



Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board will be held on:

**Date:** Tuesday, 24 June 2025  
**Time:** 7pm  
**Venue:** Memorial Hall Wyndham  
44 Balaclava Street  
Wyndham

---

## **Waihopai Toetoe Community Board Agenda OPEN**

---

### **MEMBERSHIP**

<b>Chairperson</b>	Pam Yorke
<b>Deputy chairperson</b>	Denise Fodie
<b>Members</b>	Emily Butters
	Fiona McCabe
	John McIntyre
	George Stevenson
	Andrea Straith
	Councillor Julie Keast

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

<b>Committee advisor</b>	Fiona Dunlop
<b>Community partnership leader</b>	Karen Purdue

Contact telephone: 0800 732 732  
Postal address: PO Box 903, Invercargill 9840  
Email: [emailsdc@southlanddc.govt.nz](mailto:emailsdc@southlanddc.govt.nz)  
Website: [www.southlanddc.govt.nz](http://www.southlanddc.govt.nz)

**Full agendas are available on Council's website**  
**[www.southlanddc.govt.nz](http://www.southlanddc.govt.nz)**

---

**Note:** The reports contained within this agenda are for consideration and should not be construed as Council policy unless and until adopted. Should Members require further information relating to any reports, please contact the relevant manager, Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.





## Health and safety

**Toilets** – The location of the toilets will be advised at the meeting.

**Earthquake** – Drop, cover and hold applies in this situation and, if necessary, once the shaking has stopped we will evacuate the building to a safe location.

**Evacuation** – Should there be an evacuation for any reason please exit via the exits indicated at the venue.

**Phones** – Please turn your mobile devices to silent mode.

**Recording** - These proceedings may be recorded for the purpose of live video, both live streaming and downloading. By remaining in this meeting, you are consenting to being filmed for viewing by the public.

---

## Community board terms of reference

<b>TYPE OF COMMITTEE</b>	Community board (board)
<b>RESPONSIBLE TO</b>	Boards are responsible to Council  Each board will also have relationships with Council committees (these committees are outlined in the delegations manual).
<b>SUBCOMMITTEES</b>	Some subcommittees will report to community boards – these are outlined in section 8.5 of the delegations manual.
<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	Oreti and Waihopai Toetoe boards have seven members elected by the local authority triennial elections plus a member appointed by Council. All other boards have six members plus a member appointed by Council.  The chairperson is elected by the board. Councillors who are not appointed to boards can only remain for the public section of the board meeting. They cannot stay for the public excluded section unless the board agrees.
<b>FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS</b>	Every second month, but up to 12 ordinary meetings a year with the approval of the chief executive.
<b>QUORUM</b>	Not less than four members
<b>THE ROLE OF COMMUNITY BOARDS</b>	<p><b>Governance</b></p> <p>Elected members are responsible for providing leadership, setting direction and for overseeing performance (at a high level).</p> <p>The chief executive and staff are responsible for management activities including the allocation of resources, overseeing the day to day operations of the community board, providing policy advice and implementing governance decisions.</p> <p><b>Roles outlined in the Local Government Act 2002</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• appoint a chairperson and deputy chairperson</li> <li>• represent, and act as an advocate for, the interests of its community</li> <li>• consider and report on all matters referred to it by the territorial authority, or any matter of interest or concern to the board</li> <li>• maintain an overview of services provided by the territorial authority within the community</li> <li>• prepare an annual submission to the territorial authority for expenditure within the community</li> <li>• communicate with community organisations and special interest groups within the community</li> <li>• undertake any other responsibilities that are delegated to it by the territorial authority.</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Additional roles of boards</b></p> <p><b>Community wellbeing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of local communities</li> <li>b) monitor the overall well-being of local communities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Community leadership</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) to provide leadership to local communities on the strategic issues and opportunities that they face</li> <li>b) identify key issues and opportunities that will affect the future of the board's community and work with Council staff and other local representatives to facilitate multi-agency collaborative opportunities</li> <li>c) promote a shared vision for the board's community and develop and promote ways to work with others to achieve positive outcomes</li> <li>d) provide a local community perspective on Council's long term plan key performance indicators and levels of service as detailed in the long term plan, and on local expenditure, rating impacts and priorities</li> <li>e) develop and manage community board plans including keeping these up to date and relevant to community needs and aspirations.</li> </ul> <p><b>Engagement and relationships</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) to develop relationships and communicate with key community organisations, special interest groups, residents and businesses within the community.</li> </ul> <p><b>Advocacy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) as part of the long term plan or annual plan process, prepare a submission to Council on the proposed levels of service, income and expenditure within the community of interest</li> <li>b) as part of the long term plan or annual plan process, outline the relative priorities for the delivery of District services and levels of service within the board area (Council sets the levels of service for <b>District Activities<sup>(i)</sup></b> if a board seeks a higher level of service, they need to recommend that to Council, and the higher level of service will need to be funded in an appropriate way (locally).</li> </ul> <p><b>Local activities</b></p> <p><b>For local activities<sup>(ii)</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) recommend to Council levels of service<sup>(iii)</sup> and budgets for local activities, having regard to Council budgets in the long term plan or annual plan process</li> <li>b) recommend to Council rates, user charges and fees to fund local activities</li> </ul>
--	---

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c) recommend to Council or a relevant committee the approval of project definitions or business cases and procurement plans for capital expenditure over \$300,000</li> <li>d) recommend to Council or a relevant committee unbudgeted capital expenditure</li> <li>e) monitor the services Council delivers its communities and assess the extent these services meet community needs or the expected level of service</li> <li>f) support the development of local management plans where required by statute or in support of the district plan, or other plans (reserves, harbours, or other community facilities).</li> </ul> <p>These plans should then be recommended to Council. There are times when local management plans<sup>(iv)</sup> should not be developed</p> <p><b>Environmental management and spatial planning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) provide comment on resource consent applications referred to the community board for comment</li> <li>b) to make recommendations to Council about bylaws and about enforcing bylaws within the community, having regard to the need to maintain consistency across the District</li> <li>c) provide advice to Council and its committees on any matter of interest or concern to the community board in relation to the sale of alcohol, where statutory ability exists to seek such feedback</li> <li>d) provide input into regulatory activities not otherwise specified above, where process allows</li> <li>e) recommend to Council initiating an appeal to the environment court on decisions relating to resource consent applications that the board has made submissions on</li> <li>f) provide support to the development of community plans for a civil defence emergency and the recovery afterwards.</li> </ul>
<b>DELEGATIONS</b>	<p><b>In exercising the delegated powers, boards will operate within:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) policies, plans, standards or guidelines that have been established and approved by Council</li> <li>b) the needs of the local communities</li> <li>c) the approved budgets for the activity.</li> </ul> <p><b>Boards shall have the following delegated powers and be accountable to Council for the exercising of these powers<sup>(v)</sup>.</b></p> <p><b>Community wellbeing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) develop local strategies to improve areas of wellbeing (where a need has been identified)</li> </ul>

	<p>b) to develop local community outcomes that reflect the desired goals for their community or place.</p> <p><b>Community board plans</b></p> <p>a) Regularly review and update the community board plan to keep the plan relevant.</p> <p><b>Decisions on locally funded assets and services</b></p> <p>a) accept donations of a local asset (e.g. a gas barbeque, park bench, etc) with a value of less than \$30,000</p> <p>b) approve project definitions or business cases for approved budgeted capital expenditure up to \$300,000.</p> <p><b>Unbudgeted expenditure</b></p> <p>a) approve unbudgeted operating expenditure for local activities of up to \$20,000</p> <p>b) approve up to a \$20,000 increase in the projected cost of a budgeted capital works project/item that is included in the annual plan or long term plan</p> <p>c) authority to delegate to the chief executive, when approving a project definition or business case, over-expenditure of up to \$10,000 for capital expenditure against the budget detailed in the annual plan or long term plan.</p> <p><b>Leases and licenses</b></p> <p>In relation to all leases and licences of land and buildings for local activities within their own area, and subject to any relevant legislation and/or policy requirement, on behalf of Council;</p> <p>a) accept the highest tenders for rentals more than \$10,000</p> <p>b) approve the preferential allocation<sup>(vi)</sup> of leases and licenses where the rental is \$10,000 or more per annum.</p> <p><b>Community assistance</b></p> <p>a) establish a system for prioritising allocations, based on criteria provided by Council</p> <p>b) grant funds from the Community Partnership Fund</p> <p>c) allocate bequests or grants generated locally, consistent with the terms of the bequest or grant fund.</p> <p><b>Northern Southland development fund</b></p> <p>a) the Northern board can make decisions regarding funding applications to the Northern Southland development fund.</p>
<b>LIMITS TO DELEGATIONS</b>	<p>Boards have no financial or decision-making delegations other than those specifically delegated by Council.</p> <p>Boards shall only expend funding on purposes for which that funding was originally raised and in accordance with the budgets approved by Council through its long term plan or annual plan.</p>

	<p>In accordance with the provisions of section 39(2) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2022 the board may not incur expenditure in excess of the approved budget.</p> <p><b>Matters that are not delegated</b></p> <p>Council has not delegated to boards the power to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) make a rate or bylaw</li> <li>b) acquire, hold or dispose of property</li> <li>c) direct, appoint, suspend or remove staff</li> <li>d) engage or enter into contracts and agreements and financial commitments</li> <li>e) institute an action for recovery of any amount</li> <li>f) issue and police building consents, notices, authorisations and requirements under acts, statutes, regulations, bylaws and the like;</li> <li>g) institute legal proceedings other than the delegation to recommend to Council the initiating of an appeal to the environment court on decisions in respect to resource consent applications on which the board has made submissions.</li> </ul>
<b>CONTACT WITH MEDIA</b>	<p>The board chairperson is the authorised spokesperson for the board in all matters where the board has authority or a particular interest.</p> <p>Board members, including the chairperson, do not have delegated authority to speak to the media or outside agencies on behalf of Council on matters outside of the board's delegations.</p> <p>The leadership team member will manage the formal communications between the board and its constituents and for the board in the exercise of its business. Correspondence with central government, other local government agencies or official agencies will only take place through Council staff and will be undertaken under the name of Council.</p>
<b>REPORTING</b>	<p>Boards are unincorporated statutory bodies which are elected to represent the communities they serve.</p> <p>Copies of board meeting minutes are retained by Council.</p>

- (i) **District activities include:**
- a) community leadership at a district level (including district community grants)
  - b) wastewater
  - c) waste services
  - d) water supply
  - e) district open spaces (parks and reserves)
  - f) roading
  - g) district community services (library services, cemeteries, community housing and heritage/culture)
  - h) district community facilities (public toilets, library buildings, offices and amenity buildings)

