on the ground actions to support the delivery of CWMS targets and goals.
21. Attachment 1 provides an update on key regional projects and campaigns.
22. Attachment 2 provides a summary of the last three months' progress of zone committee projects.
23. Note the \$75,000 available in 2023/24 from the CWMS Action Plan Budget for the Hurunui Waiau zone is to be used for projects supporting CWMS Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity, and Kaitiakitanga Targets.
24. \$500,000 has been allocated to the 2024/25 Action Plan budget through Environment Canterbury's Long-Term Plan 2024-2034, with \$50,000 available for each zone committee.

## **Update on central government action that may impact freshwater outcomes**

### **Resource Management Act reform**

25. Submissions on the Resource Management (Freshwater and Other Matters) Amendment Bill closed on 30 June. The bill proposes to:
  - remove the Te Mana o te Wai hierarchy of obligations from consent decisions
  - suspend requirements for councils to identify and notify new significant natural areas
  - align the consenting pathway for coal mining with other mineral extraction
  - repeal Intensive Winter Grazing regulations in the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater (NES-F)

- amend regulations in the Stock Exclusion Regulations relating to sloped land
- change the process to develop national direction.

26. The bill is the first of two bills that propose targeted changes to the resource management system. The second bill is still in development.

### **Changes to farm-facing freshwater direction and funding**

27. In April 2024, Ministers McClay and Hoggard announced their intent to improve freshwater farm plans so that they are more cost-effective and practical for farmers. As part of this, officials are looking at ways to integrate existing farm environment plans or industry assurance programmes into the system. Environment Canterbury is engaged in this work through Te Uru Kahika – Regional and Unitary Councils Aotearoa.
28. In June 2024, Ministers McClay, Hoggard and Patterson announced a funding commitment to support locally led catchment groups. This included:
- \$36 million over 4 years for regionally based Ministry for Primary Industries staff who support catchment groups on-the-ground
  - \$950,000 over 4 years for the Ōtūwharekai/Ashburton Lakes Catchment Group Collective
  - \$625,000 over 4 ½ years for the Mackenzie Basin Catchment Collective
  - \$625,000 over 4 ½ years for the Upper Waikirikiri Catchment Collective.

### **Fast-track Approvals Bill**

29. Submissions on the Fast-track Approvals Bill closed in April 2024. The bill would enable a fast-track decision-making process for infrastructure and development projects that are considered to have significant regional or national benefits. To access the fast-track approvals process, project owners would need to apply to the joint Ministers. A project would then be referred to an expert panel to assess the project and make a recommendation to the joint Ministers, who would then determine whether the approvals should be granted or declined.
30. It is understood that water infrastructure projects may seek approval through the fast-track decision-making process.

### **Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Bill**

31. Submissions on Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Amendments) Bill closed 13 June 2024. This bill proposes to establish the framework and preliminary arrangements for the new water services system for territorial authorities and Auckland Council. Key points of the bill include:
- requirement for territorial authorities to submit (within 12 months of enactment) Water Services Delivery Plans to the Secretary for Local Government for consideration as to whether they comply with requirements under the bill
  - requirement for territorial authorities to include in those plans baseline information about their water services operations (drinking water, wastewater and stormwater),

including compliance with regulatory requirements, information on assets, revenue, expenditure, pricing, and projected capital expenditure, as well as necessary financing arrangements, as a first step towards future economic regulation

- streamlined consultation and decision-making processes for setting up water services council-controlled organisations (water services CCOs)
- provisions that enable a new, financially sustainable model for Auckland's Watercare.

## Taumata Arowai reports

32. In June 2024, Taumata Arowai published the following reports under the Water Services Act:

- **Drinking Water Regulation Report 2023** includes data and information for the period 1 January to 31 December 2023 provided by registered drinking water suppliers about the safety of their drinking water supplies. Summary data associated with this report is on Taumata Arowai website.
- **Network Environmental Performance Report 2022/23** includes data and information for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 provided by operators of publicly owned drinking water networks, as well as some information about public wastewater and urban stormwater networks. Raw data associated with this report is on Taumata Arowai website.
- **Performance Summary of the Water Services Sector 2023** provides the following key findings from both reports:
  - Many drinking water suppliers are doing things well. However, there are critical gaps in the treatment that some suppliers have in place. Suppliers need to focus on the basics and urgently prioritise fully and consistently meeting all minimum requirements.
  - Network operators need to ensure that they prioritise resourcing the collection of necessary information to run their systems efficiently and effectively and prioritise identifying and managing water loss across their network. Effective management of water loss and any breaks in pipes is critical to supplying safe drinking water and managing any environmental impacts.

## Update on regional government action

### Environment Canterbury's Long-Term Plan 2024-34

33. Environment Canterbury's Long-Term Plan 2024-34, agreed by Council on 24 June 2024, includes outcome measures that align with those of the CWMS. These outcome measures focus regional government's work on, for instance, measurable improvements in the health and wellbeing of waterbodies and freshwater ecosystems, wetlands, braided rivers and coastal environment.
34. This focus on outcomes will support transparency and accountability for regional government. While Environment Canterbury can contribute to and influence these

outcomes, real progress needs contributions from many groups – including communities, the Canterbury Mayoral Forum, and Papatipu Rūnanga.

## **Environment Canterbury planning work programme**

### *Regional Policy Statement*

35. Environment Canterbury continues to progress the review of the Regional Policy Statement (RPS).
36. Consultation on a draft RPS has occurred over June and July 2024 with the statutory group of ministers of the Crown, territorial authorities, neighbouring regional councils and mana whenua. However, to ensure the draft RPS is well tested by a cross section of the community prior to notification, Environment Canterbury is consulting with key selected groups including Waitaha Members of Parliament, environmental organisations, and agricultural and industry groups that participated in the two early engagement phases last year.
37. Environment Canterbury is working with each Canterbury council's planning team to ensure district and city councils can influence the development of the RPS, and with each council's staff to ensure elected members have sufficient information to enable them to provide feedback. Further information is provided on the Environment Canterbury [website](#)<sup>1</sup>.

### *Plan Change 8*

38. Environment Canterbury is working to notify a plan change for the following issues:
  - Take and Use ("AWA") – providing for the take and use of water for infrastructure and allowing the use of water to be changed where there are environmental benefits
  - Make it easier to construct wetlands
  - Preserving the intent of the expiring provisions in the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater (NES-F) – Agricultural Intensification and Intensive Winter Grazing
39. This proposed plan change is in response to recent Court decisions which have impacted the consenting of urban development / infrastructure projects within the Canterbury region, as well as hampering the ability of water users to change what they use consented water for.
40. Canterbury councils have found temporary solutions to address some of the immediate problems that were created by the decision. Environment Canterbury recognises these are 'stop-gap' measures and not a permanent solution. However, with some of these immediate issues temporarily addressed by councils, Environment Canterbury is now working to provide a more cost-effective and coherent set of provisions collectively being referred to as 'Plan Change 8' that address these matters in the longer term as well as addressing additional areas of concern.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://haveyoursay.ecan.govt.nz/about-our-future-canterbury>

41. Environment Canterbury expects the bulk of the work to be completed in September 2024, with notification in October or November 2024 depending on Environment Canterbury Council meetings and briefing schedules. Currently staff anticipate a draft being released for pre-notification consultation to councils (via their planning teams) in mid to late August 2024.

### **Revitalisation of the Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy**

42. Environment Canterbury is now working towards the revitalisation of the Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy. A discovery session/workshop was held with partners, signatories and stakeholders in April, and this work was discussed by the Biodiversity Champions on 1 July. The next steps for this work are to establish a working group of partners, stakeholders and signatories and develop a schedule of ongoing opportunities for engagement to progress the revitalisation.

### **Attachments**

- Attachment 1: Key regional projects/campaigns April to June 2024
- Attachment 2: Zone Committee Action Plan overview April to June 2024

## Attachment 1: Key regional projects/campaigns April to June 2024

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1. The CWMS is implemented in the Canterbury region by the CWMS partners through a range of statutory and non-statutory obligations and by working with agencies and community groups.
2. This section of the update provides information on the delivery of actions by CWMS partners to meet the 2025 goals under the 10 CWMS Targets Areas<sup>2</sup>, although not all 10 Target Areas are intended to be covered each quarter. Progress against the CWMS Targets is reported on Environment Canterbury's [website](#)<sup>3</sup>.

### Ōtūwharekai / Ashburton Lakes

3. Restoring the mauri of the Ōtūwharekai / Ashburton Lakes continues to be a high priority for Environment Canterbury, mana whenua, key agencies, organisations and landowners. This work supports progress towards the Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity Target.
4. The Ōtūwharekai Working Group is progressing their Draft Integrated Catchment Plan. Statutory agencies are providing their input into the plan, detailing the actions and timelines they will work towards to improve the health of the lakes. In the coming months, this will be circulated to the full working group (farmers and Rūnanga) and with stakeholders in the Ōtūwharekai community to incorporate their contribution to restoring water quality and ecosystems at the lakes.
5. Environment Canterbury continues to work through the consent review and consenting process with the landowners in the Ōtūwharekai catchment. Work is ongoing to determine new consent conditions that will appropriately protect water quality and the health of the ecosystems at Ōtūwharekai.
6. The most recent water quality monitoring results, as well as progress updates on other actions, are available at [www.ecan.govt.nz/otuwharekai](http://www.ecan.govt.nz/otuwharekai).

### Whakaora Te Waihora Programme

7. The Whakaora Te Waihora Programme is an operational programme of the Te Waihora Co-Governance Group to restore and rejuvenate the mana, mauri and ecosystem of Te Waihora/ Lake Ellesmere (supporting progress towards the Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity, and Kaitiakitanga Targets). The Co-Governance members are Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Environment Canterbury, Selwyn District Council, Christchurch City Council, and Department of Conservation.

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<sup>2</sup> There are ten target areas within the Canterbury Water Management Strategy each with a number of more specific goals. The target areas are: Environmental Limits, Ecosystem Health/Biodiversity, Natural Character of Braided Rivers, Kaitiakitanga, Drinking-water, Recreational and amenity opportunities, Water use efficiency, Irrigated land area, Energy security and efficiency and Indicators of Regional and National Economies.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ecan.govt.nz/your-region/your-environment/water/measuring-cwms-progress/>

8. The project made significant advances from April to June with the installation of 22,000 riparian plants; the lodging of applications for resource consents for re-creating a wetland and stream habitat improvement; and the continued delivery of a mātauranga Māori and water quality monitoring programme.
9. The first phase of the Te Waihora GIS Platform was completed. This platform was designed to support the organisations in the Whakakōhanga Kōrero forum through displaying project sites across multiple organisations in a digital map, in order to inform operational decisions (e.g. project planning, the development of partnership projects), strategic decisions (e.g. priorities, funding allocation), and communication. The platform is independent of any organisation and allows organisations control over their data and to choose the data they share.

## Whaka-Ora Healthy Harbour Programme

10. The Whaka-Ora Healthy Harbour Programme is designed to improve the environmental and cultural values of Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour (supporting progress towards the Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity Target). It is a partnership between Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Environment Canterbury, Christchurch City Council, and Lyttelton Port Company to action the Whaka-Ora Healthy Harbour Catchment Management Plan.
11. A recent focus of the programme has been building stronger relationships with various agencies in the landscape engaged in complimentary habitat restoration and ecological protection. These groups include Pest Free Banks Peninsula, Living Springs, Orton Bradley, Summit Road Society, and Banks Peninsula Water Zones Committee. This has been achieved by running collaboration workshops, leading strategy discussions, and actively attending planning hui.
12. There has been active communication to different audiences about the programme's goals and works. This has included: assisting Christchurch City Council in their Green Pavlova conference field trip; developing and delivering workshops and lessons for the Untouched World akonga event 'Whakaraupō Moana' held at Rāpaki for a week in May; presenting to a WEA adult learning event; and presenting to a University of Canterbury sustainability student field trip.
13. A titi re-introduction feasibility study was completed through collaborative work between the programme, a Co-Chair of the Whaka-Ora Governance Group, and the Department of Conservation. The next steps are to proceed with further assessments into the viability and overall costs of this objective.

## Waitarakao Washdyke Lagoon

14. The draft *Our Waitarakao: Waitarakao Washdyke Lagoon Catchment Strategy* is available for public feedback until 15 July 2024 and can be found at [Our Waitarakao Washdyke Lagoon Catchment | Have Your Say \(ecan.govt.nz\)](https://www.ecan.govt.nz/our-waitarakao-washdyke-lagoon-catchment/).

15. The strategy is the result of a partnership between the Department of Conservation, Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua, Timaru District Council, the local community and Environment Canterbury. It includes the following five overall outcomes, which each have objectives, first steps, and ongoing actions:

1. Ecological revitalisation or restoration achieves and sustains thriving, healthy, functioning ecosystems.
2. Increase mahinga kai to enable customary harvest of food and resources that were traditionally gathered from the area, ki uta ki tai.
3. Enable the community to appropriately interact with the catchment.
4. The community is informed about, and involved in, the restoration of the mauri/life force of the Waitarakao catchment.
5. Resilience planning reduces the environmental, social, cultural, and economic impacts of natural hazards.

## **Te Mōkihi Programme**

16. The Te Mōkihi Programme focuses on improving environmental, cultural, social and economic outcomes in Te Manahuna/ Mackenzie Basin (supporting progress towards the Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity Target). It is a partnership between Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua, Te Rūnanga o Moeraki, Te Rūnanga o Waihao, Environment Canterbury, Department of Conservation, Land Information NZ, Mackenzie District Council and Waitaki District Council.



## Attachment 2: Zone Committee Action Plan overview April to June 2024

Kaikōura Zone Committee		
Target Area	Focus of the Action Plan	Highlights of practical work underway
<b>Natural Character of Braided Rivers</b> <b>Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity</b> <b>Kaitiakitanga wahi taonga &amp; biodiversity</b>	<b>Enhance biodiversity, and improve amenity and recreation values</b> <b>Support our community to respond to changing requirements, and share resources for good management practice</b> <b>Facilitate understanding of catchment systems within the zone, build community knowledge and connection to these systems and increase public participation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At its May meeting, the Committee received a report from the Kaikōura Sport Tasman Coordinator, seeking support on a proposal to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Educate and build confidence of</b> tamariki, rangatahi, tourists and the wider community around the dangers of the oceans, safe swimming, surfing, diving and fishing areas, and educate on the tikanga around kai moana collection.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The Committee also decided on a Focus Catchment Map Series (on offer from the Wai Connection project) for the 'Kaikōura Flats' catchment. Production of this resource is underway.</li> <li>The Committee attended a 2 day 'Te Tiriti o Waitangi' Training held at Takahanga Marae on 11-12 June. This was facilitated by Sharon Annett of Treaty Education. The offer of training, collaboration and connection was also offered to Kaikōura District Council, local ECan staff, the Hurunui District Landcare Group, Amuri Irrigation Company, Hurunui District Council Biodiversity Officer, Waimakariri Water Zone Committee and the East Coast Community Organisation. This opportunity was well received by the 15 from these groups who attended.</li> </ul>

<b>Waimakariri Zone Committee</b>		
<b>Target Area</b>	<b>Focus of the Action Plan</b>	<b>Highlights of practical work underway</b>
<b>Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity</b> <b>Drinking Water</b> <b>Natural Character of Braided Rivers</b> <b>Recreation and Amenity Opportunities</b> <b>Kaitiakitanga</b>	<b>Improve monitoring of water resources</b> <b>Biodiversity improvements</b> <b>Braided Rivers</b> <b>Recreation resources</b> <b>Mahinga kai improvements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Committee held a workshop in mid-April to provide feedback into the CWMS Zone Committee Review currently underway and review the project applications received for the CWMS Action Plan Budget available for 2023/24.</li> <li>At its 6 May meeting the Committee confirmed its support of recommendations to fund the following projects from the CWMS Action Plan Budget in 2023/24: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bittern Inanga Rushland – Air Charter Queenstown (\$15,000)</li> <li>Hunters Stream – J &amp; G Freeman (\$5,285)</li> <li>Ketchum Cottage wetland – A Wilson (\$7,210)</li> <li>O'kair Lagoon – J Wakeman &amp; M Stewart (\$15,000)</li> <li>Pohio Wetland – N Auld (\$11,700)</li> <li>Riparian enhancement project – Whiterock Mains (\$6,000)</li> <li>Sefton Saltwater Creek Catchment Group Yr3 monitoring (\$2,805)</li> <li>Waimakariri Biodiversity Working Group – Environmental Awards (\$3,000)</li> <li>Estuary shorebird monitoring – Ashley Rakahuri Rivercare Group (\$9,000)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Christchurch-West Melton</b>		
<b>Target Area</b>	<b>Focus of the Action Plan</b>	<b>Highlights of practical work underway</b>
<b>Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity</b> <b>Kaitiakitanga</b> <b>Recreation and Amenity opportunities</b>	<b>Enhance mahinga kai</b> <b>Engage with community</b> <b>Enhance ecosystem health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Committee held a workshop in late March to provide feedback into the CWMS Zone Committee Review.</li> <li>With no meeting or workshop held in April and May, the Committee meeting held on 27 June focused on the committee's support and involvement in the proposed Stormwater Superheroes Awards for 2024, and how the Committee's CWMS Action Plan aligned with the Community Waterways Partnership. The meeting also reviewed its schedule and priorities for the remainder of 2024.</li> </ul>

<b>Banks Peninsula Zone Committee</b>		
<b>Target Area</b>	<b>Focus of the Action Plan</b>	<b>Highlights of practical work underway</b>
<b>Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity</b>  <b>Kaitiakitanga</b>	<b>Collaborate on practical projects including fish passage</b>  <b>Engage with community and partner with organisations</b>  <b>Advocate for and be engaged in improved erosion and sediment control</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In April, the Committee held a workshop on Fish Passage to understand more about instream barriers, work being undertaken by Christchurch City Council and Environment Canterbury, requirements and tools to support landowners to remediate structures. The committee made a recommendation to Environment Canterbury to utilise a prioritization tool and noted more work was needed to educate the community. As a result, Environment Canterbury will be developing a targeted communications campaign highlighting the tool.</li> <li>• In May, the Committee received a presentation from Whaka-ora Healthy Harbour on its partnership approach. The presentation also identified synergies with the committee (e.g. catchment prioritisation and community engagement support).</li> <li>• In June, the Committee agreed to become a partner of the Community Waterways Partnership (CWP) seeing it as an opportunity to collaborate on issues of importance to the Banks Peninsula community e.g. erosion and sediment control and leverage off support provided by CWP.</li> </ul>
<b>Selwyn-Waihora Zone Committee</b>		
<b>Target Area</b>	<b>Focus of the Action Plan</b>	<b>Highlights of practical work underway</b>
<b>Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity</b>  <b>Natural Character of Braided Rivers</b>  <b>Recreation and Amenity opportunities</b>  <b>Kaitiakitanga</b>	<b>Catchment nutrient targets and water quality outcomes</b>  <b>Enhance mahinga kai, recreation and amenity values</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In April, the Committee held a workshop focussed on influencing freshwater improvements and how they could play a greater role. The Committee identified areas where they would like to expand their efforts (e.g. increased community engagement, raising awareness of critical issues, and working closer with the coalition of the willing to gain traction on issues).</li> <li>• The Committee participated in CWMS Zone Committees Review workshop to provide feedback to Environment Canterbury on future freshwater leadership requirements.</li> <li>• In May, the Committee, with Quorum Sense, hosted a screening of 'Six Inches of Soil', a UK documentary telling the stories of farmers using regenerative farming practices including their trials and tribulations. This was followed by a panel discussion made up of Canterbury farmers who use regenerative farming techniques. The event highlighted some of the challenges faced and opportunities with regenerative farming and the differences between the UK and local settings.</li> <li>• The Committee had an online workshop to formulate and provide feedback to Environment Canterbury on its Council Representation Review.</li> </ul>