- i) environmental services (building services, resource management, environmental health, animal services, emergency management)
    - j) stormwater
    - k) corporate support services
  - (ii) **Local activities include:**
    - a) community leadership at a local board level (including local community grants)
    - b) local community facilities (halls and other amenity buildings within Council's overarching policy for community facilities)
    - c) water facilities (boat ramps, wharves, jetties and harbour facilities)
    - d) local open spaces (parks and reserves, playgrounds and streetscapes)
    - e) parking limits, footpaths and streetlights
    - f) Te Anau/Manapouri Airport (Fiordland board)
    - g) Stewart Island Electricity Supply Authority (SIESA) (Stewart Island/Rakiura board)
    - h) for the above two local activities only
      - recommend levels of service and annual budget to Council or a relevant committee
      - monitor the performance and delivery of the service
    - i) naming reserves, structures and commemorative places
    - j) authority to decide upon requests from the community, regarding names of reserves, the placement of structures and commemorative places.
    - k) naming roads
    - l) authority to decide on the naming for public roads, private roads and rights of way
    - m) assisting the chief executive by providing comment (through the board chairperson) to consider and determine temporary road closures applications where there are objections to the proposed road closure.
  - (iii) Levels of service is a term in asset management referring to the quality of a given service. Defining and measuring levels of service is a key activity in developing infrastructure asset management plans. Levels of service may be tied to physical performance of assets or be defined by customer expectation and satisfaction.
  - (iv) Local management plans should not be developed where powers:
    - a) have been delegated to Council staff
    - b) would have significance beyond the board's area or otherwise involves a matter of national importance (Section 6 Resource Management Act 1991)
    - c) involve the alienation of any part of a proposed or existing esplanade reserve by way of width reduction, easement, lease or otherwise.
  - (v) Local Government Act 2002, s.53
  - (vi) A preferential allocation is when there is a preference that a lease or license is given to a particular person or group, rather than having an open process. For example, a neighbouring land owner or a community group that use a building may be asked if they want to lease the land/building, rather than giving the wider public the opportunity to tender or apply.
-



---

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	PAGE
<b>PROCEDURAL</b>	
1 Apologies	11
2 Leave of absence	11
3 Conflict of interest	11
4 Extraordinary/urgent items	11
5 Confirmation of minutes	12
6 Public participation	11
<b>REPORTS</b>	
7.1 Community partnership fund - funding applications March 2025 funding round	19
7.2 Community pools - request for allocation of grant	153
7.3 Contract renewal agreed levels of service	179
7.4 Update on 2025 triennial election	201
7.5 Community board reporting	207
7.6 Councillor update	219
7.7 Chairperson's report	225
7.8 Next meeting	227

---

**1 Apologies**

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

**2 Leave of absence**

At the close of the agenda no requests for leave of absence had been received.

**3 Conflict of interest**

Community board members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision-making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

**4 Extraordinary/urgent items**

To consider, and if thought fit, to pass a resolution to permit the community board to consider any further items which do not appear on the agenda of this meeting and/or the meeting to be held with the public excluded.

Such resolution is required to be made pursuant to Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, and the chairperson must advise:

- (i) the reason why the item was not on the agenda, and
- (ii) the reason why the discussion of this item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

Section 46A(7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (as amended) states:

"Where an item is not on the agenda for a meeting,-

- (a) that item may be discussed at that meeting if-
  - (i) that item is a minor matter relating to the general business of the local authority; and
  - (ii) the presiding member explains at the beginning of the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public, that the item will be discussed at the meeting; but
- (b) no resolution, decision or recommendation may be made in respect of that item except to refer that item to a subsequent meeting of the local authority for further discussion."

**5 Confirmation of minutes**

5.1 Meeting minutes of Waihopai Toetoe Community Board, 29 April 2025

**6 Public participation**

Notification to speak is required by 12noon at least one clear day before the meeting. Further information is available at [www.southlanddc.govt.nz](http://www.southlanddc.govt.nz) or by phoning 0800 732 732.



---

# Waihopai Toetoe Community Board

## OPEN MINUTES

---

---

Minutes of a meeting of Waihopai Toetoe Community Board held in the Memorial Hall Wyndham, 44 Balaclava Street, Wyndham on Tuesday, 29 April 2025 at 7pm. (7pm – 8.12pm)

---

### PRESENT

<b>Chairperson</b>	Pam Yorke
<b>Deputy chairperson</b>	Denise Fodie
<b>Members</b>	Emily Butters
	Fiona McCabe
	John McIntyre
	George Stevenson (via video link)
	Andrea Straith
	Councillor Julie Keast

### IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Paul Duffy  
Committee advisor - Fiona Dunlop  
Community partnership leader - Karen Purdue  
GM – Community and Customer Wellbeing – Sam Marshall

---

**1 Apologies**

There were no apologies.

**2 Leave of absence**

There were no requests for leave of absence.

**3 Conflict of interest**

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

**4 Extraordinary/urgent items**

There were no extraordinary/urgent items.

**5 Confirmation of minutes**

**Resolution**

Moved Andrea Straith, seconded Fiona McCabe **and resolved:**

**That the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board confirms the minutes of the meeting held on 25 February 2025 as a true and correct record of that meeting.**

**6 Public participation**

There was no public participation.

**Reports**

**7.1 Financial Report for the period ended 28 February 2025**

**Record No: R/25/3/12044**

Community Partnership Leader – Karen Purdue was in attendance for this item.

The financial report for the period ended 28 February 2025 were presented to the Board advising of the financial results.

**Resolution**

Moved Cr Keast, seconded Andrea Straith **and resolved:**

**That the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board:**

- a) **Receives the report titled “Financial Report for the period ended 28 February 2025”.**

## 7.2 Seaward Downs recreation reserve surplus to requirements - Recommendation to Council

**Record No: R/24/12/73783**

Community Partnership Leader – Karen Purdue and Senior Property Advisor – Megan Cowley (via video link) were in attendance for this item.

The purpose of the report was for the Board to decide whether to make a recommendation to Council to declare the Seaward Downs recreation reserve as surplus to requirements and to commence the process of disposing of the property.

It was noted that staff had been requested to undertake a land history report of the Seaward Downs recreation reserve and to provide options regarding a potential disposal of the land and improvements.

The land was a former school site set apart for a domain and classified as a recreation reserve. It was vested 'in trust' in the Southland County Council in 1983.

Should the Board consider disposal, then the site must be returned to the Crown. If the Crown then sell the site, Council can apply for a share of the net sale proceeds.

### Resolution

Moved Andrea Straith, seconded Emily Butters **and resolved:**

**That the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board:**

- a) receives the report titled "Seaward Downs recreation reserve surplus to requirements - Recommendation to Council".
- b) determines that this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of Section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002.
- c) determines that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with Section 79 of the act determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.
- d) agrees to recommend to Council that the Seaward Downs recreation reserve (Section 180E Edendale Settlement) located at 710 Edendale Seaward Downs Road, Seaward Downs, is surplus to requirements.
- e) agrees to recommend to Council that:
  - (1) staff initiate the disposal process for the property being Section 180E Edendale Settlement and apply to the Crown for the 'vesting in trust' in the Council be revoked and,
  - (2) staff apply to the Crown for the recreation reserve status to be revoked and,

(3) staff make application to the Crown for a percentage of the sale proceeds if the land is sold.

- f) agrees to recommend to Council that potential net sale proceeds (if any) are transferred to Waihopai-Toetoe community board to be used for capital expenditure or projects on reserves, parks and open spaces.

### 7.3 Community board reporting

**Record No: R/25/4/15807**

Community partnership leader Karen - Purdue was in attendance for this item.

Mrs Purdue took the board through the community leadership, operational and updates in the Board's area and across the district.

#### **Resolution**

Moved John McIntyre, seconded Fiona McCabe **and resolved:**

**That the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board:**

- a) receives the report titled "Community board reporting".

### 7.4 Councillor update

**Record No: R/25/4/14410**

Councillor Keast took the Board through the report which highlighted items that the Finance and Assurance Committee and Council had considered at their meetings from 29 January 2025 to 19 March 2025.

#### **Resolution**

Moved Cr Keast, seconded Andrea Straith **and resolved:**

**That the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board:**

- a) receives the report titled "Councillor update".

### 7.5 Chairperson's report

**Record No: R/25/4/16111**

Chair Yorke gave a verbal report to the Board on various issues and particularly highlighted:

- That there had been a lovely afternoon tea at the Gorge Road Country Club on Saturday 12 April 2025 with Mayor Rob presenting to Gay Munro her Community Service Award.
- Some progress has been made at the Wyndham Camping Ground and there had been work undertaken which included:
  - the grounds being tidied and rubbish removed,
  - carpets removed in the cabins,

- water blasting undertaken on the concrete floors inside the building,
- exterior facial boards water blasted, along with outside toilets and fences
- painting to be undertaken after Easter, and
- A lease prepared for interested parties.
- Speed signs for our towns have been purchased.
- Thank you to Denise and Andrea for attending the Chairs evening held earlier in the month at Winton.
- Local Water Done Well consultation - public meeting to be held on Wednesday 7 May 2025 and noted that consultation was now closing on 21 May 2025
- Awaiting updated time frames for the Curio Bay Masterplan.
- Consultation with schools is underway in Tokanui and Wyndham around playground planning.
- Positive feedback on the new heaters at the Tokanui Hall.

Following discuss on the future of the Wyndham Camping Group, the board would be agreeing to delegate to the Chair of the Board and Board member Andrea Straith the authority to make decisions in relation to the maintenance and future operation of the Wyndham Camping Ground including the tenure agreement to be offered to potential operators to a maximum of three years.

#### Resolution

Moved Emily Butters, seconded Fiona McCabe **recommendation a and a new b (as indicated) and resolved:**

**That the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board:**

- a) receives the report titled "Chairperson's report".
- b) agrees to delegate to the Chair of the Board and Board member Andrea Straith the authority to make decisions in relation to the maintenance and future operation of the Wyndham Camping Ground including the tenure agreement to be offered to potential operators to a maximum of three years.

#### 7.6 Next meeting

**Record No: R/25/4/16117**

Committee advisor – Fiona Dunlop was in attendance for this item.

The Board noted that their next meeting is to be at 7pm on Tuesday 24 June 2025.

#### Resolution

Moved Chairperson Yorke, seconded Andrea Straith **and resolved:**

**That the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board:**

- a) receives the report titled "Next meeting".
- b) **confirms that the next meeting of the Board is at 7pm on Tuesday 24 June 2025 to be held in the Memorial Hall Wyndham, 44 Balaclava Street, Wyndham.**

The meeting concluded at 8.12pm.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD AT A  
MEETING OF THE WAIHOPAI TOETOE COMMUNITY  
BOARD HELD ON TUESDAY 29 APRIL 2025.

**DATE:**.....

**CHAIRPERSON:**.....





## Community partnership fund - funding applications March 2025 funding round

Record no: R/25/5/19361

Author: Gordon Crombie, Community liaison officer

Approved by: Sam Marshall, Group manager customer and community wellbeing

☒ Decision

☐ Recommendation

☐ Information

### Purpose

- 1 The purpose of this report is for the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board to allocate funding for the March 2025 round of the Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund.

### Executive summary

- 2 A total of four applications have been received for the March 2025 funding round of the Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund. The applications are included as an attachment to this report. Please note that the attachment to the applications (including financials) are not attached to this report as they contain information sensitive to the applicant's privacy. These attachments were provided to the community board with the applications for their perusal prior to the meeting.
- 3 The Waihopai Toetoe Community Board has \$10,357 available to allocate through the Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund in this second round of the 2024/2025 financial year.
- 4 A total of \$10,700 in requests have been received for this round of funding.

## Recommendation

That the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board:

- a) **Receives the report titled “Community partnership fund - funding applications March 2025 funding round”.**
- b) **Determines that this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of Section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002.**
- c) **Determines that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with Section 79 of the act determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.**
- d) **Receives applications from the following:**
  - 1. **Southern Cancer Society Trust**
  - 2. **Wyndham Pony Club**
  - 3. **Miharo Murihiku Trust**
  - 4. **Menzies College**
- e) **Approves/declines a grant of \$700 to the Southern Cancer Society Trust for assistance with costs of the voucher assistance for cancer patients programme.**
- f) **Approves/declines a grant of \$2,000 to the Wyndham Pony Club for assistance with cost of games equipment.**
- g) **Approves/declines a grant of \$5,000 to the Miharo Murihiku Trust for assistance with costs of volunteer uniforms.**
- h) **Approves/declines a grant of \$3,000 to Menzies College for assistance with costs of the ‘See Me’ mural project.**

## Background

- 5 Southland District Council’s community assistance activity seeks to contribute to a District of ‘proud, connected communities that have an attractive and affordable lifestyle’ by enabling Southland’s communities to be a desirable place to live, grow up, work and run a business, raise a family and enjoy a safe and satisfying life. Through providing financial assistance by way of grant funding, community groups and individuals are supported to undertake their desired activities.
- 6 A review of community assistance was completed in early 2019, which resulted in the establishment of the Community Partnership Fund whereby the nine community boards in the District allocate funding directly to their communities.

7 The Waihopai Toetoe Community Board set the following criteria for their Community Partnership Fund:

- consideration will be given to all funding requests; however, requests must be not for profit and demonstrate community benefit
- the board will give preference to applications that directly benefit the community board area and align to the community board plan outcomes
- applications for salaries and operating costs will not be considered
- there is no cap on the amount applicants can request
- co-funding is preferable but not essential. This will be assessed on a case by case basis
- more than one quote is preferable but if it is not possible to get more than one quote then an explanation why will be sufficient
- applicants may be requested to speak to the board about their funding request
- applicants do not have to be a legal entity to apply
- the board can grant money 'subject to the balance of the funding being secured'.

Criteria	Southern Cancer Society Trust	Wyndham Pony Club	Miharo Murihiku Trust	Menzies College
Not for profit and demonstrates community benefit	yes	yes	yes	yes
Benefits community board area	yes	yes	yes	yes
Salaries and/or operating costs	no	no	no	no
Co-funding	yes	yes	yes	yes
More than one quote	n/a	no	n/a	n/a

<b>Applications received</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Total amount requested</b>	<b>\$10,700</b>
<b>Total amount available for distribution</b>	<b>\$10,357</b>

**1 Southern Cancer Society Trust**

Request assistance towards costs of the voucher assistance for cancer patients programme.

Total project cost **\$5,000**

Amount requested **\$700**

## 2 Wyndham Pony Club

Request assistance towards the cost of games equipment.

Total project cost \$2,500

Amount requested \$2,000

## 3 Miharo Murihiku Trust

Request assistance towards the cost of volunteer uniforms.

Total project cost \$278,000

Amount requested \$5,000

## 4 Menzies College

Request assistance towards the cost of the 'See Me' mural project.

Total project cost \$5,926

Amount requested \$3,000

### Previous funding received from applicants

Applicant name	Previous funding	Accountabilities received
Southern Cancer Society Trust	Not applicable	
Wyndham Pony Club	March 2021 - \$6,026 – container and solar powered lights	yes
Miharo Murihiku Trust	Not applicable	
Menzies College	Not applicable – previous applications were from other arms of Menzies College	

### Issues

- 8 There are no issues identified.

### Factors to consider

#### Legal and statutory requirements

- 9 There are no legal or statutory requirements to consider.

### **Community views**

- 10 The board, as representatives from the Waihopai Toetoe area, will consider each application and how it benefits their communities and aligns with the community board's vision and community outcomes.

Vision – a united, engaged community where people are valued, assets are nurtured and the heritage and environment is respected.

Community outcomes –

- a thriving, healthy and safe community with access to quality facilities, amenities and services (1)
- the community is connected and engaged (2)
- the unique, natural environment is healthy and protected (3)
- the communities have the opportunity to celebrate their history and heritage (4)

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Application purpose</b>	<b>Community plan outcomes</b>
Southern Cancer Society Trust	Voucher assistance for cancer patients	Meets outcome 1
Wyndham Pony Club	Games equipment	Meets outcomes 1 & 2
Miharo Murihiku Trust	Polyfest	Meets outcomes 1, 2 & 4
Menzies College	'See Me' mural project	Meets outcomes 1, 2, & 4

### **Costs and funding**

- 11 The Waihopai Toetoe Community Board has \$10,357 available to allocate through the Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund in this second round of the 2024/2025 financial year.
- 12 There is a total of \$10,700 in requests for this funding round.

### **Policy implications**

- 13 There are no policy implications.

### **Analysis**

#### **Options considered**

- 14 The options for consideration are to allocate funding pursuant to the funding criteria set by the community board or decline the applications.

## Analysis of Options

**Option 1 – approves and allocates funding pursuant to the funding criteria set by the community board.**

<i>Advantages</i>	<i>Disadvantages</i>
. support community groups to achieve local initiatives.	. there are no disadvantages.

**Option 2 – Declines the applications.**

<i>Advantages</i>	<i>Disadvantages</i>
. there are no advantages.	. no funds awarded could hinder the progress of community led development due to lack of financial support . as funds come from rates there may be a negative perception from the community.

## Assessment of significance

- 15 This is not considered significant.

## Recommended option

- 16 The recommended option is 'Option 1 – approves and allocates funding pursuant to the funding criteria set by the community board.'

## Next steps

- 17 Inform the applicants of the allocation decisions.

## Attachments

- A CPF Application - Southern Cancer Society Trust - March 2025 - redacted
- B CPF Application - Wyndham Pony Club - March 2025 - redacted
- C CPF Application - Miharo Murihiku Trust - March 2025 - redacted
- D CPF Application - Menzies College - March 2025 - redacted

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round****Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form****Application No. WaihopaiCPF001MAR25 From Southern Cancer Society Trust**

Form Submitted 25 Mar 2025, 3:10PM NZDT

**Applicant details**

\* indicates a required field

**Applicant details****Applicant name \***

Southern Cancer Society Trust

**Street Address**149 Spey St  
Invercargill Southland 9810 New Zealand**Postal Address (if different from above)****Phone Number \***

03 218 4108

Must be a New Zealand phone number.

**Email \***

heather.locke@southerncancer.org.nz

Must be an email address.

**Purpose/main activity of your organisation?**

Any person, any cancer. The Cancer Society is the lead NGO dedicated to reducing the impact and incidence of cancer and advocating for the best cancer care for everyone in our



**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round**  
**Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF001MAR25 From Southern Cancer Society Trust**  
Form Submitted 25 Mar 2025, 3:10PM NZDT

New Zealand. The Cancer Society is committed to working with our community by providing our core services of Patient Support, Cancer Prevention, and Research.

**How many members belong to your club/organisation?**

700

Must be a number.

**Contact details for this application**

Please give the names of two people who can be contacted if further information is required. The first contact must be the person who filled out this form. Under the Privacy Act (1993) consent from these people must be given before their details are recorded here.

**Name 1 \***

Heather Locke

**Phone Number \***

Must be a New Zealand phone number.

**Email \***

heather.locke@southerncancer.org.nz

Must be an email address.

**Name 2 \***

Jonet Warhurst

**Phone Number \***

Must be a New Zealand phone number.

**Email \***

jonet.warhurst@southerncancer.org.nz

Must be an email address.

**Application details**

**\* Indicates a required field**

**Project details**

Please assume that we know nothing about your project. Give as much information as possible.

**What are you applying for? (pick one) \***

- ☐ The development of community facilities or amenities
- ☐ Sport & recreational opportunities
- ☒ Community programmes, activities or events
- ☐ Operational costs
- ☐ Other

## Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round

**Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF001MAR25 From Southern Cancer Society Trust**  
 Form Submitted 25 Mar 2025, 3:10PM NZDT

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Please provide a short title for your project: \***  
 Voucher Assistance for Cancer Patients

**What is the location of your project? \***  
 Waihopai Toetoe area

**What does your organisation want funding for? (please describe fully) \***  
 We would like to purchase grocery and petrol vouchers, which we distribute to local cancer patients who need a bit of financial support, often due to lost wages from illness or getting treatment in Dunedin Hospital. Many of our patients describe their heartbreaking decision between stopping work to get treatment, or paying bills. Often they choose paying bills. This is a critical time for their financial and mental wellbeing, and this temporary assistance with food for their family and petrol for their drives to and from appointments is a vital component of our service.

What is your project? What specific purpose will the funding be used for?

**How will your project benefit the Waihopai Toetoes community? \***  
 Cancer is the #1 killer in New Zealand and looking out for resident patients in our primary concern. When they either call or come see us in our Southland office, patients are helped from Day One. Cancer Society offers them expert advice on the healthcare sector, what to expect, information on their specific cancer, free counselling, free drives to appointments, free accommodation in Dunedin while in hospital.... and grocery and petrol vouchers to help make ends meet.

i.e. improvements/events that will enable the community to be more connected, or improvements to a facility that will enable it to run more efficiently etc

**Project start date**

Must be a date.

**Project end date**

Must be a date.

### Community Board plan alignment

The Waihopai Toetoe Community Board plan document can be found [here](#). The Waihopai Toetoe Community Board outcomes can be found on page 8. Please indicate below if you think your project aligns with any of these outcomes.

**Do you think your project aligns with any of the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board's community board plan outcomes? (please tick all that apply) \***

- ☒ A thriving, healthy & safe community with access to quality facilities, amenities and services
- ☐ Our community is connected and engaged
- ☐ Our unique, natural environment is healthy & protected
- ☐ Our communities have the opportunity to celebrate their history and heritage
- ☐ N/A

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round****Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF001MAR25 From Southern Cancer Society Trust**  
Form Submitted 25 Mar 2025, 3:10PM NZDT**What is the difference you expect to make through your work or project?**

Please describe up to **two** outcomes (i.e. changes or differences) you would like your work or project to achieve.

**Outcome 1 \***

Our patients do not suffer financial stress due to their diagnosis and subsequent illness.

**Outcome 2**

Our patients do not end their treatment prematurely due to financial constraint.

**How will you know you are achieving the above outcome(s)?**

- 1) Patients receiving this financial aid
- 2) Patients reporting less stress
- 3) Patients reporting that their treatment is going well and/or complete
- 4) Patients giving feedback that the vouchers made a difference.

What data/information will you collect that shows your progress?

**Are there any similar projects or services in your area?**

☐ yes

☒ no

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Community benefits**

This section enables us to gather useful data on the different groups of people in our communities that will benefit from our grants.

**Approximately how many people in the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board area will benefit directly from your project? \***

40

Must be a number.

**Additional comments on numbers benefiting:**

This number reflects patients and their families

**What age group will predominantly benefit? \***

- ☒ All ☐ Early years (pre-natal - 4yrs) ☐ Children (5-13yrs) ☐ Youth (14-24yrs) ☐ Adults (25-64yrs) ☐ Older persons (65+yrs)

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Does your project mainly focus on any of the following:**

- ☒ Parents/families ☐ People with a disability ☐ Rural communities ☐ At risk families ☐ People who are not currently participating and those experiencing barriers to participation ☐ Volunteers ☐ At risk youth ☐ New migrants ☐ Refugees ☐ High needs populations

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round****Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form****Application No. WaihopaiCPF001MAR25 From Southern Cancer Society Trust**

Form Submitted 25 Mar 2025, 3:10PM NZDT

**The following are the main ethnic groups in our region - please indicate who will predominantly benefit? \***

☒ All ☐ NZ European ☐ Maori ☐ Pacific peoples ☐ Asian ☐ Middle Eastern/Latin American/African ☐ Other

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Building & facility information**

**Does your application relate to a building or facility?**

☐ Yes

☒ No

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Project Budget & Financial Details**

**\* indicates a required field**

**Financial details****Bank Account \***

Account Name: Southern Cancer Society Trust

Account Number:

Must be a valid New Zealand bank account format.