Ashburton Zone Committee		
Target Area	Focus of the Action Plan	Highlights of practical work underway
<b>Environmental Limits</b> <b>Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity</b> <b>Recreation and Amenity opportunities</b>	<b>Support measures to enhance recreation and amenity opportunities</b> <b>Improving ecosystem health and meeting biodiversity targets</b> <b>Supporting Hakatere / Ashburton River and its tributaries (including Carters Creek) and Hekeao Hinds</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In April, the Committee made recommendations to allocate the remaining Zone Committee Action Plan Budget to three projects. Two projects will work towards improved water quality and include a biochar trial along Carters Creek to reduce pollutants entering Lake Hood, and support building the baseline water quality data for the Hekeao Hinds Hill Country Catchment Group. The third project supports improving native biodiversity through the Methven Birdsong Garden of Harmony Project which aims to restore native birdsong to Methven.</li> <li>The Committee continues to follow on progress made by the Greenstreet irrigation group and Environment Canterbury. Where necessary the group has received regular updates and/or support from the Committee.</li> </ul>

Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Zone Committee		
Target Area	Focus of the Action Plan	Highlights of practical work underway
<b>Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity</b> <b>Kaitiakitanga</b> <b>Recreation and Amenity opportunities</b>	<b>Lowland Stream health</b> <b>Protection, enhancement and restoration of mahinga kai sites</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Committee approved funding to ensure the survival of Opihi Lagoon dryland plants. This area was planted with Jobs for Nature funding which is being discontinued at the end of June 2024.</li> <li>The Committee recommended funding to develop a remediation strategy for Pig Hunting Creek Lagoon, a coastal lagoon south of Timaru. Improving the ecological functioning of Pig Hunting Creek will contribute to restoring mahinga kai regionally. Improvements to the coastal wetlands will support the health of the adjacent Tuhawaiki mataitai where shellfish are gathered.</li> </ul>

Upper Waitaki Zone Committee		
Target Area	Focus of the Action Plan	Highlights of practical work underway
<b>Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity</b>  <b>Recreation and Amenity opportunities</b>  <b>Kaitiakitanga</b>	<p><b>Support catchment groups taking collective action to reduce losses of contaminants, prioritised where they are addressing identified at-risk areas</b></p> <p><b>Explore opportunities to partner with key community groups who are focused on waterways, such as the Ahuriri Catchment Community Group</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At its 19 April meeting the Committee received an update from the Ahuriri Catchment Community Group and discussed future engagement with and support for farmers in this priority catchment.</li> <li>The Committee also received proposals for consideration seeking support from the CWMS Action Plan Budget for 2023/24.</li> <li>At its 17 May meeting the Committee confirmed its support of recommendations to fund the following projects from the CWMS Action Plan Budget in 2023/24:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Church of the Good Sheperd – Stage two grounds planting (\$7,500)</li> <li>Love our Lakes Summer Facebook Campaign (\$1,415)</li> <li>Lindis Pass lupin control – Canterbury side (\$15,000)</li> <li>Ahuriri Catchment Community Group – facilitator 2024 (\$12,000)</li> <li>Omarama and Twizel demonstration plots – maintenance (\$19,000)</li> <li>Wairepo Creek restoration project (\$20,000)</li> </ul> </li> <li>The Committee also hosted their annual Hāngī on 17 May at Omarama Station, hosted by Richard and Annabelle Subtil. Pupils and teachers from Omarama Primary School attended, alongside local members of the committee and Ahuriri Catchment Community Group, and the wider community. The day was ably supported by the zone committee's Arowhenua and Waihao Rūnanga representatives, and the Wai Connection team from EOS Ecology.</li> <li>The Committee has no meeting scheduled for June 2024 and will hold a workshop and field visit in late July with the Wairepo Creek restoration project to better understand how this project can be supported.</li> </ul>

Lower Waitaki Zone Committee		
Target Area	Focus of the Action Plan	Highlights of practical work underway
<b>Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity</b> <b>Recreation and Amenity opportunities</b> <b>Kaitiakitanga</b>	<b>Identifying and championing new and existing riparian, stream and wetland projects</b> <b>Lessen urban activities' impact on Wainono Lagoon</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In April and May the Committee focussed on projects to improve urban waterways recommending funding for three projects within the Waimate area.</li> <li>• Riparian native planting will be undertaken along Waimate Stream by the Waimate Trackways group and along Waimate Gorge by the Friends of Studholme Bush Reserve. The third project is the establishment of a shade house for Waimate High School's Enviro group to propagate plants for the school grounds and within Waimate Highs "Bio zone" project. This project is supported by Waimate District Council who are supplying expertise and the space on their land near the school.</li> </ul>

# Canterbury Mayoral Forum

**Date:** 30 Augst 2024

**Presented by:** Nigel Bowen, Chair

## **Nick Leggett, Infrastructure NZ and Wayne Scott, Aggregate & Quarrying Assn**

Guest Speakers Nick Leggett and Wayne Scott will address the meeting.

Background briefing notes have been provided to the guest speakers and attached to this paper.

Key questions for discussions (see below) were included in the briefing notes.

The Forum is interested in the work both Infrastructure NZ and the Aggregate and Quarrying Association are focused on, and how local government can support it.

- what specific issues are your organisations currently working on?
- from your experience, what are the things that councils (territorial authorities and regional councils) are doing well in the infrastructure space, what could we be doing better, what should we stop doing?
- what are the necessary skills and experience that we need to invest in for our people in the delivery of infrastructure, particularly large infrastructure projects?
- what are some of the risks to delivering infrastructure, particularly those risks that are not getting enough airtime?
- how can we elevate those risks to the appropriate level to ensure they are being considered?

## **Attachment**

- Briefing note for meeting for Nick Leggett and Wayne Scott to meet with the Canterbury Mayoral Forum, Friday 30 August 2024

## CANTERBURY Mayoral Forum

*A strong regional economy with resilient, connected communities and a better quality of life, for all.*

### Briefing note for meeting for Nick Leggett and Wayne Scott to meet with the Canterbury Mayoral Forum, Friday 30 August 2024

#### Where/when

- Commodore Hotel, 449 Memorial Avenue, Christchurch
- car parking is freely available at the hotel
- your item is set for 9.15am for an hour. A member of the secretariat will greet you and escort you into the room at the appropriate time
- morning tea with the Forum will follow the discussion
- your contact for the event is Maree McNeilly (secretariat), 027 381 8924.

#### Purpose of meeting

The item is an opportunity to discuss matters of mutual interest. The Chair will introduce each of you and invite you to give a brief overview of the purpose and role of your organisation, and then open up for discussion and questions from members.

#### Background on the Canterbury Mayoral Forum

The Mayoral Forum is the mayors of the territorial authorities and the chair of the regional council. The Forum is supported by the chief executives of the Canterbury councils.

The mayors/chair and chief executives of Canterbury councils are:

Council	Mayor / Chair	Chief Executive
Kaikōura District	Craig Mackle	Will Doughty
Hurunui District	Marie Black (Deputy Chair)	Hamish Dobbie
Waimakariri District	Dan Gordon	Jeff Millward
Christchurch City	Phil Mauger	Mary Richardson (interim)
Selwyn District	Sam Broughton	Sharon Mason
Ashburton District	Neil Brown	Hamish Riach
Timaru District	Nigel Bowen (Chair)	Nigel Trainor
Mackenzie District	Anne Munro	Angela Oosthuizen
Waimate District	Craig Rowley	Stuart Duncan
Waitaki District	Gary Kircher	Alex Parmley
Environment Canterbury	Peter Scott	Stefanie Rixecker

#### *Mayors standing together for Canterbury.*

Secretariat, E: [secretariat@canterburymayors.org.nz](mailto:secretariat@canterburymayors.org.nz) W: [www.canterburymayors.org.nz](http://www.canterburymayors.org.nz)  
C/- Environment Canterbury, PO Box 345, Christchurch 8140 T: 03 345 9323



The Forum is mandated by the Canterbury Local Authorities' Triennial Agreement as the primary mechanism for local government co-ordination, collaboration and advocacy in Canterbury.

The Forum is supported by a permanent secretariat.

### ***Mayoral Forum's Plan for Canterbury***

Each local government term the Mayoral Forum develops a Plan for Canterbury. This sets out the vision and values of the Mayoral Forum and key priority areas for action over the term.

The Mayoral Forum's vision for the Plan is 'sustainable development with shared prosperity, resilient communities and proud identity'. The key priority areas in the Plan for the Mayoral Forum's leadership, facilitation and advocacy this term are:

- sustainable environmental management
- shared prosperity (economic and social)
- climate change.

### ***Key work programmes***

There are 9 key actions that sit under the priority areas. Major work programmes currently under way to support these include:

- Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan – this collaborative plan sets out the range of mitigation and adaptation actions councils will undertake together for the region. It is proposed to be launched in October
- an energy inventory for the region – the intention in developing the inventory is to inform more consistent strategic planning, investment, and partnerships across industry, councils, central government; identify regional priorities to support discussions with government on regional/city deals; and support regional input into government energy work programmes
- regional housing strategy and action plan – the purpose of the strategy is to identify the range of housing issues affecting communities across the region and a pathway forward to improve them. This project is at the scoping stage, where an accurate picture of current housing needs in Canterbury will be developed to identify opportunities for coordinated and planned interventions
- developing regional economic priorities and actions to support conversations with stakeholders and central government.

### **Topics for discussion**

The Forum is interested in the work both Infrastructure NZ and the Aggregate and Quarrying Association are focused on, and how local government can support it.

Questions from the Forum during the discussion may include:

- what specific issues are your organisations currently working on?
- from your experience, what are the things that councils (territorial authorities and regional councils) are doing well in the infrastructure space, what could we be doing better, what should we stop doing?
- what are the necessary skills and experience that we need to invest in for our people in the delivery of infrastructure, particularly large infrastructure projects?
- what are some of the risks to delivering infrastructure, particularly those risks that are not getting enough airtime?
- how can we elevate those risks to the appropriate level to ensure they are being considered?

# Canterbury Mayoral Forum

**Date:** 30 August 2024

**Presented by:** Nigel Bowen, Chair

## **Water Reform**

There is no paper for this item.

Marlon Bridge, DIA, will attend for the first 30 minutes of this item to discuss recent Government announcements on Local Water Done Well.

The last 30 minutes of the item will be for members to discuss and update each other on Local Water Done Well status in each district.

# Canterbury Mayoral Forum

**Date:** 30 August 2024

**Presented by:** Dan Gordon, Chair Climate Action Planning Reference Group

## Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan approval

### Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to present the draft Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan for formal approval.

### Recommendations

**That the Canterbury Mayoral Forum:**

1. **approve the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan**
2. **agree to lead the following actions in the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan**
  - a) **Action 6 – Supporting Papatipu Rūnanga: Support councils to work in partnership with Papatipu Rūnanga to integrate their requirements into local climate action planning**
  - b) **Action 8 – Climate funding and financing: Explore the feasibility of a Canterbury Climate Commitment that inspires and unites businesses and communities to accelerate climate action.**

### Background

2. The Mayoral Forum received an update on the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan in May 2024, focusing on the draft climate actions, the approach to implementation, and a draft Plan for feedback.
3. All Canterbury councils have expressed their support for the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan and proposed climate actions at a governance level over April to June 2024.
4. Climate Action Planning Reference Group members (i.e. Councillors) supported the draft Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan and implementation approach at their June 2024 meeting, and the Policy Forum confirmed resourcing by councils leading actions.
5. The implementation of climate actions is shared between Hurunui, Waimakariri, Selwyn and Ashburton District Councils, Christchurch City Council and Environment Canterbury, and the Canterbury Mayoral Forum. Other councils have indicated they will support the implementation of actions in some capacity. An implementation overview is included at the back of the Plan (see attachment 1).
6. Councils have agreed to fund regional collective climate actions through their Long-Term Plans (LTPs) 2024-34 or Annual Plans 2024-2025, with a total of \$1.47 million for

the first 3 years (\$100,432 to be confirmed through Waimate and Waitaki District Council's LTPs 2025-2034).

7. The draft Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan is appended as Attachment 1.

## **Working together on climate action in Canterbury**

8. Climate change mitigation and adaptation in Canterbury is one of the three priorities under the *Canterbury Mayoral Forum Plan 2023-2025*.
9. All 11 councils in Canterbury have worked together to develop the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan which sets out how we intend to work together and with others to support our transition to a thriving, climate-resilient, low-emissions region.
10. Climate change will have significant physical, economic, and socio-cultural impacts on our communities. Partnering on climate action allows for joint leadership to address these issues and collectively improve the four wellbeings for Canterbury communities.
11. By sharing resources and climate change expertise, the Plan offers a practical financial advantage, especially for less-resourced councils. Collaboration allows us to achieve greater efficiency in implementing climate initiatives across Canterbury by reducing duplication of efforts and streamlining processes.
12. Developed by the Climate Change Working Group and guided by the Climate Action Planning Reference Group, the Plan outlines six key outcomes and objectives aimed to be achieved through 10 climate actions and supporting sub-actions developed through a robust series of workshops over 2022-2024.
13. The Plan focuses on the first three years of councils' Long-Term Plans 2024-2034, with a review proposed in Year 3.
14. The Working Group focused on identifying tangible actions for the short term, addressing key gaps in knowledge, priority risks, and opportunities climate change presents. These actions are intended to build momentum for collective climate action and to complement existing and future climate efforts of individual councils.
15. As part of Environment Canterbury's 'Our Future, Canterbury' themed engagement campaign in 2023, input from Canterbury stakeholders and communities on climate action priorities, barriers, and perspectives on 'fair' climate action was sought to inform the Plan.
16. Examples of outputs for each council will include a climate change risk visualisation- and emissions reduction pathway modelling tools to support informed decision making, an adaptation planning framework to support best practice adaptation at a local level, a collaborative plan to increase natural capital, indigenous biodiversity and nature-based solutions to climate change effects, collaboration on increased community understanding about climate risks, a framework for incorporating climate change into council processes, and collective leveraging of co-funding and financing opportunities for climate adaptation and resilience.

17. The Mayoral Forum is tasked with overseeing the implementation of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan. It is proposed that the Forum leads action 6, which involves supporting councils in collaborating with Papatipu Rūnanga to incorporate their needs into local climate action planning, as well as action 8, which focuses on exploring the feasibility of a Canterbury Climate Commitment aiming to rally businesses and communities to accelerate climate action. These actions have been designated to the Mayoral Forum due to its influential position and capacity to instigate widespread change at a regional level.
18. Staff are developing advice on the governance of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan implementation and will provide this to the Forum at the November 2024 meeting. This will include advice on the role of the elected member Reference Group going forward.
19. The successful implementation of the Partnership Plan actions will require sustained contributions and collaboration between all councils, appropriate resourcing in terms of budget and staff time, and continued political backing.

## Cost, compliance and communication

### Financial implications

20. Councils' contributions to the Climate Partnership Plan range from \$36,750 to \$301,350 for the first three years of the 2024-2034 LTPs (Table 1). This reflects the current proportional contributions from councils to the Canterbury Mayoral Forum.

**Table 1:** Collective funding contributions to the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan.

	CMF ratios (%)	Y1 LTP	Y2 LTP	Y3 LTP	Total Y1-Y3 LTP
Environment Canterbury	20.5	38,950	151,700	110,700	<b>301,350</b>
Christchurch	20.5	39,000	152,000	110,000	<b>301,000</b>
Selwyn	10.7	20,330	79,180	57,780	<b>157,290</b>
Waimakariri	10.7	20,330	79,180	57,780	<b>157,290</b>
Ashburton	9.8	18,620	72,520	52,920	<b>144,060</b>
Timaru	9.8	18,620	72,520	52,920	<b>144,060</b>
Hurunui	5.2	9,880	38,480	28,080	<b>76,440</b>
Waimate	3.9	7,410 (confirmed through Annual Plan 2024-2025)	28,860 (included for consideration in Long-Term Plan 2025-2034)	21,060 (included for consideration in Long-Term Plan 2025-2034)	<b>57,330</b>
Waitaki	3.9	7,500 (confirmed through Annual Plan 2024-2025)	29,609 (included for consideration in Long-Term Plan 2025-2034)	21,903 (included for consideration in Long-Term Plan 2025-2034)	<b>59,012</b>

Kaikōura	2.5	4,750	18,500	13,500	<b>36,750</b>
Mackenzie	2.5	4,750	18,500	13,500	<b>36,750</b>
<b>TOTAL budget</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>190,140</b>	<b>741,049</b>	<b>540,143</b>	<b>1,471,332*</b>

(\*100,432 NZD to be confirmed through Waimate and Waitaki District Councils LTPs 2025-2034)

## Communication

21. A launch event is being organised for 13 December 2024 to celebrate the finalisation of the Partnership Plan. The event aims to raise awareness of Canterbury's climate risks and collaborative actions, with a specific focus on generating media coverage and elevating Canterbury's climate action profile with central government. Invitations will be extended to Forum members, Canterbury councillors, members of the working and reference groups, government MPs and Ministers and other stakeholders.
22. The suggested format for the launch is an introduction from the Mayoral Forum Chair and the Chair of the Reference Group, followed by keynote speakers, and a viewing of a promotional video of the Plan. Dr Rod Carr, Chairperson of the Climate Change Commission, and the Minister of Climate Change, Hon Simon Watts, have been confirmed as keynote speakers.
23. The Chief Executives Forum has approved the development of a promotional video to highlight the benefits of regional collaboration on climate action and to promote the Plan. The video will be used as digital content (particularly for the *It's time, Canterbury* website) and shared during the launch, with the intent to feature all mayors. The Mayoral Forum Secretariat will coordinate with mayors to obtain the video material over the next weeks.
24. The Partnership Plan will be hosted on both the Canterbury Mayoral Forum website (PDF) and the It's Time, Canterbury website (PDF and digital version) and will include an introduction from the Canterbury Mayoral Forum.

## Next steps

25. The Mayoral Forum Secretariat will work with Mayoral Forum members to gather material for a promotional video for the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan over the coming weeks.
26. Staff will bring back advice to the Forum on the governance of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan implementation at the next meeting in November 2024.

## Attachments

- Attachment 1 - Draft Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan



DRAFT

# ***It's time, Canterbury!***

***The Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan***

# ***Kua tae te wā, Waitaha***

***Te Mahere Huringa Āhuarangi o Waitaha***

Local government climate actions for Canterbury 2024-2027

**It's time,  
Canterbury**  
Our climate change  
conversation

CANTERBURY  
Mayoral Forum







# It's time, Canterbury – Let's act now for a liveable prosperous future

*Kua tae te wā, Waitaha - Me whakarite  
ināiane ki ora rawa te apōpō!*

**Foreword from the Chair of the Canterbury Mayoral Forum  
– Mayor Nigel Bowen and Chair of the Canterbury Climate  
Action Planning Reference Group – Mayor Dan Gordon.**

Climate change is one of the most pressing challenges of our time, and it affects us all. To tackle climate change and its impacts effectively, we know we must work together. By joining forces and taking bold, collective climate action here in Waitaha/Canterbury, we unlock a multitude of benefits for our communities and can even transform risks into opportunities.

All 11 councils in Canterbury have worked together to develop this plan – the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan – which sets out how we intend to work together and with others to support our transition to a thriving, climate-resilient, low-emissions region. Every council in Canterbury is already involved with climate action in their city, district, or region. The Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan doesn't detract from that work. Instead, this plan joins the dots, enabling us to align our work programmes, create efficiencies, and provide regional solutions to shared problems.

In drafting this plan, we've sought to get the best 'bang for buck' for Canterbury residents while accelerating the scale and pace of climate action for current and future generations. The ten climate actions in this plan are the key first steps in our journey towards a sustainable future. It's time to work together, Canterbury.