**Please upload verification of your organisation's bank account details \***

Filename: ANZ - Confirmation of Bank account details.pdf

File size: 254.3 kB

Filename: ANZ Bank Deposit slip-JP 2021.pdf

File size: 15.1 kB

i.e. a bank coded deposit slip or bank verified account details

**Are you registered for GST? \***

☒ Yes

☐ No

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**If yes, GST number:**

144641744

Must be a number.

**Please upload your organisation's latest financial statements \***

Filename: Cancer Society of NZ Otago Southland Financial Statements 2024.pdf

File size: 742.8 kB

**Please upload a current bank statement from your organisation \***

Filename: OS Bank Statement 25.03.2025\_Redacted.pdf

File size: 44.8 kB

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round**  
**Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF001MAR25 From Southern Cancer Society Trust**  
 Form Submitted 25 Mar 2025, 3:10PM NZDT

**Total project cost \***

5000

Must be a number.

**Amount you are requesting from the Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund? \***

700

Must be a number.

**Please indicate your current level of reserves: \***

\$0.00

Must be a dollar amount.

At the time of this application

**Please comment on your level of reserves and if they cannot be used towards this project, explain why: \***

As an essential service, we are required to keep 6 months' worth of reserves for 3 reasons: another pandemic-like event that hinders our fundraising abilities, keeping enough payroll should the charity need to wind down, and if our owned buildings require emergency maintenance.

**Briefly describe any voluntary effort or donated materials provided for this project:**

While we have a large volunteer base that helps us with baking, driving, and events, we do not have donated time for our Voucher Assistance.

**How do you envisage paying for any future operational costs for this project?**

We have a small budget for our vouchers, but with cancer diagnoses and cost of living both increasing, the burden on this programme means we're always overspent. We often run out even when there's need.

**Budget**

List all the income you plan to get towards your project e.g. grants/donations, your own funds, fundraising. **Also include the grant amount you are requesting for this application (income and expenditure totals must match).**

If you are GST registered please provide figures that EXCLUDE GST. If you are NOT GST registered please provide figures that INCLUDE GST.

Income	\$	Expenditure	\$
Donations	\$4,300.00		
This grant	\$700.00		

## Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round

### Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form

Application No. WaihopaiCPF001MAR25 From Southern Cancer Society Trust

Form Submitted 25 Mar 2025, 3:10PM NZDT

--	--	--	--

### Budget Totals

The income and expenditure totals should balance/match.

Total Income Amount	Total Expenditure Amount	Income - Expenditure
\$5,000.00 This number/amount is calculated.	\$0.00 This number/amount is calculated.	\$5,000.00 This number/amount is calculated.

### Quotes

You should obtain two quotes where practical. If this is not possible, please just explain why below.

#### Have you sought at least two quotes?

☐ yes

☒ no

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

#### Please upload quote(s)

No files have been uploaded

### Quotes

#### If you have not provided more than one quote, please explain why:

Vouchers are sold as is, no quotes are given.

### Supporting documentation

#### Supporting documentation

Attach any other relevant information, e.g. covering letter, letters of support, or other documents.

#### Attach documents here

Filename: Patient Testimonials- Grocery Vouchers.pdf  
File size: 113.2 kB

### Feedback

#### Feedback

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round**  
**Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF001MAR25 From Southern Cancer Society Trust**  
 Form Submitted 25 Mar 2025, 3:10PM NZDT

**How did you find out about the Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund?**

☐ Have applied previously ☐ Southland District Council website ☐ Council or Community Board Facebook page ☐ Radio ☐ Newspaper ☐ Online ☐ Referred by another funder ☐ Word of mouth ☒ Council staff ☐ Other

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Please rate the following statements**

**The time required to prepare and complete the application was reasonable**

☒ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree ☐ N/A

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**The application process is very straightforward**

☒ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree ☐ N/A

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Please provide us with any suggestions about any improvements we could make to the application process**

None at all. However please note that as of April 1 2025, we will be called Southern Cancer Society Trust (no longer Cancer Society of NZ, Otago & Southland Division). There is no change to our charity or its services, we are simply joining with the Canterbury & West Coast Division to better serve our patients and cut down on replicated resources. Both our old and new bank details have been supplied.

Thank you for this opportunity to support the Waihopai Toetoe cancer community!

**Declaration**

\* indicates a required field

**Declaration**

I consent to the Southland District Council collecting personal details provided on this form. The consent is given in accordance with the Privacy Act 2020.

This declaration and authorisation relates to information in this application and attachments that the Southland District Council may hold about your organisation/group now or in the future.

In making this declaration I declare that:

- this application has been submitted with the full knowledge and agreement of the management/governance of my organisation/group;
- the information supplied in this application and any attachments is true and factual;
- any grant received will be used for the purpose for which it was approved.

I authorise Southland District Council to:

- use the information supplied as part of this application and any attachments for the purposes of administration and consideration of this application;
- make any enquiries of third parties, (which may involve discussing information contained in this application);

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round****Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form****Application No. WaihopaiCPF001MAR25 From Southern Cancer Society Trust**

Form Submitted 25 Mar 2025, 3:10PM NZDT

- advertise or publish the name of our organisation/group and the amount of any grant approved if this application is successful, including disclosure of this information to other funding agencies.

I acknowledge that:

- any decision made is final
- Southland District Council has the right to withdraw any grant approved or demand the return of funds already paid if it is discovered that any statement made in this application is incorrect, incomplete or misleading, in a way that may have affected the funding decision.

**I am authorised to complete this application and I have read and understood this declaration and privacy statement:****Name \***

Heather Locke

**Position in organisation \***

Grant and Bequest Specialist

**Date \***

25/03/2025

Must be a date.

**Submitting your form**

There is a review and submit button at the bottom of the navigation box to the right of the screen.

You need to review your form before you submit it - you won't be able to submit your form until all required questions (marked with an \*) are completed.

Once reviewed you can submit your form by clicking on 'submit' at the top of the screen or on the navigation box.

Once submitted, you will receive an email from SmartyGrants acknowledging receipt of the form. If you do not receive this email please check you have clicked the submit button at the top of the form. No further editing of your form or uploading of support material is possible once submitted.

If you have any queries or experience any problems please phone 0800 732 732 or email funding@southlanddc.govt.nz.



**Our mission | Tāhuhu**

Reducing the incidence and impact of cancer in Aotearoa, New Zealand.

**Our promise | Ngā Pou**

Every person every cancer.

**Our Foundation | Tūāpapa**

We are Te Tiriti o Waitangi led and equity-focused.

**Patient Testimonials About Cancer Society Grocery Voucher Assistance**

**Naomi** – “The vouchers have been such a big help. I’m a solo mum and I had to give up work after my diagnosis. It happened really fast. Basically, I was sent to hospital by my GP and was told the next day I was terminal.”

A week after Naomi was diagnosed, her father had a stroke. The chemotherapy, though prolonging her life, makes Naomi very ill.

“I feel nauseated, and I don’t really have an appetite a lot of the time. Then sometimes I feel hungry, but I don’t know what I want. The things I crave, I can’t afford – like grapes, orange juice, or the odd glass of wine.

“There’s little to no support in this country for people going through their cancer journey – I have \$40 a week left over after bills. I was given nine weeks to live back in March. The vouchers have been a huge help, allowing me to buy the essentials but also a treat every now and then.

“I can’t tell you how much this generosity has meant to me. I’m so grateful. This kindness just shows there’s people out there who do care.”

**Amanda** – “I am writing to say thanks to the Cancer Society for helping me and my kids. I have breast cancer and have to give up work while I have chemo because it’s making me so sick. It’s hard to get up every day, pay the bills and buy food. I’m now on a benefit with three kids. I never thought I’d be in a place where I’d have to ask for help. The vouchers I was given brought me to tears. That night, instead of the kids having a tin of spaghetti for the third night in a row, I could make us all a cottage pie filled with veges. I know this seems small, but it was the happiest night we’d had for a long time. Thank you with all my heart.”

**Jill** – the main earner for her family, was unable to work for about nine months while undergoing cancer treatment. “Some months, having an extra \$50 towards the grocery bill helps to offset other costs such as school fees or activities for children.”

**James** – “We were able to give the children a treat and a special birthday dinner that we wouldn’t have been able to.”

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round****Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF002MAR25 From Wyndham Pony Club**

Form Submitted 16 Apr 2025, 9:37AM NZST

**Applicant details****\* indicates a required field****Applicant details****Applicant name \***

Wyndham Pony Club

**Street Address**2 Raglan St  
Wyndham Southland 9831 New Zealand**Postal Address (if different from above)****Phone Number \***

Must be a New Zealand phone number.

**Email \***

Must be an email address.

**Purpose/main activity of your organisation?**

To provide members and the wider equestrian community opportunities to participate in equestrian activities

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round****Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF002MAR25 From Wyndham Pony Club**

Form Submitted 16 Apr 2025, 9:37AM NZST

**How many members belong to your club/organisation?**

16

Must be a number.

**Contact details for this application**

Please give the names of two people who can be contacted if further information is required. The first contact must be the person who filled out this form. Under the Privacy Act (1993) consent from these people must be given before their details are recorded here.

**Name 1 \***

Clare White

**Phone Number \***

Must be a New Zealand phone number.

**Email \***

Must be an email address.

**Name 2 \***

Brooke Cameron

**Phone Number \***

Must be a New Zealand phone number.

**Email \***

Must be an email address.

**Application details****\* indicates a required field****Project details**

Please assume that we know nothing about your project. Give as much information as possible.

**What are you applying for? (pick one) \***

- ☒ The development of community facilities or amenities
- ☐ Sport & recreational opportunities
- ☐ Community programmes, activities or events
- ☐ Operational costs
- ☐ Other

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Please provide a short title for your project: \***

Page 2 of 9

## Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round

### Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form Application No. WaihopaiCPF002MAR25 From Wyndham Pony Club

Form Submitted 16 Apr 2025, 9:37AM NZST

Games Equipment upgrade

#### What is the location of your project? \*

Wyndham Pony Club

#### What does your organisation want funding for? (please describe fully) \*

We are seeking funding to upgrade our games equipment to enable us to continue hosting a Southland Pony Club Gymkhana in conjunction with our Trophy Day. This combines volunteer hours and brings additional people to Wyndham for the day. Our current poles are broken making them hard to install.

What is your project? What specific purpose will the funding be used for?

#### How will your project benefit the Waihopai Toetoes community? \*

Riders will be safer and able to practice for longer as set-up time shortens. We will be able to safely host events for riders outside of our club - bringing riders and their families into Wyndham for the day. Better equipment will help promote skill development.

i.e. improvements/events that will enable the community to be more connected, or improvements to a facility that will enable it to run more efficiently etc

#### Project start date

01/06/2025

Must be a date.

#### Project end date

26/07/2025

Must be a date.

### Community Board plan alignment

The Waihopai Toetoe Community Board plan document can be found [here](#). The Waihopai Toetoe Community Board outcomes can be found on page 8. Please indicate below if you think your project aligns with any of these outcomes.

#### Do you think your project aligns with any of the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board's community board plan outcomes? (please tick all that apply) \*

- ☒ A thriving, healthy & safe community with access to quality facilities, amenities and services
- ☒ Our community is connected and engaged
- ☐ Our unique, natural environment is healthy & protected
- ☐ Our communities have the opportunity to celebrate their history and heritage
- ☐ N/A

#### What is the difference you expect to make through your work or project?

Please describe up to **two** outcomes (i.e. changes or differences) you would like your work or project to achieve.

#### Outcome 1 \*

Provide safer competition and training days

## Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round

### Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form Application No. WaihopaiCPF002MAR25 From Wyndham Pony Club

Form Submitted 16 Apr 2025, 9:37AM NZST

#### Outcome 2

Updated equipment will foster skill development with more time being spent training rather than setting up broken equipment

#### How will you know you are achieving the above outcome(s)?

Anecdotal feedback from riders and officials. Observing riders confidence and riding skills improve.

What data/information will you collect that shows your progress?

#### Are there any similar projects or services in your area?

☐ yes

☒ no

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

### Community benefits

This section enables us to gather useful data on the different groups of people in our communities that will benefit from our grants.

#### Approximately how many people in the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board area will benefit directly from your project? \*

16

Must be a number.

#### Additional comments on numbers benefiting:

We have 16 riding members in our club but the wider Southland equestrian community also use our facilities.

#### What age group will predominantly benefit? \*

☒ All ☐ Early years (pre-natal - 4yrs) ☐ Children (5-13yrs) ☐ Youth (14-24yrs) ☐ Adults (25-64yrs) ☐ Older persons (65+yrs)

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

#### Does your project mainly focus on any of the following:

☐ Parents/families ☐ People with a disability ☒ Rural communities ☐ At risk families ☐ People who are not currently participating and those experiencing barriers to participation ☐ Volunteers ☐ At risk youth ☐ New migrants ☐ Refugees ☐ High needs populations

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

#### The following are the main ethnic groups in our region - please indicate who will predominantly benefit? \*

☒ All ☐ NZ European ☐ Maori ☐ Pacific peoples ☐ Asian ☐ Middle Eastern/Latin American/African ☐ Other

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

### Building & facility information

#### Does your application relate to a building or facility?

☐ Yes

☒ No

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round****Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF002MAR25 From Wyndham Pony Club**

Form Submitted 16 Apr 2025, 9:37AM NZST

**Project Budget & Financial Details**

\* indicates a required field

**Financial details****Bank Account \***

Account Name: Wyndham Pony Club

Account Number:

Must be a valid New Zealand bank account format.

**Please upload verification of your organisation's bank account details \***

Filename: SDC19UNIFLOW\_20 DON\_2404\_001.pdf

File size: 226.7 kB

i.e. a bank coded deposit slip or bank verified account details

**Are you registered for GST? \***☐ Yes☒ No

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**If yes, GST number:**

Must be a number.

**Please upload your organisation's latest financial statements \***

Filename: Wyndham Pony Club financials.pdf

File size: 188.0 kB

**Please upload a current bank statement from your organisation \***

Filename: SDC19UNIFLOW\_20 DON\_2404\_001.pdf

File size: 226.7 kB

**Total project cost \***

2500

Must be a number.

**Amount you are requesting from the Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund? \***

2000

Must be a number.

**Please indicate your current level of reserves: \***

\$13,500.00

Must be a dollar amount.

At the time of this application

**Please comment on your level of reserves and if they cannot be used towards this project, explain why: \***

Reserves are required for general operating expenses, unpaid invoices, further facility

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round**  
**Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF002MAR25 From Wyndham Pony Club**  
 Form Submitted 16 Apr 2025, 9:37AM NZST

upgrades.

**Briefly describe any voluntary effort or donated materials provided for this project:**

Volunteer hours sourcing equipment and setting up/taking down following purchase

**How do you envisage paying for any future operational costs for this project?**  
 sale of arena keys, ground fees for casual users, member's fundraising efforts

**Budget**

List all the income you plan to get towards your project e.g. grants/donations, your own funds, fundraising. **Also include the grant amount you are requesting for this application (income and expenditure totals must match).**

If you are GST registered please provide figures that EXCLUDE GST. If you are NOT GST registered please provide figures that INCLUDE GST.

Income	\$	Expenditure	\$
CPF Grant	\$2,000.00	Games equipment	\$2,500.00
Club funds	\$500.00		

**Budget Totals**

The income and expenditure totals should balance/match.

Total Income Amount	Total Expenditure Amount	Income - Expenditure
\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00
This number/amount is calculated.	This number/amount is calculated.	This number/amount is calculated.

**Quotes**

You should obtain two quotes where practical. If this is not possible, please just explain why below.

**Have you sought at least two quotes?**

- ☐ yes  
☒ no

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round****Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
Application No. WaihopaiCPF002MAR25 From Wyndham Pony Club  
Form Submitted 16 Apr 2025, 9:37AM NZST

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Please upload quote(s)**Filename: Wyndham Pony Club Games Wish List.pdf  
File size: 95.6 kB**Quotes****If you have not provided more than one quote, please explain why:**  
MGA Equipment Sheet Suppliers are the most reliable and cost effective suppliers**Supporting documentation****Supporting documentation**

Attach any other relevant information, e.g. covering letter, letters of support, or other documents.

**Attach documents here**Filename: Wyndham Pony Club supporting letters.pdf  
File size: 59.2 kB**Feedback****Feedback****How did you find out about the Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund?**  
☐ Have applied previously ☐ Southland District Council website ☐ Council or  
Community Board Facebook page ☐ Radio ☐ Newspaper ☐ Online ☐ Referred by  
another funder ☐ Word of mouth ☐ Council staff ☒ Other  
No more than 1 choice may be selected.**Please rate the following statements****The time required to prepare and complete the application was reasonable**  
☒ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree ☐ N/A  
No more than 1 choice may be selected.**The application process is very straightforward**  
☒ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree ☐ N/A  
No more than 1 choice may be selected.**Please provide us with any suggestions about any improvements we could make to the application process**



**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round**  
**Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF002MAR25 From Wyndham Pony Club**  
Form Submitted 16 Apr 2025, 9:37AM NZST

### Declaration

\* indicates a required field

### Declaration

I consent to the Southland District Council collecting personal details provided on this form. The consent is given in accordance with the Privacy Act 2020.

This declaration and authorisation relates to information in this application and attachments that the Southland District Council may hold about your organisation/group now or in the future.

In making this declaration I declare that:

- this application has been submitted with the full knowledge and agreement of the management/governance of my organisation/group;
- the information supplied in this application and any attachments is true and factual;
- any grant received will be used for the purpose for which it was approved.

I authorise Southland District Council to:

- use the information supplied as part of this application and any attachments for the purposes of administration and consideration of this application;
- make any enquiries of third parties, (which may involve discussing information contained in this application);
- advertise or publish the name of our organisation/group and the amount of any grant approved if this application is successful, including disclosure of this information to other funding agencies.

I acknowledge that:

- any decision made is final
- Southland District Council has the right to withdraw any grant approved or demand the return of funds already paid if it is discovered that any statement made in this application is incorrect, incomplete or misleading, in a way that may have affected the funding decision.

**I am authorised to complete this application and I have read and understood this declaration and privacy statement:**

**Name \***

Brooke Cameron

**Position in organisation \***

Executive Member

**Date \***

14/04/2025

Must be a date.

### Submitting your form

There is a review and submit button at the bottom of the navigation box to the right of the screen.

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round****Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF002MAR25 From Wyndham Pony Club**

Form Submitted 16 Apr 2025, 9:37AM NZST

You need to review your form before you submit it - you won't be able to submit your form until all required questions (marked with an \*) are completed.

Once reviewed you can submit your form by clicking on 'submit' at the top of the screen or on the navigation box.

Once submitted, you will receive an email from SmartyGrants acknowledging receipt of the form. If you do not receive this email please check you have clicked the submit button at the top of the form. No further editing of your form or uploading of support material is possible once submitted.

If you have any queries or experience any problems please phone 0800 732 732 or email funding@southlanddc.govt.nz.

Wyndham Pony Club Games Equipment Wish List			
<i>Based on prices from MGA Equipment Sheet Suppliers from NZPCA Website</i>			
Item	Quantity	Price/Unit	Total
Poles	30	\$ 42.00	\$ 1,260.00
Hi Low/Bank Race 2.1	5	\$ 44.00	\$ 220.00
Hi Low/Bank Race 1.7	2	\$ 44.00	\$ 88.00
Swords	5	\$ 22.00	\$ 110.00
Sword rings	20	\$ 9.00	\$ 180.00
Plastic litter canes	6	\$ 11.50	\$ 69.00
Bank race board top	5	\$ 23.00	\$ 115.00
Number holders	5	\$ 21.00	\$ 105.00
Numbers	5	\$ 22.00	\$ 110.00
Large bin tops	5	\$ 12.00	\$ 60.00
baton	6	\$ 6.00	\$ 36.00
turrets	5	\$ 15.00	\$ 75.00
hi low net only	6	\$ 12.00	\$ 72.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 2,500.00</b>

To Whom It May Concern,

As a family that has been actively involved with the club for the past five years, we'd like to offer our full support and share our perspective on the role the Wyndham Pony Club (WPC) plays in our lives. WPC has given our family a unique sense of belonging and purpose. It's a place where our children (1 riding, 1 non riding) have not only learned new skills and grown more confident but also made friends that extend beyond the arena. It's a place where we feel connected to something bigger than ourselves—a shared love of sport and community. We've always appreciated the way WPC encourages families to get involved. Whether it's volunteering for BBQ duty, lending a hand with rally set up, or simply being present to support the riders, everyone is welcome to contribute in their own way. That sense of shared ownership creates a really special atmosphere. The arena is off a high standard and clearly maintained with care. Having access to such a space is a privilege, and we believe it makes a big difference to the development and enjoyment of everyone who uses it. This club is an invaluable part of our family's life and the wider community. We're proud to be members and will continue to support it however we can.

Warm regards,  
The Shaw Family

K Drummond  
Edendale

April 2025

Southland District Council  
C/- Community Fund Application

To The ToeToes Community Board,

We are writing to express our wholehearted support for the Wyndham Pony Club Branch and to share just how important it has become to our family. Since joining the club seven years ago, it has become a central part of our lives. It's more than just a place for sport—it's where we've made lasting friendships, where my children have grown in confidence, and where we've all felt a true sense of community.

Being part of the club has helped us share our passion and countless moments of joy, whether it's cheering from the arena sidelines, participating in events as individuals or team members, or helping out with working bees and fundraisers. What stands out most is the welcoming, inclusive atmosphere that the club fosters. It's a place where everyone chips in, and there's always a willingness to lend a hand—whether that's setting up on gymkhana days, supporting new members, or helping maintain the grounds. Where everyone is happy to contribute in small ways, knowing it helps keep the club strong for all families.

The facilities themselves are a huge asset—not just for members, but for the broader community. The arena is well-maintained, and a safe space for everyone to come together.

We're grateful to be part of something so positive, and we look forward to many more years of involvement with the club.

Sincerely,  
K Drummond

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round****Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form****Application No. WaihopaiCPF003MAR25 From Miharo Murihiku Trust**

Form Submitted 17 Apr 2025, 11:54AM NZST

**Applicant details****\* indicates a required field****Applicant details****Applicant name \***

Miharo Murihiku Trust

**Street Address**28 Don St  
Invercargill Southland 9810 New Zealand**Postal Address (if different from above)****Phone Number \***

Must be a New Zealand phone number.

**Email \***

tara@miharo.org

Must be an email address.