**Mayor Nigel Bowen**  
Chair, Canterbury  
Mayoral Forum



**Mayor Dan Gordon**  
Chair, Canterbury Climate  
Action Planning Reference Group







# ***He Whakataukī Ārahi o Ngāi Tahu***

*Ko ngā maunga, ko Te  
Tiritiri o Te Moana*

*Ko Aoraki te Kaihautū*

*Ko ngā awa, ngā awa huka  
e rere ana ki te moana*

*Ko te whenua, Ngā Pākihi  
Whakatekateka o Waitaha  
Tihei mauri ora!*

*The mountains are the  
Southern Alps,*

*watched over by Aoraki;*

*The rivers are the snow-fed  
rivers whose waters flow out  
to the ocean;*

*The land of the Canterbury  
Plains is where people walk  
proudly.*

*Listen up – our life force  
is alive!*

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# Acknowledgments

## He Whakamihi

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*Canterbury Climate Change Working Group*

*Canterbury Climate Action Reference Group*

*Elected members and staff from partnering councils:*

*Christchurch City Council*

*Ashburton District Council*

*Hurunui District Council*

*Kaikōura District Council*

*Mackenzie District Council*

*Selwyn District Council*

*Timaru District Council*

*Waimakariri District Council*

*Waimate District Council*

*Waitaki District Council*

*Environment Canterbury Regional Council*

*Canterbury Climate Change Working Group and Reference Group Secretariat and project lead*

*Canterbury Mayoral Forum Secretariat*

*Environment Canterbury Climate Change and Community Resilience Team*

*Community & Public Health Te Mana Ora*

*It's time, Canterbury project team and Communications Sub-group*

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### *Mana whenua*

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum acknowledges Ngāi Tahu as the mana whenua of Waitaha; the 10 Papatipu Rūnanga of Waitaha who hold rangatiratanga over their takiwā, and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, the tribal authority.

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We also wish to acknowledge Benita Wakefield who sadly passed away in 2023, but who was instrumental in shaping the Canterbury Climate Change Risk Assessment - Moe mai rā e te māreikura



# **Executive summary**

## *Whakarāpopotonga*

## *Whakahaere*

### **Councils in Canterbury have joined forces to deliver bold climate actions in Canterbury/Waitaha.**

All 11 councils in Canterbury have worked together to develop the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan which sets out how we intend to work together and with others to support our transition to a thriving, climate-resilient, low-emissions region.

The Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan sets out our vision of a thriving, climate resilient, low-emissions Canterbury. These are the six key outcomes and objectives we are seeking through delivery of our ten primary actions and supporting sub-actions. We have developed eight principles which underpin the development and implementation of this plan. These are the values by which we will approach collective climate action in Canterbury.

In June 2024, Councils agreed to fund regional collective climate actions through their Long-Term Plans 2024-34 and a total of \$1.47 million has been confirmed for the first 3 years. Further funding beyond the initial three years will be sought through future annual and long-term plan reviews, and by identifying and taking advantage of co-funding opportunities with key stakeholders.



# Strategic framework

## Anga Rautaki

### Vision Te Tirohanga

Our collective purpose and guiding star for climate action in Canterbury

**A thriving, climate resilient, low-emissions Canterbury**

### Principles Ngā Mātāpono

The values by which we will approach climate action in Canterbury

**Treaty based**

**Solutions focused**

**Collaborative**

**Inclusive**

**Equitable**

**Informed**

**Intergenerational**

**Bold**

### Outcomes Ngā Putanga

The desired future state for Canterbury in a changing climate



#### A healthy environment

Our healthy environment enables our communities to thrive.



#### An equitable and inclusive transition

Our communities are empowered through an equitable and inclusive transition to a low-emissions and climate resilient future.



#### Prosperity

Our environmental, cultural, economic, and social wellbeing is improved by identifying and taking early opportunities to mitigate and adapt to climate change.



#### Adapted and resilient communities

Our communities are resilient and have the necessary infrastructure, knowledge, and tools they need to adapt to climate change.



#### Emissions reduction

Greenhouse gas emissions reductions are achieved in line with our national and international commitments at a minimum.



#### Climate action leadership

Canterbury is a leader in climate change mitigation, adaptation, and inclusive climate action planning promoting the four wellbeings.

### Objectives Ngā Whāinga

What we want to achieve through regional joint climate action

#### Objective one

To work with science, nature and Mātauranga Māori to reduce climate vulnerability and improve resilience.

#### Objective two

To enable transformational action in an inclusive and equitable way.

#### Objective three

To maximise co-benefits and identify opportunities for co-funding and financing climate actions.

#### Objective four

To inform and empower communities to be prepared, improve their resilience and adapt to climate change.

#### Objective five

To collaborate with communities to use available solutions and encourage behaviour change to achieve a smart, innovative, low-emissions future.

#### Objective six

To ensure climate change is prioritised in all local government decision making processes in Canterbury.



# Regional climate actions

## Mahi Āhuarangi a-Rohe

- 1

Understanding climate risks and improving resilience

Understand climate hazards and risks in Canterbury to support evidence-based decision making and improve regional resilience.
- 2

Emissions reduction

Work together across the region to build equitable, inclusive pathways, targets, and key actions to support New Zealand's commitments towards global greenhouse gas emissions reduction.
- 3

Adaptation planning

Support best practise approaches for local adaptation planning with communities taking a Treaty based approach.
- 4

Nature-based solutions

Facilitate the development of a Canterbury blue-green network to increase natural capital, indigenous biodiversity and offer nature-based solutions to climate change effects.
- 5

Climate change education and advocacy to support communities

Support community understanding about the local impacts of climate change and promote individual and collective climate action.
- 6

Supporting Papatipu Rūnanga

Support Papatipu Rūnanga with climate action and provide opportunities for their involvement with Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan projects.
- 7

Integrating climate change considerations into council processes

Work collaboratively to build local government capability and enhance its capacity to adapt in a changing climate.
- 8

Climate funding and financing

Identify and leverage co-funding and financing opportunities for climate adaptation and resilience.
- 9

Monitoring and evaluation

Monitor and report on progress towards achieving the actions and outcomes of the Partnership Plan.
- 10

Implementation

Assemble an implementation team to ensure the successful delivery and implementation of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan.

# Waitaha Canterbury

## our region, our home

### Waitaha, Tō Tātou Rohe, Tō Tātou Kāinga

**Situated on the eastern coast of New Zealand's Te Waipounamu South Island, the Canterbury region is renowned for its stunning landscapes, diverse ecosystems, strong economy, and vibrant communities.**

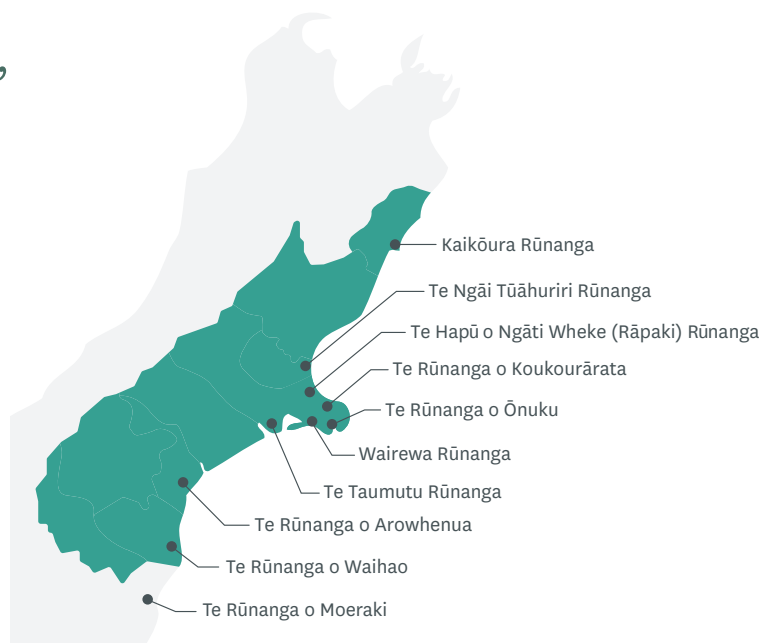
From the snowcapped peaks of Kā Tiritiri o Te Moana, the Southern Alps, to Kā Pakihi Whakatekateka o Waitaha, the Canterbury Plains, the region boasts a rich tapestry of natural history and cultural heritage. Canterbury is unique – it is New Zealand's largest region in area and its coastline is long and diverse, stretching from north of Kaikōura to the Waitaki River, with more than 4,700 lakes and tarns, and over 78,000 km of rivers and streams. Most of Canterbury's 599,694 residents<sup>1</sup> live near or on the coast. The population of Canterbury is projected to grow at the same rate of growth as Aotearoa New Zealand's total population, on average, 0.8% per year between 2018 and 2048.

Ngāi Tahu is the iwi of Waitaha, Canterbury. There are ten papatipu rūnanga in Canterbury who are mana whenua within their takiwā.

Canterbury is already experiencing the effects of climate change. In recent years, we've seen droughts, floods, fires, changing rainfall patterns, extreme weather events and coastal erosion impacting our region. These events are happening with greater frequency and intensity. Our long coastline is also changing with slower onset changes such as sea level rise.

***We know that Canterbury's climate will become warmer, wetter, windier and wilder.***

These changes will affect us all and the things we value most: our people (he tangata), the environment (taiao) and biodiversity (rerenga rauropi), our infrastructure (ngā waihanga), our economy and prosperity (ōhanga),



our wellbeing (hauora), connection to place and sense of community (whakapapa and hāpori). The wellbeing of some communities and individuals is likely to be more affected than others, particularly those who are already vulnerable because of economic, social, health and/or cultural reasons.

Rising temperatures will significantly affect our health (ora), land use, water (wai), energy (hihiri), food (kai) security, natural ecosystems, and recreation.

Canterbury councils see and deal with the impact of a changing climate first hand, including its impact on the environment, infrastructure, businesses, and people's lives. With commitment, collaboration, and planning, local government can lead and support communities in adapting to climate change, building resilience, and reducing their emissions.

## Mayoral Forum Plan for Canterbury 2023-2025

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum is the primary mechanism for local government communication, co-ordination and collaboration in Canterbury. Climate change mitigation and adaptation in Canterbury is one of the three priorities under the *Canterbury Mayoral Forum Plan 2023-2025*.

<sup>1</sup> 2018 Census data about Canterbury Region retrieved from <https://www.stats.govt.nz/tools/2018-census-place-summaries/canterbury-region>.



Although the Mayoral Forum continues to advocate for governance and decision-making to be devolved to the level of government closest to affected communities, the challenge of taking effective and sustained climate action requires us to work together more than we ever have before.

*For the Mayors of Canterbury, the overarching priorities for climate change are reducing our carbon footprint, working together on climate action planning, building community resilience, and making our infrastructure as strong as it can be. Our Plan for Canterbury also highlights the importance we place on playing our part to ensure water, food, and energy security for the region.*

## The Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan

All Canterbury councils acknowledge that climate change is a significant, long-term challenge, and that we all share a role in adapting and driving solutions to this challenge. Canterbury councils are at different stages of strategy development and action planning and have varying resources available to implement action.

The Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan is about councils pulling together to help Canterbury thrive and prosper in a changing climate; it's our collective vision for a better future. This Plan is also a testament to councils' long-term commitment to working together to tackle climate change, serve our communities and safeguard our environment and the things we love for generations to come.

Importantly, the actions included in the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan are intended to complement, not duplicate or detract from, the climate efforts of individual councils. The Partnership Plan actions will enable councils to advance their own climate change knowledge and gain momentum with local action.

## The benefits of regional collaboration on climate action

There are many benefits to taking regional climate actions. The challenge of climate change response means that we will only be successful if we strengthen our working relationships and help each other on this journey.

### Regional leadership and community focus

Climate change will have significant physical, economic, and socio-cultural impacts on our communities. Partnering on climate action allows for joint leadership to address these issues and collectively improve the four wellbeings for Canterbury communities.

### A united voice and enhanced influence

Our united voice carries greater weight in advocating for our region's needs to central government. By presenting a unified front, we can help shape legislation and policy and secure climate action funding and finance that aligns with our shared climate objectives.

### Leveraging collective resources, sharing knowledge and expertise

Together, we possess a wealth of expertise, resources, and knowledge. By pooling our strengths, we can learn from each other and achieve far more than any one council could alone. From shared research and funding opportunities to coordinated projects, collaboration amplifies our regional impact.

### Maximising efficiency

Reducing duplication of efforts and streamlining processes, collaboration allows us to achieve greater efficiencies in implementing climate initiatives across Canterbury. With coordinated efforts, we can achieve results faster and more effectively, delivering tangible benefits to our communities.

### Fostering innovation

Collaboration sparks creativity and innovation. By sharing ideas and best practices, we can inspire new approaches to tackling climate challenges. Through collaborative research and pilot projects, we can experiment with cutting-edge solutions and pioneer new, sustainable ways of doing things.

### Building resilience

Climate change does not stop at district or regional borders. By collaborating across councils and looking beyond to our neighbouring regions, we can develop comprehensive resilience strategies that protect all our communities from the impacts of extreme weather events, sea-level rise, and other climate-related risks.

# Our changing climate

## Tō Tātou Huringa Āhuarangi

### Greenhouse gas emissions

For hundreds of years, human activities have released increasing amounts of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. These gases trap heat from the sun, causing warming and resulting in a changing climate. Since the 1950s, greenhouse gas emissions have greatly accelerated and are now driving the significant levels of climate change that we are experiencing today.

There are two types of greenhouse gas emissions to consider - long-lived and short-lived gases.

Long-lived gases stay in the atmosphere over very long timescales after they have been produced. Carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide are examples of long-lived gases.

Short-lived gases remain in the atmosphere for less time than long lived gases but have a greater warming impact in the short term. Biogenic methane is an example of a short-lived gas.

Both long and short-lived greenhouse gases need to be reduced to successfully reach New Zealand's climate change commitments.

The Canterbury Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory (2021) is a key tool in our climate action work that will enable us to track changes to emissions over time, assess different mitigation options, and evaluate the effect of central and local government policies on regional emissions.

The Emissions Inventory (see Figure 1) shows us that agriculture produced around a quarter of the region's long-lived greenhouse gases and most of the biogenic methane emissions, totalling around 61% of overall gross emissions. Stationary energy and transport each produced around a third of long-lived greenhouse gas emissions in Canterbury. Waste, and industrial processes and product use, each contributed relatively small amounts of greenhouse gases.

The best available scientific advice says that holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels is necessary to limit the most severe climate change effects.

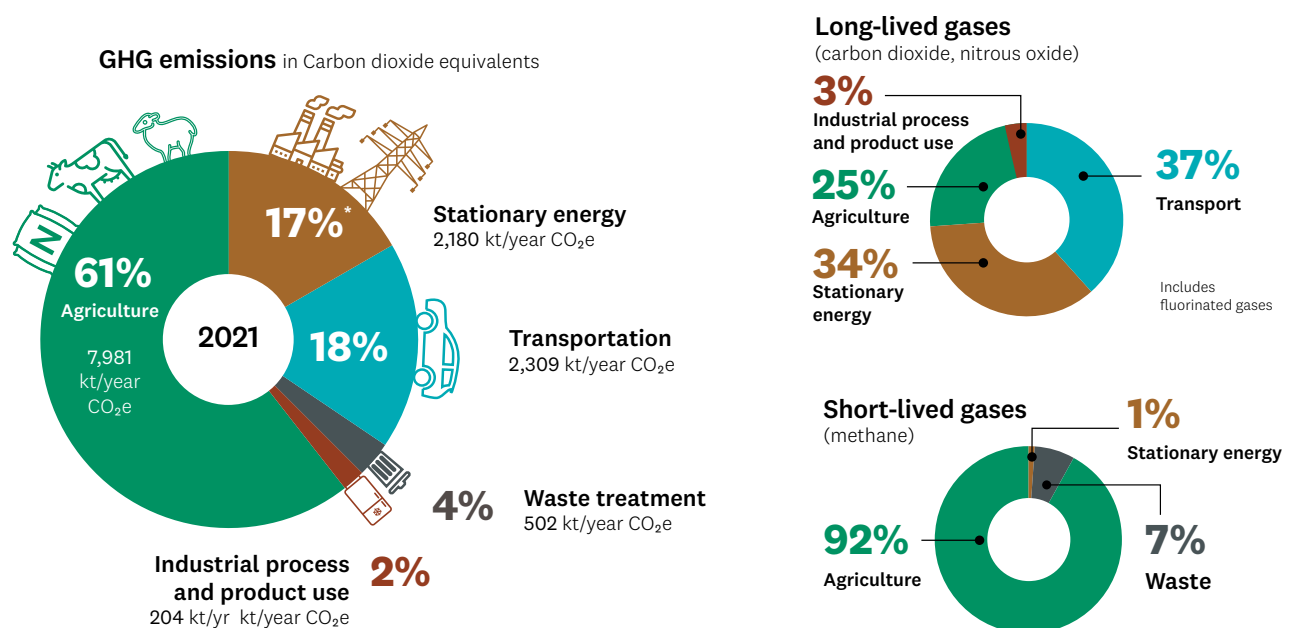


Figure 1: Canterbury's greenhouse gas emissions, 2021. Note: inventory does not include sequestration. (NB. Percentages have been rounded to the nearest whole number, so charts do not add to exactly 100%)



New Zealand, along with 195 other members of the United Nations, signed the Paris Agreement in 2015 to ensure that global warming is limited to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. This agreement commits signatory countries to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change by reducing national greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with Nationally Determined Contributions.

Canterbury has an important role to play in contributing to national and global efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere and we're not too small to make a difference. In fact, Canterbury, blessed with sun, water and wind, is well placed for a successful clean energy transition to a low-emissions future. We can also make big gains with emissions reduction by transitioning to more sustainable transport and agricultural practices.

The best action we can take to help mitigate the effects of global warming is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions at source. In addition to this, we can also help remove carbon from the atmosphere by sequestering or storing carbon. However, even when we do reduce global emissions, some climate change effects, and their consequences, are already locked in due to the time lag between generating the emissions and the impacts being felt. This is why adaptation – taking action to prepare for and adjust to current and projected impacts of climate change – is also important.

## Aotearoa New Zealand's emissions reduction targets and plans

Greenhouse gas emissions targets are limits that scientists and policy makers set in their plans to combat climate change. The aim is to halt the increasing emissions and their impact. Aotearoa New Zealand's first emissions reduction plan Te hau marohi ki anamata (2022) contains strategies, policies and actions for achieving our first emissions budget and contributing to global efforts to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

Aotearoa New Zealand has made commitments to the following international and domestic emissions targets:

Domestic targets under the Climate Change Response Act (2022)<sup>2</sup>:

- Net zero<sup>3</sup> emissions of all greenhouse gas emissions other than biogenic methane by 2050.
- 24 to 47 per cent reduction below 2017 biogenic methane emissions by 2050, including 10 per cent reduction below 2017 biogenic methane emissions by 2030.

Aotearoa New Zealand's emissions budgets set ambitious and achievable short-term targets that will put us on track to meet these commitments, and national emissions reduction plans lay out strategies, goals and actions to meet these budgets.



<sup>2</sup> [www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0040/latest/whole.html#DLM158590](http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0040/latest/whole.html#DLM158590)

<sup>3</sup> Net zero emissions are achieved when anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases to the atmosphere are balanced by anthropogenic removals over a specified period. (IPCC, [www.ipcc.ch/sr15/chapter/glossary/](http://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/chapter/glossary/))



## Climate risks in Canterbury

Canterbury is a large region, with varied geography and environments. This means that risks and impacts of climate change will occur in different ways across Canterbury, and direct and indirect risks<sup>4</sup> will increase over time. Some risks will be experienced more often and more intensely in some districts and not in others. The Canterbury Mayoral Forum published the Canterbury Climate Change Risk Assessment in early 2022, which was designed to build a shared understanding of climate change risks across the region and to help us prepare and respond effectively. Figure 2 to the right illustrates some of the key risks which will be felt around the region. In the coming decades, many climate change risks to our region are anticipated to become high or extreme. Detailed information on climate risks and impacts in Canterbury can be found on the [Canterbury Mayoral Forum website](#).

<sup>4</sup> Direct risks are those where there is a direct link between a hazard and an element at risk that is exposed and vulnerable e.g. droughts leading to crop failure. Indirect risks are risks that are not directly impacted by physical changes in climate e.g. impacts on mental health, disruptions to supply chains, social wellbeing, and cohesion. (MfE, 2021)



### Urban Centres

For all communities, risks from climate hazards generally include damage to infrastructure from flooding, and disruption to transport routes and supply chains. Changing climate conditions also pose a risk to supporting utilities such as landfills and power supply.

Christchurch is our biggest city. It is a major social and economic hub for the Canterbury Region. The low lying, coastal position of much of the city makes it very exposed to flooding and sea level rise. This poses widespread risk to Christchurch's communities and infrastructure. There is a risk that community cohesion will reduce as a result of increasing climate related damages. People's physical and mental health may also be impacted by changing markets and job availability.

### Canterbury Plains

The fertile lowlands of Canterbury are highly important to agriculture. An increasing temperature poses risk of increased heat stress in stock, as well as increases in the occurrence of pests and invasive species. Increased drought potential may introduce a range of stresses, including impacting on water availability. Increased storms, wind, and flooding may increase erosion, and damage crops, pasture, stock, and infrastructure.

Figure 2: Climate risks in the Canterbury (source Tonkin & Taylor (2022) Canterbury Climate Change Risk Assessment)

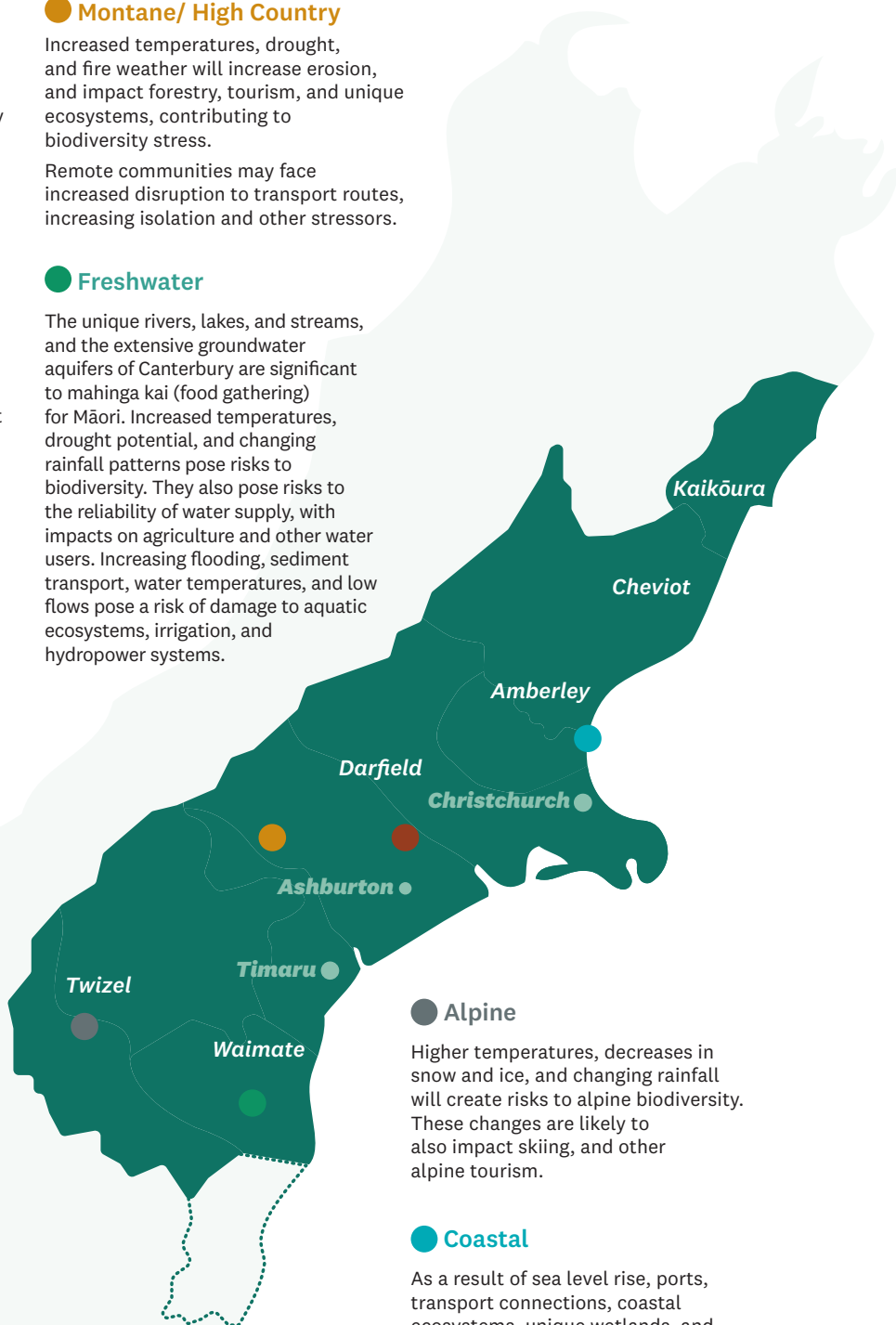
### Montane/ High Country

Increased temperatures, drought, and fire weather will increase erosion, and impact forestry, tourism, and unique ecosystems, contributing to biodiversity stress.

Remote communities may face increased disruption to transport routes, increasing isolation and other stressors.

### Freshwater

The unique rivers, lakes, and streams, and the extensive groundwater aquifers of Canterbury are significant to mahinga kai (food gathering) for Māori. Increased temperatures, drought potential, and changing rainfall patterns pose risks to biodiversity. They also pose risks to the reliability of water supply, with impacts on agriculture and other water users. Increasing flooding, sediment transport, water temperatures, and low flows pose a risk of damage to aquatic ecosystems, irrigation, and hydropower systems.



### Alpine

Higher temperatures, decreases in snow and ice, and changing rainfall will create risks to alpine biodiversity. These changes are likely to also impact skiing, and other alpine tourism.

### Coastal

As a result of sea level rise, ports, transport connections, coastal ecosystems, unique wetlands, and communities at the coastal fringe will be exposed to increasing risk of coastal flooding, salinity stress, and erosion. Changes in temperature and ocean chemistry will impact fisheries and marine ecosystems. This will result in increased mortality and changing populations of some species, and changes in behaviour patterns such as migration routes.

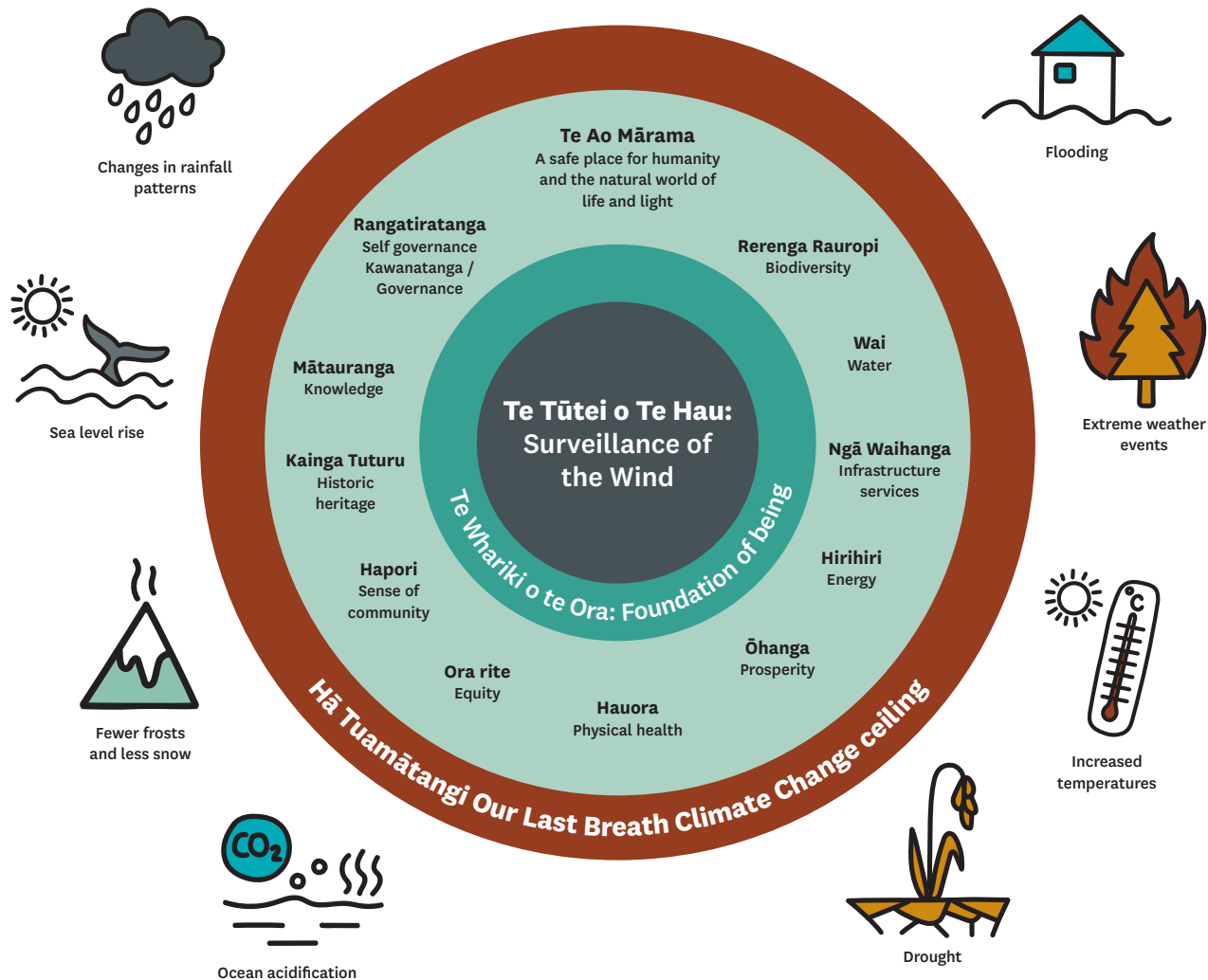
## ***What matters most - Climate change in Canterbury***

**During the development of the Canterbury Climate Change Risk Assessment, a Rūnanga Project Steering Group was formed to help develop an integrated risk assessment framework, specific to our region.**

The risk assessment centred around a framework that aligns both a Te Ao Māori worldview and the National Climate Change Risk Assessment framework. The name of the framework was gifted as 'Te Tūtei o Te Hau, Surveillance of the Wind'. In Te Ao Māori, the wind named 'Te Tūtei o Te Hau' is a guardian, an alert system, for the environment. When considering the effects of climate change, observations are collated and considered against this framework, our alert system, for understanding climate risk. The framework is presented as a series of circles, reflecting the circular nature of the world in which humans exist. At its core is the name gifted for the framework which draws on the whakapapa above.



*Shown outside the rings are the key climate impacts that we face*



### **Te Whāriki o te Ora**

The dark green ring represents whakapapa, or genealogical connection, that extends from the spiritual realm to that of the human domain. It recognises that humans cannot exist without basic needs and a social foundation.

### **Te Ao Mārama**

The light green ring represents the area in which humans can exist when we are functioning within the capacity of our ecosystems. Ngā pono (the values) identified within this circle are critical for us to understand and respond to when considering climate risk.

### **Hā Tuamātangi**

The red ring represents the upper limit in which humans, environments and ecosystems can continue to exist. Beyond this boundary, it is no longer possible to respond to risks proactively.

This framework guided our thinking when developing collaborative climate actions in the region.

# Working together for climate action in Canterbury

## Mahi Tahī Hei Mahi Āhuarangi Ki Waitaha

Councils and Papatipu Rūnanga around Canterbury have been ramping up climate action efforts in their districts. Here is a snapshot of progress across the region.

### Papatipu Rūnanga and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu

Ngā Rūnanga and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu are undertaking climate action planning work in the region. The following initiatives outline some of the climate action works. However, the Mayoral Forum recognises that this is not an exhaustive list, as there are numerous ongoing efforts across the region.

- **Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu** has developed its Climate Change Strategy Te Tāhū o te Whāriki (Anchoring the Foundations) and Action Plan (Te Kounga Paparangi). Te Kounga Paparangi is grounded across eight pou. Emit no Greenhouse Gasses, Marae & Whānau Resilience, Careful Wai (Water) Use, Operations Do Not Harm Environment, Operations Do Not Harm Ecosystems, Eliminate Waste, Grow Renewable Energy and Education & Communication.
- **Ōnuku Rūnanga** has recently published Te Kori a Te Kō, a whānau-focused plan to integrate mahinga kai management with a climate change adaptation and mitigation plan in Akaroa harbour. Ōnuku Rūnanga have signalled their intent to collaborate widely on the implementation of this plan.
- **Te Taumutu Rūnanga** published their climate strategy in 2024 to empower Taumutu whānau to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change. The strategy centres around 4 pou (rangatiratanga, kaitiakitanga, ruahikihikitunga and oranga), and aims to build on the mahi whānau are already doing, like the possible relocation of the marae and restoration of the surrounding whenua.
- **Te Rūnanga o Koukourarata** is currently working with their whānau to develop their own marae-centred climate action plan, and alongside this, are also working in collaboration with Christchurch City Council and Environment Canterbury on climate adaptation planning in the wider Koukourarata and Whakaraupō area.



- Innovative Waste Kaikōura Ltd received a Ministry for the Environment Green Ribbon Award in 2002.
- The Council has taken part in a number of initiatives such as Green Globe 21 & Trees for Travellers.
- The council undertook a review of natural hazards within the district (excluding coastal hazards) in partnership with Environment Canterbury. Flood modelling considered the effects of climate change.
- In 2009, Council developed the 'A to B Carbon Free' – Kaikōura Walking and Cycling Strategy (up for renew).
- The council developed a waste management and minimisation plan in 2021 which recognises the need for modification of residents purchasing practices by influencing through community education and advocacy to central government. This is up for review in 2024/25.
- The council has developed a draft climate change policy, which will be reviewed to ensure alignment with this Plan.



- Hurunui District Council tracked its emissions through greenhouse gas emissions inventories from 2018 to 2023.
- The council commissioned a Coastline Hazard and Risk Assessment report in 2020. This was followed by the Coastal Conversations project in 2020 to identify coastal hazards affecting communities in the district and to understand how these hazards will change over the next 100 years.
- Three out of five communities in the Coastal Conversations project have developed Coastal Adaptation Plans (CAPs) outlining approaches for managing risk to the settlement.
- The Council's Waste Management & Minimisation Plan 2023 outlines the goals to improve efficiency in the waste network, influence and encourage waste reduction in the community, and reduce harmful health impacts.
- Work is underway on an asset and infrastructure resilience project plan and risk assessment.
- Work is currently progressing on a climate change strategy and action plan to reduce council emissions, improve resilience in the council assets and infrastructure, and to lead by example within the community.
- The council's coastal adaptation project at Amberly Beach has won the New Zealand Planning Institute's supreme practice award for Climate Change in March 2024.



- Waimakariri District Council adopted a Climate Change Policy in 2020.
- The council developed the 'Waimakariri District Natural Hazards Interactive Viewer' to show results of the '2020 Jacobs Coastal Inundation Modelling' and other natural hazards. The modelling informs the proposed District Plan natural hazard rules such as avoidance of development in high hazard areas or mitigating flood impacts through establishing minimum floor levels.
- In 2020, the council adopted the Organisational Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan.
- To inform climate change planning, the council adopted the NIWA Waimakariri District Climate Change Scenario Report in 2022.
- The council's '3 Waters Infrastructure Climate Change Impact Assessment' and prioritisation of adaptation actions was completed in 2023.
- Climate change considerations are integrated with the 'Moving Forward: Waimakariri Integrated Transport Strategy 2035+', 'Waimakariri Economic Development Strategy 2024-34' and 'Waimakariri Natural Environment Strategy: Our Environment Our Future 2024-2054'.
- In 2024, council began the development of the 'Waimakariri Resilience Explorer' risk assessment spatial platform.
- Moving forward, the council's 2024-27 agreed climate resilience programme of works includes completing organisational and district risk assessments, developing a District Climate Resilience Strategy, developing organisational and district sustainability and emissions reduction plans, and working with at risk communities to co-develop area-based climate adaptation plans.



- Christchurch was one of the first cities in New Zealand to declare a climate and ecological emergency in 2019, reflecting the importance of these issues for communities.
- In 2019, the council established the Coastal Hazards Adaptation Planning Programme to undertake planning with communities about the long-term future of coastal areas.
- The council is driving actions to reduce emissions and enhance resilience through the Climate Resilience Strategy (2021), Strengthening Communities Strategy (2022), Resilient Greater Christchurch Plan (2015) and through its urban development, transport, and waste management plans.
- In 2022, a district climate risk assessment was completed and the detailed coastal hazards assessment updated.
- Climate resilience considerations are embedded throughout key corporate processes including decision reports, Long-Term Plans, procurement, and project management.
- The council is working towards its target of being carbon neutral for its operations by 2030.



- Selwyn District Council adopted a Climate Change Policy in 2020.
- Since 2018, the council has been preparing annual organisational carbon emission reports. In 2024, Council completed a three-year work programme and an Emissions Reduction Plan.
- The council commissioned an independent climate impact assessment for council assets. The latest assessment in 2023 incorporates findings from the Canterbury Climate Change Risk Assessment.
- Through strategic partnership funding, the council supports community-based climate action projects (in particular through the Selwyn Community Fund and Selwyn Natural Environment Fund).
- Climate data was incorporated into hazard modelling to inform a review of the Selwyn District Plan, including an interactive viewer for the public to show susceptibility to flooding and/or coastal hazards.
- Climate change considerations are integrated within the overarching district strategy and associated spatial planning and economic development plans.



- Ashburton District's climate change policy was adopted in 2019 and reviewed and updated in 2022.
- Climate change considerations are integrated into Ashburton district strategies including the Open Spaces Strategy 2016-26, Surface Water Strategy 2018-28, Our Natural Place- Biodiversity Strategy 2023-43 & Economic Development Strategy - Rautaki Whanake Ohaoa 2023-33.
- In 2022, the council adopted the Ashburton Climate Resilience Plan.
- A baseline greenhouse gas inventory for the council was completed in 2023.
- Climate change considerations have been integrated into decision reports and business planning processes since 2021. This work is ongoing.
- Environmental and climate change elements are proposed to be improved in Council's community engagement policy.



- Timaru District Council began preparatory work on a Climate Change Strategy in 2022, with independently facilitated community engagement.
- A Climate Change Response Policy was adopted by council in 2024.
- In the same year, the council added climate change dimensions to procurement and significance policies to incorporate climate change into policy and decision making.
- On-site work with residents of Milford Huts coastal settlement commenced in 2023.
- In 2023, council completed a carbon inventory of council's operational activity, with technical assistance & verification from Toitū.
- Communication material for the public on Household Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation is currently in development.



- Mackenzie District Council completed a review of climate change data and impacts for the district in 2023, followed by a greenhouse gas emissions inventory for the district and council in early 2024.
- Engagement on climate change vulnerability in the district is underway, including workshops with community and various sectors (tourism, agriculture, infrastructure and hydro).
- With the above evidence base pieces, the council has now begun work to develop a climate change adaptation and mitigation strategy and plan for the Mackenzie District.



- Waimate District Council completed a greenhouse gas emissions inventory for 2018/19.
- To oversee the development of a climate change strategy, the council appointed a part-time climate change officer in 2023.
- An online, district wide-survey was conducted to gain community interest and input into the strategy development.
- The council hosted multiple climate change information evenings in early 2024 focusing on climate science, youth, cultural, and economic perspectives.
- In 2024, seven climate action planning workshops were held to engage the community.
- The creation of a climate change engagement platform on the council's website is underway, including educational material.
- The council is closely working and collaborating with neighbouring councils, particularly Waitaki, Mackenzie, and Timaru, as well as schools.
- The council is currently finalising its second council carbon footprint assessment for 2022/23.



- The council endorsed a climate change declaration in 2022, which includes several commitments, including developing and implementing appropriate action plans that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support climate resilience in the district.
- Waitaki District Council prepared its first organisational greenhouse gas inventory for 2018/19, with an update commencing in 2024.
- To protect Oamaru Harbour, Waitaki District Council has invested in erosion prevention measures along Oamaru Harbour's breakwater. This has seen many tonnes of rock and concrete pods being placed to prevent erosion.
- In 2023, the council adopted the Waitaki Climate Change Risk Framework.
- The council's Project Reclaim looks to remediate contaminated land sites which are in danger due to coastal erosion.
- The council's Waste Management and Minimisation Plan includes community communication and education to foster knowledge about a sustainable and low-emissions future in the district.
- In 2024, work is commencing on coastal erosion adaptation planning, including the development of a climate change strategy.