**Purpose/main activity of your organisation?**

Maori and Pasifika cultural arts trust - we facilitate and manage cultural and arts events within the Southland and Central Otago regions. This includes events, workshops,

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round**  
**Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF003MAR25 From Miharo Murihiku Trust**  
Form Submitted 17 Apr 2025, 11:54AM NZST

exhibitions and projects with a strong focus on engaging rangatahi. We provide meaningful and enriching opportunities for our community that are underpinned by Maori and Pasifika values. We want to see a region where arts and culture are visible, valued and thriving. A region where young people are exposed to meaningful and attainable opportunities for their futures.

**How many members belong to your club/organisation?**

177

Must be a number.

**Contact details for this application**

Please give the names of two people who can be contacted if further information is required. The first contact must be the person who filled out this form. Under the Privacy Act (1993) consent from these people must be given before their details are recorded here.

**Name 1 \***

Tara McIntosh

**Phone Number \***

Must be a New Zealand phone number.

**Email \***

tara@miharo.org

Must be an email address.

**Name 2 \***

Tania Carran

**Phone Number \***

Must be a new zealand phone number.

**Email \***

tania@miharo.org.nz

Must be an email address.

**Application details**

**\* indicates a required field**

**Project details**

Please assume that we know nothing about your project. Give as much information as possible.

**What are you applying for? (pick one) \***

- ☐ The development of community facilities or amenities  
☐ Sport & recreational opportunities

## Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round

### Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form

Application No. WaihopaiCPF003MAR25 From Miharo Murihiku Trust

Form Submitted 17 Apr 2025, 11:54AM NZST

☒ Community programmes, activities or events

☐ Operational costs

☐ Other

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Please provide a short title for your project: \***

Murihiku Polyfest

**What is the location of your project? \***

Southland

**What does your organisation want funding for? (please describe fully) \***

Murihiku Polyfest is our flagship event, now celebrating its 16th year in 2025. Polyfest is more than an event - it is a celebration of identity, belonging and pride. It strengthens cultural confidence, fosters intergenerational connections, and inspires youth to stand tall in who they are. We seek funding to help cover the cost of volunteer uniforms for Polyfest. Volunteers play a vital role in the smooth running of Murihiku Polyfest, supporting everything from logistics and student and kura coordination to MC'ing and backstage work. Providing them with clear, cohesive uniforms ensures they are easily identifiable, which enhances both the efficiency of our operations and the overall safety and enjoyment/experience of participants and attendees. The funding will help us supply matching tee shirts as uniforms that reflect our organisations values and foster a sense of pride and unity among our volunteer team. These uniforms not only create a professional and welcoming impression, but also acknowledge the important contribution of our volunteers, many of whom are giving their time and energy to support our young people and the wider community.

What is your project? What specific purpose will the funding be used for?

**How will your project benefit the Waihopai Toetoes community? \***

Polyfest benefits the community in many meaningful ways. It brings together young people from diverse cultural backgrounds to celebrate and share their heritage through traditional dance, music, language and performance. This promotes cultural understanding, pride, and respect amongst students and audiences alike. For many tamariki and rangatahi it's an opportunity to connect with their identity, build confidence, and develop leadership skills in a supportive and empowering environment. The festival also strengthens community bonds by involving whanau, schools, local organisations, and volunteers in a shared kaupapa. It creates a space where different cultures are honoured and uplifted, fostering inclusivity and unity. Beyond the performances Polyfest also provides educational opportunities. Rangatahi on Miharo's Whakamanahia Te Rangatahi Programme are paired up with mentors during the event, in areas of interest to them. Here they learn skills such as sound and lighting technician, MC'ing, catering, event management, interview and presentating skills through our livestream, troubleshooting, tour guiding, and many others. After watching and learning for the first couple of days, by the end of the week Rangatahi are taking over the running of the event! This leadership opportunity encourages more youth engagement, and contributes to the social and cultural vibrancy of the region, making it a cornerstone event for community pride and cohesion.

i.e. improvements/events that will enable the community to be more connected, or improvements to a facility that will enable it to run more efficiently etc

**Project start date**

18/08/2025

Must be a date.



**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round**  
**Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF003MAR25 From Miharo Murihiku Trust**  
Form Submitted 17 Apr 2025, 11:54AM NZST

**Project end date**

22/08/2025

Must be a date.

**Community Board plan alignment**

The Waihopai Toetoe Community Board plan document can be found [here](#). The Waihopai Toetoe Community Board outcomes can be found on page 8. Please indicate below if you think your project aligns with any of these outcomes.

**Do you think your project aligns with any of the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board's community board plan outcomes? (please tick all that apply) \***

- ☒ A thriving, healthy & safe community with access to quality facilities, amenities and services
- ☒ Our community is connected and engaged
- ☒ Our unique, natural environment is healthy & protected
- ☒ Our communities have the opportunity to celebrate their history and heritage
- ☐ N/A

**What is the difference you expect to make through your work or project?**

Please describe up to **two** outcomes (i.e. changes or differences) you would like your work or project to achieve.

**Outcome 1 \***

Cultural dance participation facilitates powerful identity and personal development for youth, as a mode of sacred formation and meaningful education to them.

**Outcome 2**

More opportunities, resourcing and support in the Pacific cultural dance space may lead to better outcomes holistically for Pasifika youth engagement in school and other areas of life more broadly.

**How will you know you are achieving the above outcome(s)?**

Anecdotal feedback from schools, kura, students, whanau, attendees, etc.

Dr Sierra Keung, Lefaoalii Dr Dion Enari, Susana Sotutu, Asenati Tavita (AUT) may conduct further research.

What data/information will you collect that shows your progress?

**Are there any similar projects or services in your area?**

- ☐ yes
- ☒ no

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Community benefits**

This section enables us to gather useful data on the different groups of people in our communities that will benefit from our grants.

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round****Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form****Application No. WaihopaiCPF003MAR25 From Miharo Murihiku Trust**

Form Submitted 17 Apr 2025, 11:54AM NZST

**Approximately how many people in the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board area will benefit directly from your project? \***

100

Must be a number.

**Additional comments on numbers benefiting:**

140 groups from across Te Waipounamu and Raakiura performed at Murihiku Polyfest 2024, bringing together over 8,000 participants.

**What age group will predominantly benefit? \***☒ All ☐ Early years (pre-natal - 4yrs) ☐ Children (5-13yrs) ☐ Youth (14-24yrs) ☐ Adults (25-64yrs) ☐ Older persons (65+yrs)

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Does your project mainly focus on any of the following:**☐ Parents/families ☐ People with a disability ☐ Rural communities ☐ At risk families ☐ People who are not currently participating and those experiencing barriers to participation ☒ Volunteers ☐ At risk youth ☐ New migrants ☐ Refugees ☐ High needs populations

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**The following are the main ethnic groups in our region - please indicate who will predominantly benefit? \***☒ All ☐ NZ European ☐ Maori ☐ Pacific peoples ☐ Asian ☐ Middle Eastern/Latin American/African ☐ Other

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Building & facility information****Does your application relate to a building or facility?**☐ Yes☒ No

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Project Budget & Financial Details****\* indicates a required field****Financial details****Bank Account \***

Account Name: Miharo Murihiku Trust

Account Number:

Must be a valid New Zealand bank account format.

**Please upload verification of your organisation's bank account details \***

Filename: BNZ Bank Account Confirmation - Deposit Slip.png

File size: 81.2 kB

i.e. a bank coded deposit slip or bank verified account details

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round**  
**Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF003MAR25 From Miharo Murihiku Trust**  
Form Submitted 17 Apr 2025, 11:54AM NZST

**Are you registered for GST? \***

☒ Yes

☐ No

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**If yes, GST number:**

103668399

Must be a number.

**Please upload your organisation's latest financial statements \***

Filename: Summary of Finance Letter for year ended 31 Dec 2024.pdf

File size: 187.5 kB

**Please upload a current bank statement from your organisation \***

Filename: March 2025 Bank Statement.pdf

File size: 21.2 kB

**Total project cost \***

253775

Must be a number.

**Amount you are requesting from the Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund? \***

5000

Must be a number.

**Please indicate your current level of reserves: \***

\$396,000.00

Must be a dollar amount.

At the time of this application

**Please comment on your level of reserves and if they cannot be used towards this project, explain why: \***

All funds in our account are already tagged for events yet to happen/not yet been applied to its purpose. The Summary of Finance has a letter from the Accountant explaining about the state of the funding landscape currently. As most people will be aware, there has been a significant reduction in the funding received compared to a post-covid era where there was a big influx of grants given to encourage people to get back out experiencing festivals and regenerate the economy etc. The lower level of support during the past year has been largely attributed to the general economic conditions facing all Community Funders, and their need to adopt a more conservative approach to the provision of Grants. On top of this expenses have increased. So it is a considerably harder landscape to navigate than it was a couple of years ago. Hence why Miharo is trying to look into some self-sustainability planning going forward.

**Briefly describe any voluntary effort or donated materials provided for this project:**

3960 hours - each year Polyfest is supported by an incredible team of volunteers who generously donate their time, energy and skills to make the event a success. On average, we have around 80 volunteers each day across the five main days and two evening sessions of Polyfest. These dedicated individuals typically contribute 8-9 hours per day, helping with everything from event operations and stage management to student support and crowd

## Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round

### Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form

**Application No. WaihopaiCPF003MAR25 From Miharo Murihiku Trust**

Form Submitted 17 Apr 2025, 11:54AM NZST

coordination. In addition to their work during the event, many also give their time in the lead-up by running workshops with rangatahi, mentoring performance groups, and assisting with pack-in and pack-out tasks before and after the festival. We are continually heartened by the strong sense of commitment and aroha shown by our volunteers, many of whom return year after year - some even taking annual leave from their jobs to be part of the Polyfest experience. For many the volunteer tee shirts have become cherished keepsakes and collector's items, serving as a visual record of the Polyfest they've been part of. These volunteers are far more than just helpers; they are an integral part of our kaupapa and are considered Miharo whanau. Their passion and dedication are a cornerstone of the event's ongoing success.

#### How do you envisage paying for any future operational costs for this project?

We are a charitable trust reliant on the good will of funders and supporters. However, as costs rise and funding landscapes shift, we recognise the need to work towards self-sufficiency.

### Budget

List all the income you plan to get towards your project e.g. grants/donations, your own funds, fundraising. **Also include the grant amount you are requesting for this application (income and expenditure totals must match).**

If you are GST registered please provide figures that EXCLUDE GST. If you are NOT GST registered please provide figures that INCLUDE GST.

Income	\$	Expenditure	\$
Total	\$253,500.00	Total	\$253,775.00
deficit	\$275.00		

### Budget Totals

The income and expenditure totals should balance/match.

Total Income Amount	Total Expenditure Amount	Income - Expenditure
\$253,775.00	\$253,775.00	\$0.00
This number/amount is calculated.	This number/amount is calculated.	This number/amount is calculated.

### Quotes

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round**  
**Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF003MAR25 From Miharo Murihiku Trust**  
Form Submitted 17 Apr 2025, 11:54AM NZST

You should obtain two quotes where practical. If this is not possible, please just explain why below.

**Have you sought at least two quotes?**

☐ yes

☒ no

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Please upload quote(s)**

*No files have been uploaded*

**Quotes**

**If you have not provided more than one quote, please explain why:**

partnerships with existing providers have resulted in best prices, donated goods and services, etc

**Supporting documentation**

**Supporting documentation**

Attach any other relevant information, e.g. covering letter, letters of support, or other documents.