- Canterbury Regional Council established a climate change integration programme in its 2018-28 Long-Term Plan, followed by the integration of climate change into the council's decision making.
- A climate emergency was declared in 2019, followed by regular climate emergency updates to the council.
- Environment Canterbury has convened and provided secretariat support for the Canterbury Climate Change Working Group since the establishment of the Working Group in 2017. This has included leading the Canterbury Climate Change Risk Assessment, the It's time, Canterbury community awareness raising campaign, and the development of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan.
- An organisational carbon footprint assessment and decarbonisation plan were completed in 2022, followed by an organisational climate change risk assessment in 2023.
- Environment Canterbury is currently developing a Climate Action Plan and reviewing the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement.

## How we produced this plan

### *Me Pēhea Tā Mātou Hanga I Tēnei Mahere*

**The Climate Change Working Group, consisting of staff members from each of the 11 councils in Waitaha / Canterbury, developed our ten key climate actions and supporting sub-actions through a robust series of workshops over 2022-2024, with input from all Canterbury councils.**

The Climate Action Planning Reference Group, made up of elected representatives from each of the Canterbury councils, acted as a steering group on the plan.

The Working Group focused on identifying tangible actions for the short term, addressing key gaps in knowledge, priority risks and opportunities.

These actions are intended to gain momentum on collective climate action and to sit alongside and support existing and future climate efforts of individual councils.

Regional climate action planning was based on the international best practice C40 Climate Action Planning Framework. This framework draws on the experiences of 96 cities' climate action planning journeys and guided our approach. Although designed for cities, the framework sets out essential components of climate action planning, which we successfully adapted to suit the needs of our regional process.



Figure 2: C40 Climate Action Planning Framework



## What we've heard from engagement with communities and key stakeholders

As part of Environment Canterbury's 'Our Future, Canterbury' themed engagement programme in 2023, the Canterbury Mayoral Forum asked stakeholders and communities for feedback on their climate action priorities, barriers, and perspectives on 'fair' climate action.

Via an online survey, in-person workshops in each district, and community events around the region, participants gave us a range of perspectives on climate action in their local district and in the region. There was broad agreement that councils should take climate action that would:

- regenerate ecosystems through native planting, pest control, and river restoration
- increase renewable energy
- support communities to become more resilient and adaptable
- increase public education and awareness of climate change impacts and solutions
- ensure opportunities for community engagement and empowerment
- streamline regulations and simplify consenting processes
- foster partnerships between government, businesses, non-governmental organisations, and communities
- offer financial support for individuals and businesses to take climate action.

There was broad agreement that the core values of 'fair' climate action include equity, shared responsibility, long-term planning, and science-based solutions.

We have taken stakeholder and community feedback into account during the drafting of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan.

Download the *Climate Change Community Reflections and District Summits report*.

## Urgency assessment

The Mayoral Forum has historically used three sets of criteria to prioritise joint projects and actions: importance, democratic mandate, and impact.

For the purposes of this plan, we also considered the following questions when assessing urgency and prioritising actions:

- Does the action contribute to current gaps in research and monitoring?
- Does the action have a long lead time to get started?
- Is there is a risk of path dependency, i.e. if we don't act now, are we locked into a future we don't want?
- Are there action dependencies and sequencing considerations?

This process helped us develop a short list of actions, and our implementation approach (Appendix 1).

## Health Impact Assessment

Climate change is already impacting the health and wellbeing of our population and these impacts will amplify over time.

Extreme weather events and rising temperatures can impact physical, mental health, and wellbeing and result in changes to the natural environment, damage to housing and infrastructure and disruption to livelihoods. Some population groups and geographic locations are more vulnerable to climate change because of their exposure, sensitivity, and capacity to prepare and adapt to climate hazards. In many cases, the people most vulnerable to climate change will be those who already experience inequitable outcomes, including Māori, people with physical and mental health needs and low-income earners.<sup>5</sup>

Te Mana Ora, Community and Public Health Canterbury, conducted a Health Impact Assessment of the collective actions in the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan. The assessment identified that the actions have the potential to contribute to the health and wellbeing outcomes of the region depending on how the actions are planned and implemented. The assessment emphasised that climate action should be based on evidence, including information about health and equity, and involve a collaborative approach.

In delivering these actions councils will continue to work on cross-sectorial collaboration with key stakeholders, including in the health sector, to ensure that health, wellbeing and equity are considered in the detailed implementation planning for the actions.

<sup>5</sup> See the *Climate Change and Health in Waitaha Canterbury* for further information about health and wellbeing impacts of climate change.

# Strategic framework for regional climate action planning

## Anga Mahere Hei Whakarite Mahi Āhuarangi a-Rohe

### Vision of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan

*Tirohanga o Te Mahere Āhuarangi o Waitaha*

**He taurikura, he āhuarangi aumangea, he hau mārohi a Waitaha**

**A thriving, climate resilient, low-emissions Canterbury**

### Principles

Eight principles underpin the development and implementation of this Plan. These are the values by which we will approach collective climate action in Canterbury.

We strive to be Treaty based, Collaborative, Bold, Intergenerational, Solutions Focused, Equitable, Informed, Inclusive.

#### **Treaty based/Whakamana i Te Tiriti means:**

- Improving our understanding of what is important to our Treaty partners, how this could be impacted by climate change and climate change policy and how we can best support papatipu rūnanga with their own climate actions.

#### **Solutions focused/Whai putanga means:**

- Focusing on tangible short-medium term actions that will move us forward and enable councils to progress with transformative local actions with their communities.

#### **Collaborative/Mahi Tahi means:**

- Committing to work together, demonstrating respect, trust and open-mindedness for the long haul of the climate action journey, even when times are tough.
- Identifying and working with communities and key stakeholders who are the most impacted by, and/or have the most impact on, climate change risk to find pragmatic and local solutions.
- Working with central government agencies to advocate for solutions appropriate to Canterbury's needs.

#### **Inclusive/Kauawhi means:**

- Actively involving and considering the perspectives, needs and contributions of all partners and stakeholders in Canterbury, including marginalised and vulnerable communities in decision making processes and policy development related to climate change.

#### **Equitable/Matatika means:**

- The opportunities from climate initiatives and the burdens of climate risks are distributed justly across the region. This means taking action to identify and address both the effects of climate change and social inequity, and the systems that allow for these disparities to exist.

#### **Informed/Whaimōhio means:**

- Identifying and filling knowledge gaps and using the best available evidence, including Mātauranga Māori, to make good decisions across councils' climate action planning.
- Being clear with each other and communities on what we don't know, and where there are any limitations or uncertainties with our information.
- Balancing the desire for robust evidence and increased certainty to inform decision making with the need to deliver timely impactful action, especially if high-quality evidence isn't available.

#### **Intergenerational/Whakatipuranga means:**

- Being good ancestors; working with younger generations to consider the longer-term impacts and consequences of current actions and policies to promote equity, sustainability and opportunity for future generations.

#### **Bold/Pākaha means:**

- Matching ambition with action and investment; presenting options for collaborative action that address the size of the challenge, including where this requires tough decisions from communities and our elected members.



## Outcomes

We have identified six long-term outcomes we are seeking to achieve through our collective climate action.



### **A healthy environment**

Our healthy environment enables our communities to thrive.



### **An equitable and inclusive transition**

Our communities are empowered through an equitable and inclusive transition to a low-emissions and climate resilient future.



### **Prosperity**

Our environmental, cultural, economic, and social wellbeing is improved by identifying and taking early opportunities to mitigate and adapt to climate change.



### **Adapted and resilient communities**

Our communities are resilient and have the necessary infrastructure, knowledge, and tools they need to adapt to climate change.



### **Emissions reduction**

Greenhouse gas emissions reductions are achieved in line with our national and international commitments at a minimum.



### **Climate action leadership**

Canterbury is a leader in climate change mitigation, adaptation, and inclusive climate action planning promoting the four wellbeings.

## Objectives

### **Objective one**

To work with science, nature and Mātauranga Māori to reduce climate vulnerability and improve resilience.

### **Objective four**

To inform and empower communities to be prepared, improve their resilience and adapt to climate change.

### **Objective two**

To enable transformational action in an inclusive and equitable way.

### **Objective five**

To collaborate with communities to use available solutions and encourage behaviour change to achieve a smart innovative, low-emissions future.

### **Objective three**

To maximise co-benefits and identify opportunities for co-funding and financing climate actions.

### **Objective six**

To ensure climate change is prioritised in all local government decision making processes in Canterbury.

# Regional climate actions

## Mahi Āhuarangi a-Rohe

**There are ten key actions we will take on our collaborative climate action journey in Canterbury.**

1

### Understanding climate risks and improving resilience

Understand climate hazards and risks in Canterbury to support evidence-based decision making and improve regional resilience.

2

### Emissions reduction

Work together across the region to build equitable, inclusive pathways, targets, and key actions to support New Zealand's commitments towards global greenhouse gas emissions reduction.

3

### Adaptation planning

Support best practise approaches for local adaptation planning with communities taking a Treaty based approach.

4

### Nature-based solutions

Facilitate the development of a Canterbury blue-green network to increase natural capital, indigenous biodiversity and offer nature-based solutions to climate change effects.

5

### Climate change education and advocacy to support communities

Support community understanding about the local impacts of climate change and promote individual and collective climate action.

**6****Supporting  
Papatipu Rūnanga**

Support Papatipu Rūnanga with climate action and provide opportunities for their involvement with Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan projects.

**7****Integrating climate  
change considerations  
into council processes**

Work collaboratively to build local government capability and enhance its capacity to adapt in a changing climate.

**8****Climate funding  
and financing**

Identify and leverage co-funding and financing opportunities for climate adaptation and resilience.

**9****Monitoring and  
evaluation**

Monitor and report on progress towards achieving the actions and outcomes of the Partnership Plan.

**10****Implementation**

Assemble an implementation team to ensure the successful delivery and implementation of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan.

## Action 1: Understanding climate risks and improving resilience

*Mahi 1: Kia mārama ki ngā mōrearea me te whakakaha aumangea*

**Understand climate hazards and risks in Canterbury to support evidence-based decision making and improve regional resilience.**

### Action 1.1

Scope and develop a Canterbury-wide visualisation tool for use by councils to support climate adaptation and resilience planning.

### Action 1.2

Update the Canterbury climate change risk and urgency assessment to ensure a comprehensive and up-to-date understanding of key risks and opportunities under different climate change scenarios at a regional and district level.



### Why we're taking this action

Councils have statutory responsibilities to avoid or mitigate natural hazards and to have regard to the effects of climate change when making decisions. We are also responsible for civil defence and emergency management, as well as improving community resilience.

This action is about furthering our understanding of climate risks in the region so that we can improve resilience. We need to know who and what is at risk, and where, for us to prioritise resources to do something about it.

The first Canterbury Climate Change Risk Assessment gave us a foundational understanding of current and future risks. These will change over time as climate effects intensify, but so too will our sensitivity to hazards and capacity to adapt. Therefore, we need reliable and robust tools to manage data and continually improve our understanding of risks and impacts as climate change unfolds. A tool will help us use consistent and up-to-date information to assess the vulnerabilities of different communities, ecosystems and assets as well as the interdependencies between these. This will enable us to target councils' approaches to addressing potential vulnerabilities, ensuring resources are allocated efficiently.

By increasing our knowledge and understanding of climate hazards and risks we can better support communities to prepare for and adapt to climate change. We want to make this information available to our communities in a consistent, transparent, and easy to understand way.



**An equitable and inclusive transition**



**Adapted and resilient communities**



**Climate action leadership**

## Action 2: Emissions reduction

### Mahi 2: Whakahekenga Tukunga

Work together across the region to build equitable, inclusive pathways, targets, and key actions to support New Zealand's commitments towards global greenhouse gas emissions reduction.

#### Action 2.1

Collate data and develop models to prepare greenhouse gas emissions inventories and identify emissions reduction pathways for Canterbury to support Aotearoa New Zealand's national greenhouse gas commitments.

#### Action 2.2

Based on the emissions reduction pathways identified for Canterbury, undertake a regional transition risk and opportunities assessment, considering social, cultural, environmental, and economic impacts, to inform an equitable and inclusive transition to a low-emissions region.

#### Action 2.3

Work with partners, communities, and key stakeholders to build a regional low-emissions transition strategy that supports equitable, inclusive local pathways to a thriving, climate-resilient region meeting emissions reduction targets.



#### Why we're taking this action

At a global scale, the more we reduce our emissions, the better our ability to adapt to the impacts of climate change. Put simply, if we do not cut our greenhouse gas emissions, we will be left with fewer choices on how to adapt and react to future challenges.

Canterbury has an important role to play in supporting international and national commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and transition to a low-emissions future. We have a unique emissions profile in our region. Our approach is not to blame and shame particular high-emitting sectors; instead we aim to work with partners and key stakeholders to make robust, evidence-informed decisions about how all sectors can reduce their greenhouse gas emissions in a sustainable and timely way. Our aim is to make it possible for everyone to play their part in our collective climate action endeavour.

By working with others, understanding the risks and opportunities that transition to a low-emissions future presents, we can be strategic about mitigating those risks and leveraging opportunities early to provide for a planned and equitable approach to regional greenhouse gas emissions reduction.

A comprehensive transition strategy will lay out a road map individual councils can use to work with residents to most effectively reduce emissions at a local level.



An equitable and inclusive transition



Prosperity



Emissions reduction



Climate action leadership



## Action 3: Adaptation planning

### Mahi 3: Whakamahere Urutaunga

**Support best practice approaches for local adaptation planning with communities taking a Treaty based approach.**

#### Action 3.1

Develop and implement a best practice approach for councils in Canterbury to work effectively and efficiently together with communities on adaptation planning and implementation.



#### Why we're taking this action

No matter how quickly we reduce emissions around the globe or in Aotearoa New Zealand, some level of climate change is already inevitable and we are already seeing those effects around the country. Adaptation means strengthening our ability to cope with risks from natural events like floods, storms and drought.

The Government is developing an adaptation framework to strengthen how Aotearoa New Zealand prepares for the effects of climate change, focusing on where people live and work. The framework is expected to provide greater clarity on adaptation roles and responsibilities, including that of local government and other key players like central government and insurers.

We will continue to play a pivotal role in working with communities to understand what is happening, what matters most, what we can do about it, and how we can implement and monitor adaptation actions. It is both an absolute necessity and opportunity that we use the knowledge and tools created by some of the other partnership plan actions and all work together to figure out the most appropriate adaptation options for communities at risk across each district taking a Treaty based approach.

Some districts are already advancing with coastal adaptation planning, for example in Amberley Beach and Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour. But there are other risks, and many other vulnerable communities who we will also need to work with. We won't need to adapt everywhere all at once, nor will we be able to, but we can start working together now to lay the foundation for long-term adaptation planning in Canterbury to ensure a consistent, coordinated and community-centric approach on the ground, avoiding duplication of effort and sharing learnings.



Adapted and resilient communities



Climate action leadership

## Action 4: Nature-based solutions

### Mahi 4: Ngā Otinga Taiao

Facilitate the development of a Canterbury blue-green network to increase natural capital, indigenous biodiversity and offer nature-based solutions to climate change effects.

#### Action 4.1

Develop a Canterbury-wide natural ecosystem climate change risk and vulnerability assessment.

#### Action 4.2

Develop a blue-green network plan for Canterbury and accompanying guidance to support locally-led implementation.

##### Action 4.2a

Maximise opportunities to collaborate with key stakeholders to provide guidance on blue-green infrastructure placement and hazard resilience investment<sup>6</sup>.

##### Action 4.2b

Collaborate and align with Greater Christchurch Partnership and key stakeholders to deliver a blue-green network.

##### Action 4.2c

Investigate the feasibility of establishing blue-green infrastructure on council-owned land, including identifying priority locations for implementation across Canterbury.



#### Why we're taking this action

We already have many of the solutions we need to tackle climate change. One of the key things we can do is work with nature to address the climate and biodiversity challenges we face. Nature-based solutions are inspired by, supported by or copied from nature and we can harness these to deliver a multitude of benefits across the four wellbeings<sup>7</sup>.

Nature-based solutions offer a cost-effective and practical approach to both building resilience and capturing and storing carbon. A blue-green network or infrastructure - a series of spaces and corridors that follow and connect blue (e.g. water bodies) and green spaces (e.g. parks, green areas) - provides a nature-based approach to addressing climate change impacts such as flooding and urban heat islands; and reducing emissions through carbon sequestration.

In addition to reducing the effects of climate change, blue-green infrastructure offers various co-benefits. They enhance the liveability of urban and rural areas through better integration of natural and built environments and offer opportunities for place-making and enhanced identity, urban cooling, water management, recreation, landscaping, indigenous ecosystem protection and restoration and habitat creation for indigenous fauna.

<sup>6</sup> For example, supporting the Nature Code MBIE Endeavour Research Proposal: Nature-based solutions to mitigate climate change-intensified natural hazards

<sup>7</sup> European Commission, 2015



A healthy environment



An equitable and inclusive transition



Prosperity



Emissions reduction



Adapted and resilient communities



Climate action leadership



## Action 5: Climate change education and advocacy

### Mahi 5: Mātauranga Mahi Whakahau Huringa Āhuarangi

**Support community understanding about the local impacts of climate change and promote individual and collective climate action.**

#### Action 5.1

Continue to develop the It's Time, Canterbury initiative into a comprehensive resource hub for climate education and collective action across Canterbury.

#### Action 5.2

Collaborate with Civil Defence Emergency Management in Canterbury to produce communications materials that integrate climate action and resilience to natural hazards.

#### Why we're taking this action

Everyone has a part to play in tackling climate change. We've already mentioned the key role councils play in helping communities prepare for and adapt to climate change, and we're acutely aware how important it is that we communicate with communities in a way that's appropriate to them.

These actions build on the work done to date on 'It's time, Canterbury' where councils have pooled resources, knowledge and expertise for a regional approach to climate advocacy and awareness raising. We aim to educate, empower, and engage by building the 'It's time, Canterbury' content and expanding its reach. We will support communities with accurate and up-to-date information about the urgency of climate change, empower them with the knowledge and confidence to act as agents of change, and engage them throughout the journey to a resilient low-emissions future.

Civil Defence Emergency Management has a critical role in ensuring our communities are prepared, and able to respond, to natural hazards, and in the case of climate change, where these natural hazards are exacerbated over time.



An equitable and inclusive transition



Emissions reduction



Adapted and resilient communities



Climate action leadership

## Action 6: Supporting Papatipu Rūnanga

### Mahi 6: Te Tautoko i Ngā Papatipu Rūnanga

Support Papatipu Rūnanga with climate action and provide opportunities for their involvement with Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan projects.

#### Action 6.1

Understand the climate action requirements of Papatipu Rūnanga across Canterbury.

#### Action 6.2

Support councils to work in partnership with Papatipu Rūnanga to integrate their requirements into local climate action planning.



#### Why we're taking this action

Climate change is affecting Ngāi Tahu in unique and important ways, directly threatening wellbeing of mana whenua, their historic heritage (kainga tuturu), infrastructure (ngā waihangā), ability to undertake cultural practices, and disproportionately impacting future generations. The Canterbury Climate Change Risk Assessment showed there are potential risks to Ngāi Tahu interests across all pono (values) contained within Te Tūtei o Te Hau. It also indicated a risk of marginalisation of Ngāi Tahu perspectives in climate action planning.

The Ministry for the Environment has highlighted that empowering Māori is one of the five key principles in Aotearoa's Emissions Reduction Plan and the National Adaptation Plan recognises the importance of embedding Te Tiriti o Waitangi across the climate response.

Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu has developed its Climate Change Strategy Te Tāhū o te Whāriki (Anchoring the Foundations) and Action Plan (Te Kounga Paparangi). These provide direction across a wide spectrum. Canterbury councils have identified these actions so that they can seek to better understand both the requirements of mana whenua and how councils are best placed to support their climate action planning in their takiwā. The actions also provide an open door to future involvement by Papatipu Rūnanga in the governance and implementation of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan.



A healthy environment



An equitable and inclusive transition



Prosperity



Emissions reduction



Adapted and resilient communities



Climate action leadership

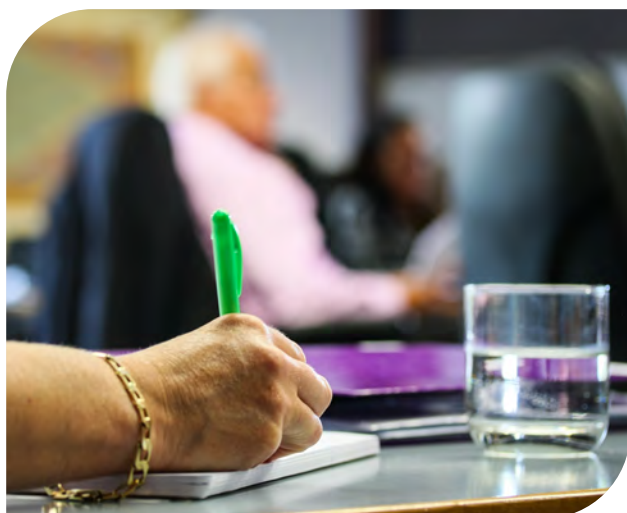
## Action 7: Integrating climate change considerations into council processes

### Mahi 7: Te Whakauru Whakaaro Huringa Āhuarangi Ki Ngā Tukanga Kaunihera

**Work collaboratively to build local government capability and enhance its capacity to adapt in a changing climate.**

#### Action 7.1

**Integrate climate change mitigation and adaptation considerations across all council business including decisions, policies, projects, procurement, and infrastructure development.**



#### Why we're taking this action

Not only must communities adapt but councils must too so we are as effective as we can be in a changing climate.

Climate change will impact everything we do and our ability to do things well. To be effective in a changing climate and avoid maladaptation, we must embed climate resilience at our core. This will ensure that climate considerations are not treated as separate or optional but are instead integrated across all aspects of local government operations. This approach helps councils address climate-related challenges effectively by displaying climate leadership, minimising risks, seizing opportunities and helping local communities to adapt appropriately thereby promoting the four wellbeings of current and future generations.



An equitable and inclusive transition



Climate action leadership



## Action 8: Climate funding and financing

### Mahi 8: Pūtea Āhuarangi

Identify and leverage co-funding and financing opportunities for climate adaptation and resilience.

#### Action 8.1

Advocate to central government for funding to be made available to address the gap between current local government funding and what is needed for the comprehensive local government climate action that is required in the future.

#### Action 8.2

Explore the feasibility of a Canterbury climate commitment that inspires and unites businesses and communities to accelerate climate action.



#### Why we're taking this action

Climate action comes at a cost and realising the many benefits of climate action also requires some up-front investment. The wide range and scale of climate actions required by councils in the coming years will require funding and financing beyond existing methods.

The recently published He piki tūranga, he piki kotuku, Future for Local Government Report (2023) highlights the gap between current local government funding and what is needed for comprehensive climate action. It suggests there should be a large national fund available for the climate-related actions that need to be taken by local government.

This could represent a significant opportunity for local government around Aotearoa New Zealand, however, it is likely that rates will remain the main funding mechanism for councils for the foreseeable future. By working together to identify and leverage alternative funding and financing opportunities, Canterbury councils can implement climate actions and initiatives without putting further pressure on ratepayers.

It is critical that we develop effective funding and financing structures that enable local government in Canterbury to respond to the evolving challenges and opportunities posed by climate change. We need to use our united voice and work together to ensure councils have access to the right amount of capital at the right time.



A healthy environment



An equitable and inclusive transition



Prosperity



Emissions reduction



Adapted and resilient communities



Climate action leadership

## Action 9: Monitoring and evaluation

### Mahi 9: Te Aroturuki Me Te Aro Mātai

**Monitor and report on progress towards achieving the actions and outcomes of the Partnership Plan.**

#### Action 9.1

**Develop and implement a monitoring and evaluation plan which includes the co-development of climate-related indicators appropriate to Canterbury.**



#### Why we're taking this action

We need to regularly monitor and evaluate the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan to ensure that actions are impactful, and our desired outcomes are being met.

The development of baseline data and climate-related indicators offers valuable data for decision-making, helping assess the region's vulnerability to various climate-related risks, and enabling policymakers to assess the effectiveness of policies and interventions.

It also assists in raising public awareness about the importance of climate action and its impacts, and enables efficient allocation of resources by governments, businesses, and communities.

The use of climate-related indicators can inform the development of effective climate policies, regulations, and incentives, and there is an opportunity to learn from the Climate Change Commission's experience in developing indicators and metrics for climate adaptation when implementing this action.



A healthy environment



An equitable and inclusive transition



Prosperity



Emissions reduction



Adapted and resilient communities



Climate action leadership

## Action 10: Implementation

### Mahi 10: Te Whakatinanatanga

Assemble an implementation team to ensure the successful delivery and implementation of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan.



#### Why we're taking this action

To ensure the successful implementation of this plan, we need to coordinate a dedicated group of people from councils who have a key role to play in the delivery of these actions. This will allow for the continuation of a collaborative approach and reduce pressure and demands on individual councils who do not have staff capacity to manage project delivery of individual actions.

An implementation overview is included in Appendix 1.



A healthy environment



An equitable and inclusive transition



Prosperity



Emissions reduction



Adapted and resilient communities



Climate action leadership

# Future funding and financing of regional climate actions

## Ngā Pūtea Wāheke Mō Ngā Mahi Āhuarangi a-Rohe

**Climate action will cost us. However, the cost of inaction is likely to be far greater. Studies by Deloitte and others highlight an impending ‘turning point’ where the increased costs of taking decisive action sooner rather than later begin to outweigh the short-term gains from deferring our response.**

Focusing solely on an economic analysis of climate change by 2050 (not the broader impacts across different dimensions of wellbeing), in net present value terms (estimated in 2023):

- Decisive action could add \$64billion to Aotearoa New Zealand’s GDP<sup>8</sup>.
- Inadequate action could take \$4.4billion off Aotearoa New Zealand’s GDP and get exponentially worse beyond 2050.

Opportunities and costs will differ across the range of business sectors specific to each region and to realise benefits arising from new opportunities will require commitment from us all. Nevertheless, it redefines the debate around climate action to one of opportunities for growth and avoided costs and losses rather than a financial burden with limited upsides.

In addition, in recent years the delivery of capital projects (including those associated with increasing resilience through certain climate adaptation measures) has experienced rapid cost escalation pressures with civil infrastructure works showing the biggest changes<sup>9</sup>. Decisions to forestall projects with demonstrable benefits could therefore impact their future affordability and viability.

<sup>8</sup> Deloitte, 2023.

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.infometrics.co.nz/article/2023-08-rapid-cost-escalation-makes-for-difficult-choices>

<sup>10</sup> The Auckland Anniversary floods insurance losses provisionally exceed \$1b, over three times the total insurance losses for Auckland in 2022. The 2021 Canterbury floods had provisional insurance losses estimated at \$43.8m (Source: Insurance Council of New Zealand). The total cost of works to the end of December 2023 for flood recovery (including response) is \$20 million, with an estimated total costs expected to be \$22.2 million. \$12.5 of these costs, above the Environment Canterbury threshold of \$4.1 million, are estimated to be eligible for application to the National Emergency Management Agency for a 60% central government contribution for like-for-like asset replacement. Not all damage arising from these events will be included in these figures, for example, local government typically self-insures network infrastructure.

This plan sets out a pragmatic and achievable programme of collaborative climate action for Waitaha Canterbury over the next three years, focused around collecting consistent evidence for both mitigation and adaptation, embedding climate change considerations in local government decision-making and processes, improving capability and capacity to respond effectively and monitoring results. We will, however, need to increase and accelerate our investment in on-the-ground mitigation and adaptation actions thereafter if we are to meet our climate commitments and avoid the magnitude of future costs we would otherwise bear. Investing now will help us minimise the impacts of future climate-related weather events<sup>10</sup>.

### Climate Partnership Plan budget

The impacts of COVID-19, high inflation, the cost-of-living crisis, and the threat of economic recession means that local government and ratepayers are faced with an increasing cost burden. These current financial pressures have been top of mind while developing the plan. Ultimately, the financial constraints and competing demands local government faces means funding climate action at a local or regional level in the short term is challenging.

However, this plan offers a pragmatic financial advantage, particularly for the less resourced councils, by working together and leveraging collective funding to deliver on key projects.

In June 2024, councils agreed to fund regional collective climate actions through their Long-Term Plans 2024-34 and \$1.47 million has been confirmed for the first three years. Further funding will be necessary through future annual and long-term plan reviews for continued collaborative climate action, and by identifying and taking advantage of co-funding opportunities with key stakeholders.



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# Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan Implementation Overview

Mahere Āhuarangi Mahi Rangapū  
Tirohanga Whakatinanatanga

Action ID		Primary action	Sub-actions
1	Understanding climate risks and improving resilience	Understand climate hazards and risks in Canterbury to support evidence-based decision making and improve regional resilience.	1.1 Scope and develop a Canterbury-wide visualisation tool for use by councils to support climate adaptation and resilience planning.
			1.2 Update the Canterbury climate change risk and urgency assessment to ensure a comprehensive and up to date understanding of key risks and opportunities under different climate change at a regional and district level.
2	Emissions reduction	Work together across the region to build equitable, inclusive pathways, targets, and key actions to support New Zealand's commitments towards global greenhouse gas emissions reduction.	2.1 Collate data and develop models to prepare greenhouse gas emissions inventories and identify emissions reduction pathways for Canterbury to support New Zealand's national greenhouse gas commitments.
			2.2 Based on the emissions reduction pathways identified for Canterbury, undertake a regional transition risk and opportunities assessment, considering social, cultural, environmental, and economic impacts, to inform an equitable and inclusive transition to a low-emissions region.
			2.3 Work with partners, communities, and key stakeholders to build a regional low-emissions transition strategy that supports equitable, inclusive local pathways to a thriving, climate-resilient region meeting emissions reduction targets.
3	Adaptation planning	Support best practice approaches for local adaptation planning with communities taking a Treaty based approach.	3.1 Develop and implement a best practice approach for councils in Canterbury to work effectively and efficiently together with communities on adaptation planning and implementation.
4	Nature-Based Solutions	Facilitate the development of a Canterbury blue-green network to increase natural capital, indigenous biodiversity and offer nature-based solutions to climate change effects.	4.1 Develop a Canterbury wide natural ecosystem climate change risk and vulnerability assessment.
			4.2 Develop a blue-green network plan for Canterbury and accompanying guidance to support locally-led implementation.
			4.2a Maximise opportunities to collaborate with key stakeholders to provide guidance on blue-green infrastructure placement and hazard resilience investment.
			4.2b Collaborate and align with Greater Christchurch Partnership and key stakeholders to deliver a blue-green network.
			4.2c Investigate the feasibility of establishing blue-green infrastructure on council-owned land, including identifying priority locations for implementation across Canterbury.
5	Climate change education and advocacy	Support community understanding about the local impacts of climate change and promote individual and collective climate action.	5.1 Continue to develop the It's time, Canterbury initiative into a comprehensive resource hub for climate education and collective action across Canterbury.
			5.2 Collaborate with Civil Defence and Emergency Management in Canterbury to produce communications materials that integrate climate action and resilience to natural hazards.

The Implementation overview outlines the sequence of actions for the first three years of Long-Term Plans, prioritising urgent actions (based on an urgency assessment), action interdependencies, and available yearly budget.

 Very high urgency
  High urgency
  Medium urgency
  Low urgency

Y1 2024/2025	Y2 2025/2026	Y3 2026/2027		Y4 onwards	Lead Organisation	Resourcing
initiate	execute and complete	maintenance and licensing	Review CCPP		Waimakariri District Council	\$ for procurement and consultant costs, staff time
				initiate, execute, complete	Environment Canterbury	\$ for procurement and consultant costs, staff time
initiate	execute and complete				Environment Canterbury	\$ for procurement and consultant costs, staff time
	initiate and execute	complete			Environment Canterbury	\$ for procurement and consultant costs, staff time
	initiate	execute and complete			Environment Canterbury	\$ for procurement and consultant costs, staff time
initiate	execute	ongoing		ongoing	Hurunui District Council	staff time
initiate and execute	complete				Environment Canterbury	\$ for procurement and consultant costs, staff time
	initiate	execute		complete	Waimakariri & Selwyn District Councils	\$ for procurement and consultant costs, staff time
initiate	execute	execute		complete	Waimakariri & Selwyn District Councils	\$ for procurement and consultant costs, staff time
initiate	execute	ongoing		ongoing	Waimakariri & Selwyn District Councils	staff time
	initiate	execute		ongoing	Waimakariri & Selwyn District Councils	\$ for procurement and consultant costs, staff time
initiate	execute	ongoing		ongoing	Environment Canterbury	staff time
	initiate, execute, complete				Environment Canterbury	staff time

# Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan Implementation Overview

Mahere Āhuarangi Mahi Rangapū  
Tirohanga Whakatinanatanga

Action ID		Primary action	Sub-actions
6	Supporting Papatipu Rūnanga	Support Papatipu Rūnanga with climate action and provide continuing opportunities for their involvement with Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan projects.	6.1 Understand the climate action requirements of Papatipu Rūnanga across Canterbury.
			6.2 Support councils to work in partnership with Papatipu Rūnanga to integrate their requirements into local climate action planning.
7	Integrating climate change considerations in council processes	Work collaboratively to build local government capability and enhance its capacity to adapt in a changing climate.	7.1 Integrate climate change mitigation and adaptation considerations across all council business including decisions, policies, projects, procurement, and infrastructure development.
8	Climate funding and financing	Identify and leverage co-funding and financing opportunities for climate adaptation and resilience.	8.1 Advocate to central government for funding to be made available to address the gap between current local government funding and what is needed for the comprehensive local government climate action that is required in the future.
			8.2 Explore the feasibility of a Canterbury Climate Commitment that inspires and unites businesses and communities to accelerate climate action.
9	Monitoring and evaluation	Monitor and report on progress towards achieving the actions and outcomes of the Partnership Plan.	9.1 Develop and implement a monitoring and evaluation plan which includes the co-development of climate related indicators appropriate to Canterbury.
10	Implementation	Assemble and coordinate an implementation team to ensure the successful delivery and implementation of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan.	
			<b>Total budget (rounded down)</b>





Y1 2024/2025	Y2 2025/2026	Y3 2026/2027		Y4 onwards	Action Lead	Resourcing
initiate	ongoing	ongoing	Review CCPP	ongoing	All councils	\$ for Papatipu Rūnanga participation, staff time
					Canterbury Mayoral Forum	\$ for Papatipu Rūnanga participation, staff time
initiate	execute	ongoing		ongoing	Ashburton District Council	staff time
initiate	execute	execute		ongoing	Christchurch City Council	staff time
initiate, execute, complete					Canterbury Mayoral Forum	staff time
initiate, execute, complete					Environment Canterbury	\$ for procurement and consultant costs, staff time
initiate, execute	ongoing	ongoing		ongoing	Environment Canterbury (with action lead organisations)	staff time
\$190,000	\$741,000	\$540,000				
<b>Total \$ 1,471,000 NZD</b> Through collective contributions from Canterbury councils for Year 1 - Year 3 of 2024-2034 Long Term Plans and 2024-2025 Annual Plans (100,432 NZD to be confirmed through Waimate and Waitaki District Councils 2025-2034 Long Term Plans)						

# DRAFT

***Mā whero mā pango ka oti ai te mahi.  
With red and black the work will be complete.***

Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan  
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**It's time,  
Canterbury**  
Our climate change  
conversation

CANTERBURY  
Mayoral Forum



# Canterbury Mayoral Forum

**Date:** 30 August 2024

**Presented by:** Hamish Dobbie, Chief Executives Forum

## Developing economic development priorities for Canterbury

### Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to update the Mayoral Forum on the work of the Economic Development<sup>1</sup> and Chief Executives Forums to identify regional economic development priorities, and seek agreement to holding a Mayoral Forum workshop to develop ideas further.

### Recommendations

**That the Canterbury Mayoral Forum:**

1. **note the update on work by the regional forums to develop priorities for regional economic development**
2. **agree to have a facilitated workshop to delve more deeply into potential economic development priorities and actions for Canterbury.**

### Background

2. The Canterbury Mayoral Forum's Plan for Canterbury was finalised in May 2020, after a series of workshops, following the 2019 local government elections. It has been reviewed and updated twice since then, February 2023 following the 2022 local government elections and again in February 2024 following the 2023 central government elections.
3. The Mayoral Forum's Plan for Canterbury has three high level priorities:
  - sustainable environmental management of our habitats
  - shared prosperity for all our communities
  - climate change mitigation and adaptation
4. There are nine actions to support the priorities.
5. To support the shared prosperity priority, the Economic Development Forum has begun considering priorities for economic development with a view to developing an aligned view across Canterbury. Indications from the Minister of Local Government suggest that

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<sup>1</sup> Membership includes councils' economic development managers, economic development agencies (EDAs) and representatives from Kānoa and the Regional Public Service Commissioner.

the Government is looking for regions to be aligned and be able to tell a cohesive story about their economy, its opportunities and strengths, particularly if they are seeking investment through a regional/city deal. The Government is looking to see regional plans and strategies that include private sector involvement and engagement enabled by local and central government.

## Identifying strategic economic priorities

6. At its March 2024 meeting, the Economic Development Forum, which includes councils' economic development managers, EDA representatives, and senior staff from Kānoa and the office of the Regional Public Service Commissioner, discussed the importance of economic development in the region, and the opportunities for Canterbury to be well-prepared for engagement with the Government on regional/city deals as well as the opportunity to seek central government investment from the regional economic development fund or the infrastructure fund.
7. The Economic Development Forum held a workshop to begin identifying economic development opportunities for the Canterbury region, define enablers and explore approaches to reduce barriers. Business Canterbury also attended this workshop and were able to provide insights from their respective areas of expertise.
8. There was agreement at the workshop that:
  - there is significant value in bringing businesses together, along with our tertiary institutions, and mana whenua to support the development of regional priorities so that we understand the environment required to provide the right policies for businesses and our communities to succeed.
  - the private sector needs an enabling environment from both central and local government.
  - we need to change the narrative and better leverage our opportunities – we have a reasonably strong economy, a strong tertiary sector, and net migration is high.
9. Economic development opportunities identified during the workshop were themed as follows:
  - sustainability and environment (including emissions reduction, sustainable growth and a clean economy, tourism, water management)
  - economic development and industry (including productivity from production to export, aerospace opportunities, the Māori economy, AI, health innovation, contributing to the global food supply, supply chain management)
  - social and community wellbeing (including housing, social connectivity and diversity, balanced work/life structure opportunities, and making Canterbury the most attractive place to live, work, interact with others)
  - governance and policy (aligning regulatory processes to support business, improve governance trust, and collaboration with mana whenua and support for public-private partnerships)



- infrastructure and connectivity (including infrastructure, leveraging our geographical advantages, opportunities for digital connectivity)
- education and workforce (including a skills focus, supporting a talent pipeline, embracing automation)
- brand and perception (positioning Canterbury as a top global location to do business).

10. When reviewing the workshop outputs, the Chief Executives Forum noted the following would also be important to consider when looking at agreed regional priorities:

- the current state – understanding Canterbury’s key economic facts and figures, key employers, key industries
- how we can articulate that what is good for one part of the region is good for everyone
- what opportunities are available as a result of changing climate, aging population, renewable energy, and innovation
- understanding what international markets need is also an important factor in determining regional priorities.

11. Further, chief executives noted their support for undertaking and completing the work on regional priorities at pace to ensure Canterbury is aligned and sufficiently prepared for regional/city deals conversations with the Government.

## **Proposed approach**

12. The Economic Development Forum discussed whether a formal strategy might be required for economic development. The Chief Executives Forum considered that at this stage the focus needs to be on identifying regional priorities and actions, rather than developing a strategy. This is because the work to understand and agree on priorities may result in a preferred approach that is different to developing a formal strategy.