**Attach documents here**

Filename: 2024 Annual Report-compressed.pdf  
File size: 14.0 MB

Filename: Jo Hutton - ILT Stadium Southland Letter of Support.pdf  
File size: 478.8 kB

Filename: Miharo additional information.pdf  
File size: 134.5 kB

Filename: Murihiku Polyfest Articles and Interview Links 2024.pdf  
File size: 935.1 kB

Filename: Number 10 - Letter of Support.pdf  
File size: 65.0 kB

Filename: Odele Stehlin - Waihopai Runaka Support Letter.pdf  
File size: 34.0 kB

Filename: Southland Boys High School - Miharo endorsement letter.pdf  
File size: 186.4 kB

Filename: Strawberry Sound - Miharo Support Letter 2025.pdf  
File size: 100.1 kB

Filename: Tu Report Hawaiki Hou.pdf  
File size: 2.1 MB

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round**  
**Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF003MAR25 From Miharo Murihiku Trust**  
 Form Submitted 17 Apr 2025, 11:54AM NZST

## Feedback

### Feedback

**How did you find out about the Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund?**

☐ Have applied previously ☐ Southland District Council website ☐ Council or Community Board Facebook page ☐ Radio ☐ Newspaper ☐ Online ☐ Referred by another funder ☐ Word of mouth ☒ Council staff ☐ Other

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

### Please rate the following statements

**The time required to prepare and complete the application was reasonable**

☒ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree ☐ N/A

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**The application process is very straightforward**

☒ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree ☐ N/A

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Please provide us with any suggestions about any improvements we could make to the application process**

## Declaration

\* indicates a required field

### Declaration

I consent to the Southland District Council collecting personal details provided on this form. The consent is given in accordance with the Privacy Act 2020.

This declaration and authorisation relates to information in this application and attachments that the Southland District Council may hold about your organisation/group now or in the future.

In making this declaration I declare that:

- this application has been submitted with the full knowledge and agreement of the management/governance of my organisation/group;
- the information supplied in this application and any attachments is true and factual;
- any grant received will be used for the purpose for which it was approved.

I authorise Southland District Council to:

- use the information supplied as part of this application and any attachments for the purposes of administration and consideration of this application;
- make any enquiries of third parties, (which may involve discussing information contained in this application);
- advertise or publish the name of our organisation/group and the amount of any grant approved if this application is successful, including disclosure of this information to other funding agencies.

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round**  
**Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF003MAR25 From Miharo Murihiku Trust**  
Form Submitted 17 Apr 2025, 11:54AM NZST

I acknowledge that:

- any decision made is final
- Southland District Council has the right to withdraw any grant approved or demand the return of funds already paid if it is discovered that any statement made in this application is incorrect, incomplete or misleading, in a way that may have affected the funding decision.

**I am authorised to complete this application and I have read and understood this declaration and privacy statement:**

**Name \***

Tara McIntosh

**Position in organisation \***

Business and Finance Manager

**Date \***

14/04/2025

Must be a date.

### **Submitting your form**

There is a review and submit button at the bottom of the navigation box to the right of the screen.

You need to review your form before you submit it - you won't be able to submit your form until all required questions (marked with an \*) are completed.

Once reviewed you can submit your form by clicking on 'submit' at the top of the screen or on the navigation box.

Once submitted, you will receive an email from SmartyGrants acknowledging receipt of the form. If you do not receive this email please check you have clicked the submit button at the top of the form. No further editing of your form or uploading of support material is possible once submitted.

If you have any queries or experience any problems please phone 0800 732 732 or email funding@southlanddc.govt.nz.

Kia ora Gordon

Oh wow, thank you so much for following up with this. It is greatly appreciated! Apologies for not being able to fit everything I wanted to say about Murihiku Polyfest on the form - the formatting didn't allow for much more information so I have taken the liberty of attaching some supporting documentation I think you might be interested in:

- Dancing to the Beat Report (Tu Report Hawaiki Hou) – a recent study we were proud to be involved with, with Auckland University of Technology. Please see below for more information on this
- A document with news article links, an infographic on numbers and some photo's – all relating to our 2024 event
- Letters of support from various organisations who are involved with Polyfest either by hired or volunteer work, or kura.
- Our 2024 annual report – as an example of our capability and the exceptional work we deliver

**Additionally, I'd just love to reiterate the need and benefits of Polyfest:**

The overall goal of Murihiku Polyfest is to provide a non-competitive platform for cultural expression, celebration, and connection within the community. Showcasing performances from Early Childhood, Primary, and Secondary students, the event is designed to foster unity, pride, and mutual respect among diverse cultural groups. By bringing together local kura and communities, Polyfest strengthens cultural understanding and preservation, ensuring traditions are passed down through generations.

Murihiku Polyfest exists to uplift and connect — to strengthen cultural identity, enhance wellbeing, and build a thriving, confident community where diversity is proudly celebrated.

For many tamariki and rangatahi Polyfest is the highlight of their year. The expected benefits include having a safe space where they feel seen, valued, and empowered to express themselves freely. It gives them the opportunity to connect with their culture, explore their creativity, and develop leadership skills in an environment that not just recognises, but **celebrates**, their identity. They are encouraged to stand tall in who they are, without needing to explain or change themselves to fit in. Polyfest allows them to actively participate in cultural expression — through performance, art, and storytelling — which helps build confidence and pride in cultural identity, particularly for tamariki and rangatahi. These experiences support positive mental and emotional wellbeing by offering opportunities for connection, expression, and celebration.

We also aim to bring the wider community together in a way that's welcoming and uplifting. Polyfest plays a vital role in strengthening whanaungatanga across the wider community. Our latest initiative, introduced in 2025, is our Community Night, where we invite people of all ages to perform together, encouraging intergenerational participation. This segment brings people together, celebrates diversity, and create a strong sense of belonging. The ripple effects are long-lasting—supporting cultural confidence, unity and a connected, thriving community, which lasts well beyond the festival.

Our greatest hope is to see a community where people feel seen, valued, and empowered to embrace and share their culture — where cultural diversity is not just acknowledged, but also celebrated. Polyfest is one vehicle to achieve this.

One of the clearest examples of the need for Murihiku Polyfest is the growth in both participants and attendees. From 2020 when there were **2340** performers, to 2022 when we had 5694, to 2024 when participation hit an all-time high of **8388**! The growth and support of the event continues to highlight the desire and acceptance of the entire Murihiku Community for a celebration of culture. It's a



uniquely special event for the region — there's truly nothing else like it. It provides an inclusive, non-competitive space for people of all ages to participate in kapa haka, poi, siva as well as other Pasifika dances, and waiata. It brings people together to celebrate and share their cultures in a fun, supportive environment that prioritises connection and expression over competition.

We know that Polyfest addresses the need because our tamariki and rangatahi tell us so. Our many letters of support back this up also. But even more powerfully, *research* tells us that cultural performance and Polyfest has a significant impact on wellbeing. Mīharo Murihiku Trust recently participated in Auckland University of Technology's 'Dancing to the Beat' Report, which studied movement experiences of Polyfest participants in Southland and Otago (You can find the full report attached at the end of this application). Key findings highlight how kapa haka strengthens connections to culture and history, empowering Māori identity, culture, and wellbeing through language, tradition, and community. The report emphasises Polyfest as a celebratory learning space where cultural dance activates core values, fosters connections, and enhances identity.

We estimate that 80,000+ benefit from Murihiku Polyfest. We gather data from all our engagements, events, and programmes throughout the year using a range of methods, including surveys, visitor book entries, booking and registration forms, consent forms, head counts, and photographic or video documentation. This is a conservative number of people who would benefit from this grant, as we also stream Murihiku Polyfest live on our website for whānau all around the world to enjoy. Last year we had **71,000** views on our Facebook page, and **51,000** views on our website from **49** different countries during the **5 days** of Murihiku Polyfest alone, making the messages of Polyfest and Mīharo Murihiku Trust more widespread than ever.

If you or the Board have any questions, I am more than happy to answer any! Thanks once again for your help with this, it is truly appreciated 😊

Ngā mihi  
Tara

--



Tara McIntosh  
*Business & Finance Manager*

ADDRESS 28 Don Street, Ground Floor, Invercargill 9810  
POSTAL PO Box 7117, South Invercargill, Invercargill 9844  
WEB [miharo.co.nz](http://miharo.co.nz)





To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the team at Strawberry Sound in support of the Miharō Murihiku Trust, especially around our involvement with Murihiku & Central Lakes Polyfest. Strawberry has been involved with AV/Production services for Polyfest over the past 10+ years and we are committed to delivering the best service possible to ensure our tamariki and rangatahi have their mana shine on stage and behind the scenes.

Polyfest is an important staple not only for our business but for Murihiku and Central Lakes communities as a whole. Strawberry has been a key supplier of audio-visual services for Miharō since 2016. We are very proud to have been involved with this event over the years. It has been a journey that we hope we can carry on for another ten-plus years. Miharō & Central Lakes Polyfest has allowed us to employ upwards of ten full-time and casual staff to deliver our services to both festivals over the weeks of Polyfest.

The team behind the Miharō family has always been a driving factor for us to go the extra mile, helping think of ways that we can involve rangatahi in what we do. During COVID (2021) we wanted to play our part in thinking of ways to keep Polyfest running, especially during event restrictions. From this "The Couch" was born, a two-day fully virtual livestream of pre-recorded performances, including live studio MCs. It was humbling to see rangatahi at the start of the week, full of nerves as MCs, talking down the camera live to air, turning into very confident professionals by the end of the two days! It's great that we were able to keep the "The Couch" over subsequent years, allowing the next generation of rangatahi have their time to shine, being MCs on the livestream.

It is very rewarding seeing rangatahi now fully immersed behind the camera too, by show directing, floor managing, running the teleprompter, and coming up with content for the MCs to talk about. We are hoping to expand this further over the coming years, for the rangatahi to dive deeper into the technology side of the setup, and control the supporting sound equipment and camera switching equipment. Navigation career pathways for rangatahi to join the AV industry should be welcomed.

Miharō has been a big part of the Murihiku and Central Lakes community over the past sixteen years, and it is something that everyone should be proud of, having a 100% homegrown cultural festival delivered and run by the younger generation. The Miharō Murihiku Trust has always given us a sense of family and we look forward to being part of the journey for years to come.

Best regards,

Alex Jones

| alex.jones@strawberrysound.co.nz



# Southland Boys' High School

*Te Kura Tuarua o ngā Taitama ki Murihiku*

181 Herbert Street | PO Box 1543 | Invercargill | New Zealand  
Phone: [03] 211 3003 | Email: [mail@sbhs.school.nz](mailto:mail@sbhs.school.nz) | Website: [www.sbhs.school.nz](http://www.sbhs.school.nz) |



14<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## Letter of endorsement for Mīharo

Southland Boys' High School prides itself on our ability to allow our boys to express their talent and passion freely. To be able to do so they must be supported to learn the skills they need, be given the freedom to be comfortable in their expression and have a platform to shine from. As a state school we are limited by our means to be able to cater to all of the components on this list. We are, therefore, extremely lucky to have access to organisations that work tirelessly to provide opportunities for our students.

Mīharo has a long standing relationship with this school and has provided ways for our Māori and Pasifika students to bond together in performance and learning. Through events like Polyfest and the annual art exhibition, our boys have been given the stage and venues to express their passion for their culture in a celebration that lifts them as people and as communities.

I write this letter as a true endorsement and as a genuine letter of thanks to the wonderful people of Mīharo for all that they have done and all that they have in store for the future.