13. The Chief Executives Forum agreed that the next step should be to workshop the opportunities outlined in paragraph 9 with the Mayoral Forum, supported by considering the questions in paragraph 10. This would allow a ‘deep dive’ into possible areas of agreement across the region, and allow the broader themes arising from the Economic Development Forum’s workshop to be further explored and debated.

14. To maintain momentum on the work, the Chief Executives Forum suggested that this workshop take place in September. This would allow the outcomes from the workshop to be analysed and proposed next steps to be reported through to the Mayoral Forum at the November meeting.

15. Consideration will need to be given to what stage this work is expanded to include business, mana whenua, tertiary institutions, as noted in paragraph 8 above, to ensure regional buy-in on any agreed priorities that are identified. At a minimum, it could include

discussions with business advocacy groups (Business Canterbury, South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce), mana whenua, tertiary institutions and central government.

16. The priorities and actions that would be ultimately developed would not seek to override or duplicate the priorities and actions that exist in current city and district economic development strategies, rather the purpose would be to identify those areas of the economy where local government has the ability to either create the enablers or remove the barriers for economic development for the region.

## **Next steps**

17. Subject to any discussion on this paper at the Forum meeting, the intended next steps would be to:
  - develop a current state economic snapshot at a sub-regional, regional and South Island level
  - hold a workshop to delve deeper into proposed regional priorities and actions for Canterbury's economic development
  - following the workshop, consider what is needed to finalise regional priorities and actions alongside relevant stakeholders.

# Canterbury Mayoral Forum

**Date:** 30 August 2024

**Presented by:** Hamish Riach, Chair, Chief Executives Forum

## Canterbury Mayoral Forum mid-term achievements 2022-2024

### Purpose

1. This paper reviews progress in implementing the Canterbury Local Authorities' Triennial Agreement 2022-2025 and provides a draft mid-term report for consideration and approval.

### Recommendations

**That the Canterbury Mayoral Forum:**

1. review the draft mid-term report and advise of any amendments
2. approve the mid-term report for publication on the Canterbury Mayoral Forum website and sharing with member councils
3. promote the Mayoral Forum mid-term achievements with supporting media release(s) and encourage councils to share the achievements widely with their networks.

### Mid-term review

2. In past terms, the Mayoral Forum has published a mid-term report on its achievements in the first half of the local government term. The report is made available to member councils and on the [www.canterburymayors.org.nz](http://www.canterburymayors.org.nz) website<sup>1</sup>.
3. A draft mid-term report is attached for review and approval. The report follows the same template as past reports and is structured around the priorities identified in the *Mayoral Forum's Plan for Canterbury 2022-2025*.

### Publication of report

4. The Chief Executives Forum suggested that the Mayoral Forum publicly promotes the achievements, and member councils be encouraged to share and promote them widely within their networks.
5. Subject to the view of the Mayoral Forum, to effectively promote the achievements the Secretariat proposes to:

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<sup>1</sup> The previous mid-term report was published in August 2021 and is available at this link: [Mayoral Forum achievements 2019-2021 \(canterburymayors.org.nz\)](http://www.canterburymayors.org.nz)

- prepare media release (s), to be approved by the Forum, to promote the mid-term achievements at the time it is published on the Mayoral Forum website
- encourage and support each member council to share the mid-term achievements widely through their networks and across a range of platforms.

## **Next steps**

6. The next steps are to:

- incorporate feedback received from Mayoral Forum members into the mid-term report and finalise the document for publication
- publish it on the regional forums website
- circulate the mid-term achievements document to member councils
- prepare media release(s) to promote the achievements and encourage and support member councils to share the report, and/or any other promotion tactics the Mayoral Forum wishes to engage.

## **Attachment**

Draft Canterbury Mayoral Forum mid-term achievements 2022-2024



## CANTERBURY Mayoral Forum

*A strong regional economy with resilient, connected  
communities and a better quality of life, for all.*

### Canterbury Mayoral Forum mid-term achievements 2022-24

1. This report provides a summary of progress and achievements of the Canterbury Mayoral Forum at the mid-point of the 2022-25 local government term.

### Regional forums

2. The Canterbury Local Authorities' Triennial Agreement 2022-25 mandates the work of the Canterbury Mayoral Forum, Chief Executives Forum, and other regional and sub-regional forums and working groups (see Appendix 1). Regional forums generally meet quarterly.
3. As agreed in the Triennial Agreement, Environment Canterbury hosts a permanent regional forums secretariat to support the work of the Mayoral Forum, resourced from the regional general rate.

### Plan for Canterbury

4. In April 2023, the Mayoral Forum launched its 2023-25 Plan for Canterbury. The 2023-25 Plan is a revised and updated version of the plan for the previous triennium, members having agreed that the vision and values of that Plan were still relevant; however the key priority areas and actions required refreshing to account for changes in the economy, government policy, and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.
5. The Plan for Canterbury sets out the Forum's priorities for the triennium. It summarises the interests and priorities of local government leaders for Cantabrians, and provides a basis for conversation and partnership with Ngāi Tahu, Central Government, the business sector and the community sectors.
6. As set out in the Plan, the Mayoral Forum's vision is that in Canterbury, all of us together:
  - care for our natural resources to secure both present and future opportunities
  - create shared economic prosperity so no one is left behind
  - nurture caring, hope and kindness, standing strong together to withstand and adapt to challenges and change
  - celebrate our diverse identities – and take pride in our common identity as Cantabrians.

### *Mayors standing together for Canterbury.*

Secretariat, E: [secretariat@canterburymayors.org.nz](mailto:secretariat@canterburymayors.org.nz) W: [www.canterburymayors.org.nz](http://www.canterburymayors.org.nz)  
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Ashburton District Council • Canterbury Regional Council • Christchurch City Council • Hurunui District Council  
Kaikōura District Council • Mackenzie District Council • Selywn District Council • Timaru District Council  
Waimakariri District Council • Waimate District Council • Waitaki District Council

7. There are three key priority areas on which the Forum's work is based this term. These are:
  - a. sustainable environmental management of our habitats (land, air, water and ecosystems), focusing on land use and freshwater management
  - b. shared prosperity for all our communities – focusing on building on our economic strengths and developing emerging sectors, growing, attracting and retaining a skilled workforce, improving the transport network and coordinating strategies for housing our communities
  - c. Climate change mitigation and adaptation – reducing our carbon footprint, working together on climate action planning, building community resilience and making our infrastructure as strong as it can be.
8. The Forum has developed an action plan to address these priority areas, where 9 key actions have been identified and make up the work programme for the triennium. Delivery of this work programme is overseen by the Chief Executives Forum, which reports quarterly to the Mayoral Forum.
9. The Forum completed a review of the Plan for Canterbury in early 2024 to ensure it reflected the approach to engage with the new Government and enabled the Forum to be well-prepared for discussions on regional/city deals. As a result of the review, the Plan was refreshed in a number of areas. This included tweaks to the wording of some of the actions, a new action on energy under the shared prosperity priority area, and updates to reflect current government policies (where these had changed from the previous Government) and opportunities for the Mayoral Forum to lead discussions on the drivers for change in Canterbury.

### **Key achievements this term**

10. Key achievements at the mid point of this local government term include:
  - refreshing the Plan for Canterbury to ensure it reflected the current political context following the 2023 General Election and the key priority actions the Forum wished to focus on for the remainder of the term
  - completion of the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan
  - day-long meeting with nine government ministers in 2023 to discuss the Plan for Canterbury and advocate for key issues for our communities
  - commencing development of a regional housing strategy
  - commencing work on a regional energy inventory
  - commencing work to identify regional economic development priorities
  - meeting with a number of Ministers in 2024 to raise key issues of interest for Canterbury.
11. Progress on the three key priority areas in the Plan for Canterbury, and the nine actions that sit within them, is set out below.

## **Sustainable environmental management of our habitats**

***The Mayoral Forum will continue oversight of the CWMS, taking into consideration the changing national and regional policies, along with the relationship between water, food production and energy security. Oversight of CWMS***

12. The Mayoral Forum has maintained active oversight of the implementation of the CWMS, receiving regular and comprehensive reporting on progress.
13. In August 2023 the Forum launched a review into the CWMS, and particularly zone committees, to consider how best to include local leadership in freshwater decision making. The Forum expects to consider the findings of the review and next steps later in 2024.

***The Mayoral Forum will continue to support the Te Uru Kahika – Regional and Unitary Councils Aotearoa’ business case for permanent co-investment from the Government in river management for flood protection, an updated version of which was presented to the Government in 2022.***

14. The Forum advocated for the business case at meetings with a range of Ministers in May 2023, and in briefings to the new Government following the 2023 General Election.
15. Some funding to assist with flood resilience work was received by Environment Canterbury as part of Budget 2024, and includes upgrades to critical and aged flood management infrastructure across the region to make it more resilient to the changing climate, as well as further work on the Rangitata flood resilient programme and projects in South Canterbury.
16. The Forum met with the Minister of Climate Change in June 2024 and reiterated the importance of co-investment support for the full range of projects in the business case.

***The Mayoral Forum will continue to support the Biodiversity Champions as the key conduit for a shared regional approach to biodiversity, facilitating work across the region on the revitalisation of the Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy and the development of a regional biodiversity monitoring framework***

17. The Mayoral Forum supported the continuation of a working group of Canterbury councillors to increase governance-level engagement on biodiversity issues and opportunities across all Canterbury councils this term. This working group, the Biodiversity Champions, responds to a need for local government to work closely together to implement new national direction for biodiversity and support the revitalisation of the Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy. The Biodiversity Champions provide updates to the Forum on its work as required.

## **Shared prosperity for all our communities**

***The Mayoral Forum will continue to advocate with the Government for immigration and skills policies that work for Canterbury***

18. The Mayoral Forum advocated for skills and immigration policies that work for Canterbury when it travelled to Wellington in May 2023 to meet with a range of ministers. This message was reinforced in briefings to the new Government following the 2023 General Election.
19. Work is under way by one of the regional forums to bring together a range of data collected by councils and economic development agencies to provide insight into the skill needs of

Canterbury businesses. The Forum is also working together to identify a set of regional economic development priorities. Both pieces of work will inform some key actions on economic development for the region, and allow the Forum to better target its advocacy on skills and immigration with the Government.

***The Mayoral Forum will continue to encourage, support and advocate for research and investment in diversifying and adding value to our agricultural production***

20. The Mayoral Forum advocated for investment to add value to our agricultural production when it travelled to Wellington in May 2023 to meet with a range of ministers. This was reiterated in briefings to new Government ministers following the 2023 General Election.
21. The Forum also advocated for investment in new agricultural technologies as part of its submission on the Government's second emissions reduction plan in August 2024.

***The Mayoral Forum will support the region to foster partnerships, investigate barriers and harness opportunities to improve our energy security and systems in ways that maximise benefits for our community, economy and environment***

22. To ensure our region is prepared to take opportunities on energy, the Forum has begun developing a regional energy inventory for Canterbury. The purpose of the inventory is to:
  - create a shared picture of Canterbury's energy futures to inform more consistent strategic planning, investment, and partnerships across industry, councils, central government, the Mayoral Forum and Greater Christchurch Partnership
  - provide an evidence base to inform regional, sub-regional and local governments energy processes
  - help to identify regional priorities to support discussions about regional or city deals
  - support regional input into central government energy work programmes.
23. The Forum will undertake this work in collaboration with stakeholders. The ultimate outcome of the project is to identify options to progress a regional approach to energy.

***The Mayoral Forum will advocate with government to review transport funding legislation to better empower local authorities to develop local funding solutions***

24. The Mayoral Forum advocated for a refreshed approach to transport funding when it travelled to Wellington in May 2023 to meet with a range of ministers. This was reiterated in briefings to ministers following the 2023 General Election, and again at a meeting with the Minister of Transport in July 2024.
25. The Forum is also supporting a project being undertaken by the Canterbury Regional Transport Committee to improve the transport planning and funding system for Canterbury and the institutions and mechanisms that support the investments in the Regional Land Transport Plan (local roads, public transport, state highways, and transport planning activities). The main benefit is to improve assurance regarding the certainty of revenue for proposed activities. While the project will not aim to secure funding for specific activities or to increase funding, increased funding may be a secondary subsequent benefit. The project's steering group is currently being set up, and the Forum looks forward to receiving updates as the project progresses.



***The Mayoral Forum will develop a regional housing strategy that will identify the range of housing issues affecting communities across the region and a pathway forward to improve them***

26. The Mayoral Forum commenced work to develop a strategy in 2023. An officer-level steering group was set up to lead the work. The strategy aims to enable enhancement of the quality, quantity, affordability and accessibility of housing across the region and across the full housing continuum. It will recognise that while local government cannot by itself meet every single community housing need, it is able to identify where housing barriers exist and what options, resources and or agencies are best placed to help resolve them.
27. The strategy and resulting implementation plan will identify the roles and activities the Canterbury Mayoral Forum and partners can play collectively and individually to contribute to better housing outcomes for the people of Canterbury.
28. As at August 2024, a scope of work is being finalised with the expectation that the work will be completed by the end of this triennium.

## **Climate change mitigation and adaptation**

***The Mayoral Forum will oversee the completion of the Canterbury-wide Climate Change Partnership Plan, which will confirm a collaborative vision for regional adaptation planning, and ‘urgency assessment’ to support prioritising climate actions, and a funding plan laying out a regional/aligned approach for accessing finance for climate actions in Canterbury***

29. The regional Climate Change Working Group established by the Chief Executives Forum in 2017 continues to address climate change adaptation for Canterbury. This local government term, the focus has been to develop the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan.
30. To provide governance support for the development of the Plan, the Mayoral Forum established a cross-regional group of councillors, the Canterbury Climate Action Planning Reference Group. This group provided governance advice, input and feedback on the Plan as it developed.
31. The Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan is now complete<sup>1</sup>, and sets out a vision for a thriving, climate resilient, low-emissions Canterbury. These are the six key outcomes and objectives sought through delivery of ten primary actions and supporting sub-actions. Eight principles have been developed which underpin its implementation. These are the values by which we will approach collective climate action in Canterbury. The actions in the Plan are fully funded through councils’ Long-Term Plans.
32. A launch event to formally recognise the the Plan and the collaborative work at an officer and governance level that facilitated its success will be held later in 2024.

## **Other initiatives**

33. The regional forums undertake a range of “business as usual” initiatives as well as supporting the Plan for Canterbury. These initiatives include:

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<sup>1</sup> [Insert link to CCPP](#)

- health and safety collaboration
- collaboration on stormwater, wastewater and drinking water
- co-ordination of natural hazard risk management
- continuing to build on the Canterbury Maps shared service
- collaboration in procurement, contract management and other corporate services
- collaboration and sharing information on communications and engagement best practice
- regional leadership and support for strategic information and records management
- regional economic development
- collaborating on regional submissions
- collaborative resource management planning and decision-making.

## Standing together for Canterbury

34. Joint advocacy ('one strong voice for Canterbury') has been a strength of the Mayoral Forum. The following table summarises Mayoral Forum engagement and advocacy since local body elections in October 2022.

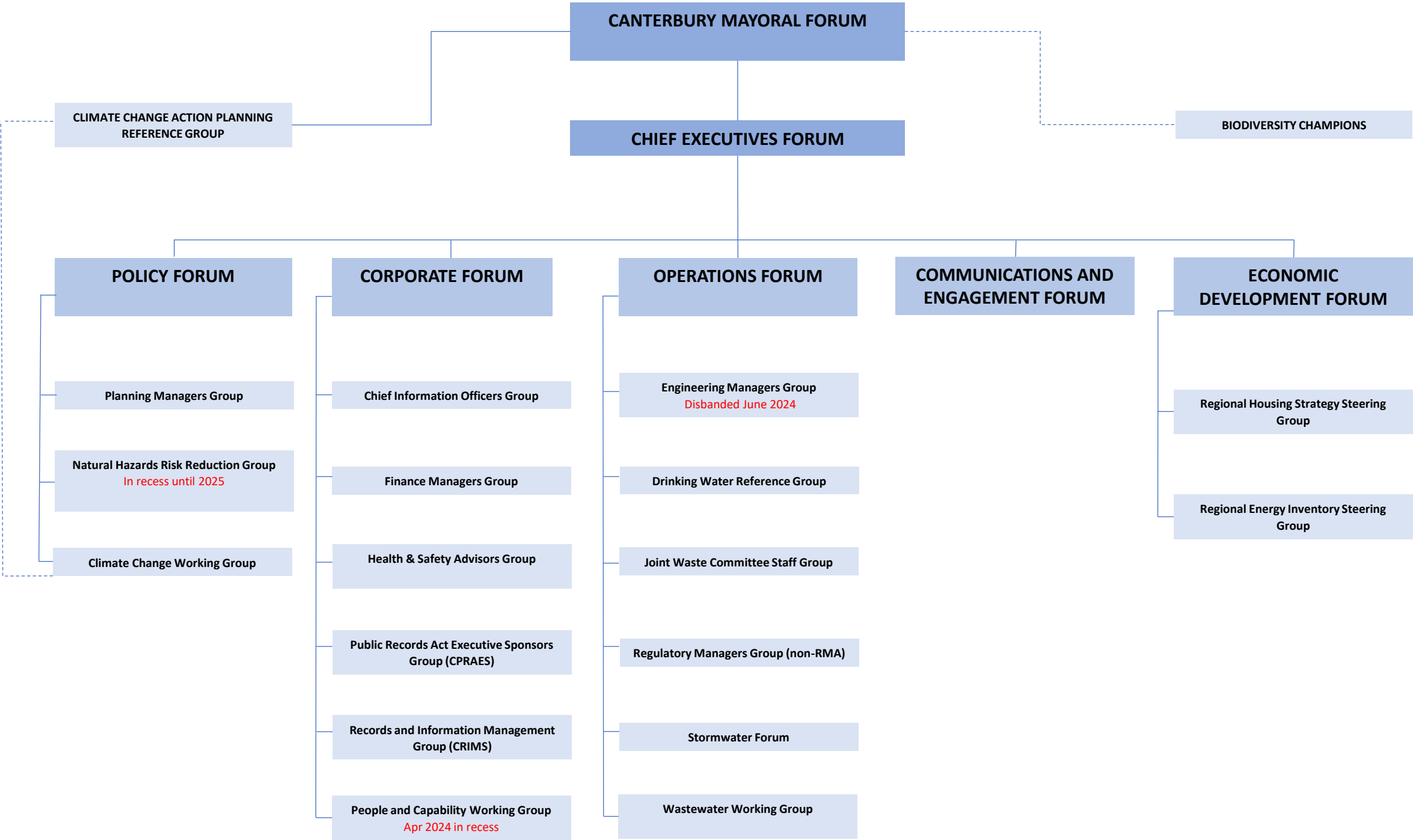
Date	Audience	Subject
30 Nov 2022	Environment Committee (Parliament)	Advocacy letter to request longer submission period for local government to consider the Natural and Built Environment and Spatial Planning bills
2 Dec 2022	Ministry for Primary Industries	Submission on National direction for plantation and exotic carbon afforestation
17 Feb 2023	Environment Committee (Parliament)	Submissions on the Natural and Built Environment and Spatial Planning bills
27 Feb 2023	Minister of Local Government	Letter to advocate for pause in three waters reform until Review into the Future for Local Government is completed
28 Feb 2023	Future for Local Government Review Panel	Submission on the Review
10 Mar 2023	Environment Committee (Parliament)	Hearing to present Mayoral Forum submissions on Natural and Built Environment and Spatial Planning bills
16 Mar 2023	Minister for the Environment	Letter to advocate for exemptions for councils from paying levies on relocating waste from closed landfills
11 May 2023	Ministers of the Crown	Meetings with 9 Government ministers on the Plan for Canterbury and issues of mutual interest
1 Jun 2023	National Party Canterbury-based MPs	Dinner between Mayoral Forum and National Party Canterbury-based MPs
2 Jun 2023	Government Canterbury-based MPs	Lunch between Mayoral Forum and Government Canterbury-based MPs
9 Jun 2023	Ministers of Finance, Regional Development, Local Government and Emergency Management	Letter advocating for central government funding for flood resilience in Canterbury
20 Jun 2023	Climate Change Commission	Submission on draft advice to inform the strategic direction of the second emissions reduction plan

Date	Audience	Subject
23 Jun 2023	Associate Minister for the Environment	Further letter advocating for exemptions for councils from paying levies on relocating waste from closed landfills
3 Jul 2023	Papatipu Rūnanga chairs	Letter advising of refreshed Plan for Canterbury and inviting further engagement with the Mayoral Forum
7 Jul 2023	Minister of Transport	Joint letter with Regional Transport Committee advocating for release of GPS Land Transport as soon as possible
24 Aug 2023	ACT Party leader	Dinner between Mayoral Forum and David Seymour
25 Aug 2023	Green Party Canterbury-based MPs	Lunch between Mayoral Forum and Green Party Christchurch-based MPs
14 Sept 2023	Ministry of Transport	Joint submission with the RTC on the draft 2024 Government Policy Statement on Land Transport
19 Oct 2023	Prime Minister	Letter of congratulations and invitation to the Prime Minister to meet with the Mayoral Forum in November
1 Nov 2023	Environment Committee (Parliament)	Submission on the Inquiry into Climate Adaptation
3 Nov 2023	Governance and Administration Committee (Parliament)	Joint submission with the CDEM joint committee on the Emergency Management Bill
9 Nov 2023	Canterbury-based MPs	Letters of congratulation to 18 Canterbury-based MPs following the General Election
1 Dec 2023	Kaiwhakahaere o Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu	Letter congratulating Justin Tipa on becoming Kaiwhakahaere and inviting him to attend Mayoral Forum meetings
6 Dec 2023	Minister Simeon Brown	Invitation to meet to discuss regional/city deals for the Canterbury region
8 Mar 2023	Papatipu Rūnanga chairs	Letter providing update on development of Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan
2 Apr 2024	Ministry of Transport	Joint submission with the RTC on the draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2024
19 Apr 2024	Environment Committee (Parliament)	Submission on the Fast-Track Approvals Bill
31 May 2024	Climate Change Commission	Submission on Aotearoa New Zealand's 2050 emissions reduction target and the fourth emissions budget (2036–2040)
11 Jun 2024	Minister Simon Watts	Meeting to discuss climate change matters
13 Jun 2024	Minister Mark Mitchell	Meeting to discuss emergency management matters
18 Jun 2024	Waka Kotahi NZTA	Joint submission with the RTC on proposed changes to emergency works investment policies
2 Jul 2024	Minister Chris Bishop	Meeting to discuss infrastructure, housing, and resource management reform

Date	Audience	Subject
12 Jul 2024	Minister Simeon Brown	Meeting to discuss local government and transport matters, including regional/city deals
16 Jul 2024	Finance and Expenditure Committee (Parliament)	Hearing to present Mayoral Forum submission on climate adaptation inquiry with committee members
21 Aug 2024	Ministry for the Environment	Submission on second emissions reduction plan discussion document
30 Aug 2024	Canterbury-based Coalition MPs	Lunch with Government Coalition MPs to discuss issues of mutual interest for Canterbury

Appendix 1

Canterbury Regional Forums and Working Groups  
Structure (June 2024)



REGIONAL FORUMS SECRETARIAT (hosted by Environment Canterbury)		
Maree McNeilly	Principal Advisor	027 381 8924
Amanda Wall	Senior Advisor	027 234 6381
Ann Fitzgerald	Project Coordinator	027 291 7468
<a href="mailto:secretariat@canterburymayors.org.nz">secretariat@canterburymayors.org.nz</a>		<a href="https://www.canterburymayors.org.nz/">https://www.canterburymayors.org.nz/</a>



# Canterbury Mayoral Forum

**Date:** 30 August 2024

**Presented by:** Diane McDermott, Regional Public Service Commissioner

## Regional Public Service Commissioner update

### Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide a brief update from the Regional Public Service Commissioner on the Regional Leadership Group: Waitaha Priorities (RLG) – Regional Leaders operating under the Regional Systems Leadership Framework (RSLF).

### Recommendations

**That the Canterbury Mayoral Forum:**

1. receive the written update from the Regional Public Service Commissioner on the Regional Leadership Group Waitaha priorities.

### Background

2. The Regional Leadership Group was established to ensure the region's system response to the COVID Protection Framework (CPF) is well prepared and has been meeting weekly. Given the lifting of the CPF the final meeting of this group was on 6 October 2022. Should the need arise the group is prepared to quickly reconvene.
3. The Regional Public Service Commissioner is also responsible to identify shared priorities that the public service can jointly work towards for Canterbury. The shared plans and priorities are to be locally-informed, regionally-led and centrally-supported.

### Regional Public Service Commissioner Update

4. A written report is attached.

### Attachment

- Regional Public Service Commissioner update

## Regional Public Service Commissioner (RPSC) Update

### Mayoral Forum Aug 2024

#### Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to provide a brief update from the Regional Public Service Commissioner (RPSC), Di McDermott on: the Regional Leadership Group (RLG) for Canterbury - Regional Leaders operating under the Regional Systems Leadership Framework (RSLF).

#### Priorities

When the Regional System Leadership Framework was introduced, regions were required to develop regional priorities - ones that cut across many agencies' work programmes and required an increased level of collaboration for improved outcomes.

Whilst the region has priorities, this does not limit the focus and leadership across areas not specifically defined as a Regional Public Service (RPS) priority. RSLF also provides the opportunity to convene, resolve and escalate issues across social, economic, skills & workforce, and environmental sectors.

#### **RPSC Update 21.08.2024.**

#### ***Regional leadership Group (RLG)***

We have three local Government reps on RLG – Hamish Riach, Sharon Mason and Mary Richardson.

On 6 Sept we are having a longer session to set our focus through F25. Many organisations have had changes to their focus areas or ways of working in response to the government priorities.

The intention is to re-focus our effort on a defined number of opportunities within the scope of the priorities with a view to identify system gaps and key deliverables over this period.

#### ***Canterbury Regional Energy Inventory***

The RPSC will work in partnership with ECAN to develop the regional energy inventory.

- The newly appointed RPC lead advisor will join this project in mid-September and comes from an environmental and policy background which will bring relevant experience to the project.
- Scoping work for the project has started and early discussions with Power line companies.
- These partnerships will help inform strategies and planning to support the resilience of our communities into the future.
- Key milestones will be identified, and updates based on these will be provided to the Mayoral Forum

#### ***Housing***

In partnership with Kianga Ora and MSD we have focused on Emergency Housing over the last 10 months.

- Early result shows the number of people in emergency housing has reduced by two thirds compared to the same time last year.
- Collaboration between agencies remains strong and there is a continued focus on building on best practices.
- Work continues to support people with high and complex needs.
- Lack of or the ability to retain housing is a common denominator and a challenge for some of our most vulnerable members of our community.



### **Public Service Regional Data Tool**

This tool has been developed with Regional Public Service leaders and is intended to inform evidence-based decisions at a community level. It brings together a range of social sector and economic data from government agencies and the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) [Integrated Data Infrastructure | Stats NZ](#) which users can drill down to a local level. The dashboards are focused on regional communities and allow the use of filters to identify information by ethnicity, sex, deprivation, rurality, and age groups. The indicators were selected to provide a starting point for data insights, enabling users to ask better questions on complex issues.

This tool is currently in its initial implementation and testing phase and your feedback is welcome to help make the tool better.

We will be getting you access to this tool shortly.

### **RPSC Team**

Di McDermott has been in the role for three weeks and has focused on.

- Bringing the team together, they are now based at MPI offices in Sir William Pickering Drive.
- The final team vacancy has now been filled bringing the team up to full strength.
- Strategic extended RLG meeting is set for the 6th Sept, focusing on a reset and developing the blueprint to take us through to the calendar year and beyond.
- Diane is currently re-engaging with key stakeholders many have proactively reached out.
- We are refining our work plan to include clear actions, and balance the resource allocated to each priority area.

### **Other activities**

- We are part of a national investment mapping working group to help identify opportunities, gaps, and duplications across sectors. This is a deep dive into social sector offerings regionally and nationally.
- Utilizing the Public Service Regional Data Tool, we are working with the Ashburton District council to create a profile of the area, seeking to better utilise the information we have to provide a starting point for data insights.



# Canterbury Mayoral Forum

**Date:** 30 August 2024

**Presented by:** Hamish Riach, Chief Executives Forum

## Chief Executives Forum report

### Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to report on the work of the regional forums since May 2024.

### Recommendations

**That the Canterbury Mayoral Forum:**

1. receive the quarterly report from the Chief Executives Forum
2. note updates on work under way or completed on the key actions in the Mayoral Forum's Plan for Canterbury 2023-2025.

### Regional Forums activity

2. Since the Mayoral Forum's May meeting:
  - the Communications and Engagement Forum met in person on 14 June
  - the Economic Development and Policy Forums met in person on 17 June
  - the Operations and Corporate Forums met online on 24 June
  - the Chief Executives Forum met in person on 29 July.

### Chief Executives Forum

3. Key agenda items discussed at the 29 July meeting included:
  - a welcome to Diane McDermott, the new Regional Public Service Commissioner, who provided an update on the work of the RPSC and a farewell to Ben Clark, the previous Regional Public Service Commissioner
  - an update on the Canterbury Water Management Strategy
  - a discussion with Michael Lovett, Hamiora Bowkett and Paul Barker (DIA) on water services reform and next steps
  - a discussion with James Caygill, Waka Kotahi NZTA, covering the recently released Government Policy Statement (GPS), the upcoming National Land Transport Programme, NZTA projects and timing of funding decisions for local government programmes.

- an update from the Economic Development Forum on outputs from a facilitated workshop they held to consider common economic development opportunities for the Canterbury region, define enablers and explore approaches to reduce barriers (see item 5.3)
- an update on the development of the Regional Housing Strategy.
- an update on the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan (see item 5.2),
- the draft Mayoral Forum agenda for 30 August 2024.

4. Chief Executives will meet next on 21 October 2024.

### **Triennium strategic workplan**

5. The Plan for Canterbury highlights nine specific actions against the three priority issues of sustainable environmental management, shared prosperity, and climate change mitigation and adaptation. A strategic workplan has been developed to monitor progress on the actions and will be updated with high-level commentary and reported quarterly to the Mayoral Forum (see attachment 1).
6. To support the strategic workplan, the Chief Executives Forum uses a workstream tracker to track and report on progress of the range of initiatives under way that sit under each of the Plan for Canterbury's action areas. The workstream tracker also tracks progress against key projects and programmes from the regional forums. The workstream tracker is updated and reported quarterly to the Chief Executives Forum.
7. The strategic workplan and workstream tracker are both living documents with the ability for additional items to be added as issues for regional collaboration arise.

### **Attachments**

- Attachment 1 - Strategic workplan



#	Workstream	Plan for Canterbury priority	Key updates	Planned outcomes	Outcomes achieved
1	Continued support of the Te Uru Kahika - Regional and Unitary Councils Aotearoa business case for permanent co-investment from the Government in river management for flood protection	Sustainable environment Shared Prosperity Climate Change	Raised with Ministers at Wellington meeting 11 May 2023 Included in briefings to Ministers sent 1 March 2024 Hosted Minister Paterson in Canterbury, which included visits to the sub-regions and river areas	Government provides permanent co-investment for flood protection	The Government has confirmed some co-investment to enhance the resilience of flood-prone communities. The funding will enable 42 projects to go ahead, including \$5.7 million for Waitaha/Canterbury.
2	Advocate with the Government for immigration and skills policies that work for Canterbury	Shared prosperity	Raised with Ministers at Wellington meeting 11 May 2023. Economic Development Forum members undertaking Canterbury wide business survey to gather detailed evidence Included in briefings to Ministers 1 March 2024	Government adopts a more regional approach to immigration policies	
3	Advocate with Government to review transport funding legislation to better empower local authorities to develop local funding solutions	Shared prosperity	Included in briefings to Ministers 1 March 2024 CE Forum supporting the RTC Transport Funding Project by making staff available for a Steering Group Included in joint RTC/CMF submission on GPS Land Transport 2024 Discussed at meeting with Minister of Transport in July	Ability for local councils to access additional transport funding	
4	Continue oversight of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy	Sustainable environment	Updates provided to Chief Executives and Mayoral Forums Workshop held 31 May Update provided at item 2.1	CWMS remains fit for purpose and the region retains a shared understanding of water management issues	
5	Support the Biodiversity Champions as the key conduit for a shared regional approach to biodiversity, facilitating work across the region on the revitalisation of the Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy, and the development of a regional biodiversity monitoring framework	Sustainable environment	Included in briefings to Ministers 1 March 2024. A discovery session with partners including TAs to discuss the revitalisation of the Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy was held on 10 April 2024. Scoping a regional biodiversity monitoring framework is nearing completion. Next steps will consider future implementation of scoped monitoring methodologies.	A new (refreshed/updated) Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy, including the regional biodiversity monitoring framework	
6	Continue to encourage, support and advocate for research and investment in diversifying and adding value to our agricultural production	Shared prosperity	Raised with Ministers at Wellington meeting 11 May 2023. Included in briefings to Ministers 1 March 2024	Investment in research and technology for the pastoral sector reflects the sector's importance to Canterbury and New Zealand's economy	
7	Develop a regional housing strategy that will identify the range of housing issues affecting communities across the region and a pathway forward to improve them	Shared prosperity	Investment Logic Mapping exercise complete. Housing Steering Group is in process of confirming scope of work. Included in briefings to Ministers 1 March 2024	The Forum has clarity on housing issues affecting communities in Waitaha/Canterbury and understands pathways for improvement	
8	Oversee a Canterbury-wide climate change partnership plan, which will confirm a collaborative vision for regional adaptation planning, an 'urgency assessment' to support prioritising climate actions, and a funding plan laying out a regional/aligned approach for accessing finance for climate actions in Canterbury	Climate change	Partnership Plan provided for approval at item 5.2.	Completion of the Climate Change Partnership Plan and agreement on action planning	
9	Support the region to foster partnerships to investigate barriers and harness opportunities to improve our energy security and systems in ways that maximise benefits for our community, economy, and environment	Shared prosperity Environmental Sustainability Climate Change	Regional Energy Inventory proposed as the starting point for a future energy strategy. Draft scope of work, project plan and indicative budget approved at May Mayoral Forum.	Canterbury Regional Energy Inventory to support the development of a Regional Energy Strategy	

# Canterbury Mayoral Forum

**Date:** 30 August 2024

**Presented by:** Secretariat

## Mayoral Forum Activities and Engagements – June 2024 to August 2024

### Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide a summary of activities, engagements, and correspondence since the last Mayoral Forum meeting in May 2024.

### Recommendation

**That the Canterbury Mayoral Forum:**

1. **receive the update on Mayoral Forum activities and correspondence since the Forum's last meeting on 31 May 2024.**

### Background

2. A number of activities, meetings, submissions and correspondence occur between Mayoral Forum meetings. This paper summarises these in one place for the Mayoral Forums' convenience.

### Meetings and engagements

3. The following meetings and engagements were held in addition to the regular quarterly meeting schedule:
  - Mayoral Forum meeting with Hon Simon Watts on 11 June
  - Mayoral Forum meeting with Hon Mark Mitchell 13 June
  - Mayoral Forum meeting with Hon Chris Bishop on 2 July
  - Mayoral Forum meeting with Hon Simeon Brown 12 July
  - Presentation of Mayoral Forum submission on the Inquiry into Climate Adaptation to the Finance and Expenditure Committee - 16 July.
4. Summaries of the meetings with Ministers are set out below. In addition to specific topics with each Minister, the lack of investment from Central Government for Canterbury and the South Island was raised at each meeting.

### **Minister Watts – 11 June**

5. The importance of both food and energy security with the Minister and how this relates to emissions reductions was a key topic of conversation. Managed retreat was also discussed, noting the adaptation work the Hurunui District Council was undertaking with its coastal communities. Members also talked about the work that Canterbury farmers are doing in the innovation and emissions reductions, given international expectations about products that can demonstrate reduced carbon footprints. Further, the Forum gave the Minister an update on the work to develop the Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan.

### **Minister Mitchell – 13 June**

6. The meeting was focused on emergency management and recovery from events. The meeting covered the Minister's areas of priority in the portfolio, which are developing world class emergency management legislation and common operating systems and processes throughout the country, building on the South Island system. Members also discussed the significant amount of work to do to protect communities and infrastructure from severe weather events, despite some funding for 'Beyond the Deluge', and the issue of managed retreat.

### **Minister Bishop – 2 July**

7. Resource management and housing issues were discussed with the Minister. The Fast-Track Approvals Bill and upcoming legislation to amend resource management law were a focus of conversation, as was infrastructure and how this can be paid for. A large part of the meeting was devoted to housing, and in particular how land supply, infrastructure development and incentives for councils can enable more housing across the country, not just for cities but also in smaller provincial towns to support economic growth. Transport infrastructure was also discussed, particularly the importance of ferries and connecting the two main islands. The Forum also gave the Minister an update on planned work on a regional energy inventory.

### **Minister Brown – 12 July**

8. The meeting largely focused on the transport and local government portfolios. The Minister discussed the importance of maintaining infrastructure and reducing expenditure, as well how the Roads of National Significance and Roads of Regional Significance will play a role in the pipeline of infrastructure that supports both the North and South Islands. The Mass Rapid Transit proposal for Greater Christchurch was raised as part of this discussion. Funding and financing of local government was also covered, and the range of tools that could be available for this. Reform of water services was discussed, and the ways in which councils could manage their water service delivery under the Local Water Done Well policy. Regional/city deals was also a topic, with the Minister noting a framework was being developed by the Government and would be available soon.

## Correspondence

9. Since the May 2024 meeting the Mayoral Forum wrote to:

- Mayor Neil Brown, Ashburton District Council, advising of the Canterbury Mayoral Forum support of Ashburton District Council's proposed remit for Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) on the Graduated Driver Licensing System – 13 June 2024

10. The Mayoral Forum did not receive any correspondence during this period:

## Submissions

11. The following 3 submissions were made since the May meeting. These submissions are available on the Canterbury Mayoral Forum website: [www.canterburymayors.org.nz](http://www.canterburymayors.org.nz).

- Canterbury Mayoral Forum submission on the Climate Change Commission's 2024 consultations on Aotearoa New Zealand's 2050 emissions reduction target and the fourth emissions budget (2036–2040) [submission](#)
- Canterbury Regional Transport Committee and Canterbury Mayoral Forum joint submission to New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi on the proposed changes to the emergency works investment policies [submission](#)
- Canterbury Mayoral Forum Submission on the New Zealand's second emissions reduction plan discussion document. [submission](#)

## Briefings

12. No briefings have been prepared since the May 2024 meeting.

## Media Releases

13. There have been no media releases since the May 2024 meeting.

## Attachments

- Correspondence

## CANTERBURY Mayoral Forum

*A strong regional economy with resilient, connected communities and a better quality of life, for all.*

13 June 2024

Mayor Neil Brown  
Ashburton District Council  
PO Box 94  
**Ashburton 7740**

Dear Neil

### **LGNZ proposed remit – Graduated Driver Licensing System**

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum (CMF) supports Ashburton District Council's proposed remit for Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) on the Graduated Driver Licensing System. The remit requests LGNZ to facilitate discussion with Hon Simeon Brown and other local councils in advocacy of a review of the changes to the fee structure and to fund additional testing centres in key locations throughout New Zealand.

As you are aware the CMF comprises the eleven Canterbury local authorities. Each member of the CMF has noted their support for this remit.

The councils are Kaikōura, Hurunui, Waimakariri, Selwyn, Ashburton, Timaru, Mackenzie, Waimate and Waitaki District Councils, Christchurch City Council and Canterbury Regional Council.

Yours sincerely



Nigel Bowen  
Chair, Canterbury Mayoral Forum  
Mayor, Timaru District Council

***Mayors standing together for Canterbury.***

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*Ashburton District Council • Canterbury Regional Council • Christchurch City Council • Hurunui District Council  
Kaikōura District Council • Mackenzie District Council • Selwyn District Council • Timaru District Council  
Waimakariri District Council • Waimate District Council • Waitaki District Council*