Yours sincerely,

**Ray Laurenson**  
Rector

*Non Scholae Sed Vitae Discimus*  
*Not for School but for life we are learning*

Waihopai Rūnaka  
Murihiku Marae  
408 Tramway Road  
PO Box 7017, Invercargill 9812  
Phone: (03) 2169074  
Email: [info@waihopai.org.nz](mailto:info@waihopai.org.nz)



1 April 2025

Tena Koe

**RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR MIHARO MURIHIKU TRUST**

Waihopai Rūnaka is the mandated local iwi authority for Invercargill and the surrounding areas, as recognised under Te Rūnanga o Ngai Tahu Act 1996. Waihopai Rūnaka is manawhenua, and kaitiaki Rūnaka for the aforementioned area.

We are pleased to support Miharo Murihiku Trust with their endeavours to seek and secure funding for their programmes, events and exhibitions.

Miharo have a long-standing reputation and commitment to providing culturally diverse and relevant events that support rakatahi and the wider Murihiku community. Murihiku Polyfest is their foundation programme and a significant event in our local calendar, providing a vital platform for the celebration and promotion of Māori culture. This event not only plays an important role in preserving cultural identity but also serves as a powerful educational and learning tool that fosters personal growth and resilience. The festival's positive impact is felt by both participants and attendees, uplifting the mana and *wairua* of all involved.

I have no doubt their engagements and events, particularly the Whakamanahia te Rangatahi initiative will add further much needed support for rakatahi in our region. This powerful programme is an annual youth mentoring programme, designed to empower rangatahi by fostering a strong sense of identity, language, and culture.

Waihopai Rūnaka has been a part of and supported Miharo Murihiku Trust since its inception and is pleased to continue to do so. We wish them well in their search to source resources and finance to progress their initiatives.

Noho ora mai

Odele Stehlin  
CEO



Southland Youth One Stop Shop

Ph: 03 214 1013 ext. 203 • 10 Deveron Street • PO Box 186 • Invercargill.

13 March 2024

To whom it may concern

It is my pleasure to write a letter of support for Miharo.  
We have had very beneficial engagement with Miharo over the past few years.  
Our rangatahi have participated in exhibitions, groups and of course, Polyfest. Our staff have volunteered at Polyfest for the past 3 years.  
We see first-hand the amazing mahi that Miharo do for the community and the opportunities they provide to nurture and support young rangatahi into leadership positions. Watching rangatahi step up in a supported way that they may not get at school has such positive outcomes for them and watching them walk taller and prouder is just awesome.  
Miharo is an asset to our community.

**Jude Crump**  
**Director/Tumuaki**  
**Southland Youth One Stop Shop**  
**Charitable Trust**  
10 Deveron St | PO Box 186 | Invercargill  
Ph 03 214 1013 Ext.203 |  
[director@number10.org.nz](mailto:director@number10.org.nz)



21.03.25

Kia ora koutou

**Letter of Support for Miharo Polyfest**

On behalf of ILT Stadium Southland, I'm delighted to express our support for Miharo and their wonderful Polyfest event that has been at the heart of our community for 15 years. Polyfest has grown every year with thousands of students from local schools across Southland coming together to celebrate culture, identity, and unity through incredible performances of kapa haka and Pasifika arts.

Polyfest is an incredibly special event for the Stadium and our community — it's a powerful expression of pride, belonging, and connection. Seeing our tamariki and rangatahi take the stage with confidence, sharing the traditions of their ancestors, is truly special and incredibly moving. It's an event that brings whānau, schools, and the wider community together in an atmosphere of joy and celebration.

ILT Stadium Southland is honoured to host this event and witness the impact it has on young people and their whānau. The dedication of the organisers, teachers, and students who make this happen each year is inspiring, and we are incredibly proud to be part of this journey.

We wholeheartedly support Miharo and all they do to benefit our community and look forward to seeing them continue to thrive for many more years to come.

Ngā mihi nui,

Jo Hutton  
General Manager  
ILT Stadium Southland

**WWW.STADIUMSOUTH.CO.NZ**

Surrey Park Sports Centre, PO Box 888, Isabella Street, Invercargill  
P (03) 2199310 E reception@stadiumsouth.co.nz



### Murihiku Polyfest Articles & Interview Links 2024

- **Interview on PMN Tonga:** <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/ctRp6VJcQMqrquWv3/>
- **Te Ao, Māori News: Polyfest a powerful vehicle for movement – report**  
<https://www.teaonews.co.nz/2024/04/10/polyfest-a-powerful-vehicle-for-movement-report/>
- **Stuff NZ Article: What does it take to stage Murihiku Polyfest?**  
[https://www.stuff.co.nz/nz-news/350381161/what-does-it-take-stage-murihiku-polyfest?fbclid=IwY2xjawFFz6xleHRuA2FlbQlxMAABHWPX8Z\\_z2DbgIN2\\_TXeyoRDvRVSYSkzfvLONk5qfM7irbbrudDVsnlnvg\\_aem\\_EqpLhmn23iMatJ-ExjqsZQ](https://www.stuff.co.nz/nz-news/350381161/what-does-it-take-stage-murihiku-polyfest?fbclid=IwY2xjawFFz6xleHRuA2FlbQlxMAABHWPX8Z_z2DbgIN2_TXeyoRDvRVSYSkzfvLONk5qfM7irbbrudDVsnlnvg_aem_EqpLhmn23iMatJ-ExjqsZQ)
- **Stuff NZ Article: Children Shine on Polyfest Stage**  
[https://www.stuff.co.nz/culture/350392909/children-shine-polyfest-stage?fbclid=IwY2xjawFF0AhleHRuA2FlbQlxMAABHZ-PeeKfJwjg\\_nGfZ2cS8y-FStBoEshf6HhQV\\_IxrwQXJAaG0j\\_iCdt4g\\_aem\\_7bTubEfYLSHPZyhWEoCx3A](https://www.stuff.co.nz/culture/350392909/children-shine-polyfest-stage?fbclid=IwY2xjawFF0AhleHRuA2FlbQlxMAABHZ-PeeKfJwjg_nGfZ2cS8y-FStBoEshf6HhQV_IxrwQXJAaG0j_iCdt4g_aem_7bTubEfYLSHPZyhWEoCx3A)
- **Stuff NZ Article: Stadium honours Murihiku Polyfest with mural**  
[https://www.stuff.co.nz/nz-news/350392123/stadium-honours-murihiku-polyfest-mural?fbclid=IwY2xjawFF0GBleHRuA2FlbQlxMAABHZ-PeeKfJwjg\\_nGfZ2cS8y-FStBoEshf6HhQV\\_IxrwQXJAaG0j\\_iCdt4g\\_aem\\_7bTubEfYLSHPZyhWEoCx3A](https://www.stuff.co.nz/nz-news/350392123/stadium-honours-murihiku-polyfest-mural?fbclid=IwY2xjawFF0GBleHRuA2FlbQlxMAABHZ-PeeKfJwjg_nGfZ2cS8y-FStBoEshf6HhQV_IxrwQXJAaG0j_iCdt4g_aem_7bTubEfYLSHPZyhWEoCx3A)
- **Stuff NZ (Everday Hero's): Polyfest volunteer Serra Stewart – Here for the people**  
[https://www.stuff.co.nz/culture/350378655/polyfest-volunteer-serra-stewart-here-people?fbclid=IwY2xjawFF0LxleHRuA2FlbQlxMAABHRgGWfAW7nygpcWrPoPVEuRJUGtOSKzuvyavBcGpRD47LLnqjLr5t1\\_4w\\_aem\\_k9LXjc8Zb54XyNH4ufVKQ](https://www.stuff.co.nz/culture/350378655/polyfest-volunteer-serra-stewart-here-people?fbclid=IwY2xjawFF0LxleHRuA2FlbQlxMAABHRgGWfAW7nygpcWrPoPVEuRJUGtOSKzuvyavBcGpRD47LLnqjLr5t1_4w_aem_k9LXjc8Zb54XyNH4ufVKQ)
- **Otago Daily Times: Celebrating 15 years Polyfest in Murihiku**  
[https://www.odt.co.nz/southland/celebrating-15-years-polyfest-murihiku?fbclid=IwY2xjawFF0SFleHRuA2FlbQlxMAABHZ-PeeKfJwjg\\_nGfZ2cS8y-FStBoEshf6HhQV\\_IxrwQXJAaG0j\\_iCdt4g\\_aem\\_7bTubEfYLSHPZyhWEoCx3A](https://www.odt.co.nz/southland/celebrating-15-years-polyfest-murihiku?fbclid=IwY2xjawFF0SFleHRuA2FlbQlxMAABHZ-PeeKfJwjg_nGfZ2cS8y-FStBoEshf6HhQV_IxrwQXJAaG0j_iCdt4g_aem_7bTubEfYLSHPZyhWEoCx3A)
- **Otago Daily Times: Performing a great learning exercise: Principal**  
<https://www.odt.co.nz/southland/the-ensign/performing-great-learning-exercise-principal>
- **Southland Express: Stage set for 15th showcase**  
[https://digital.southlandexpress.co.nz/html5/shared/ShowArticle.aspx?doc=SEX%](https://digital.southlandexpress.co.nz/html5/shared/ShowArticle.aspx?doc=SEX%202024041001)

**Murihiku Polyfest Articles &  
Interview Links 2024**

2F2024%2F08%2F22&entity=ArQ0102&sk=5F9572B1&mode=text

- **Stuff NZ Article: Considering the future of Murihiku Polyfest**  
[https://www.stuff.co.nz/culture/350377788/considering-future-murihiku-polyfest?fbclid=IwY2xjawFF071leHRuA2FlbQlXMAABHYNwgRlcnKOuCDAlFj4d-XdR8k66nodseg317WaSfcnSlpSvbttnxna5mQ\\_aem\\_TQ3kOFCL9AJiaTYCsLLpcw](https://www.stuff.co.nz/culture/350377788/considering-future-murihiku-polyfest?fbclid=IwY2xjawFF071leHRuA2FlbQlXMAABHYNwgRlcnKOuCDAlFj4d-XdR8k66nodseg317WaSfcnSlpSvbttnxna5mQ_aem_TQ3kOFCL9AJiaTYCsLLpcw)
- **Southland NZ – Unmissable Events: Miharo Murihiku Polyfest**  
<https://southlandnz.com/events/southlands-unmissable-events/miharo-murihiku-polyfest/>
- **Southland Girls High School - Oli Ula**  
<https://www.southlandgirls.school.nz/news/oli-ula-miharo-murihiku-polyfest-peformance/>
- **The Catlins Area School**  
<https://www.catlins.school.nz/news/2024-08-29-murihuku-polyfest-2024>
- **Takuta Ferris – MP mō Te Tai Tonga, Te Pati Māori**  
[https://www.instagram.com/takuta\\_ferris/reel/C\\_QMbVlys6L/](https://www.instagram.com/takuta_ferris/reel/C_QMbVlys6L/)
- **Ruru Specialist School**  
<http://rurued.school.nz/newsletters/current.pdf>



Murihiku Polyfest Articles &  
Interview Links 2024

## Murihiku Polyfest 2024

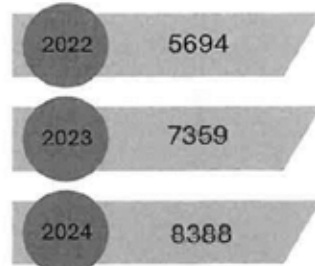
### STATISTICS

#### OVERVIEW

Each year we collect data on our events. Here is an overview of the statistics for Māhara Murihiku Polyfest 2024.

This year we had **140** groups participating, from all over Te Waipounamu and Rakiura

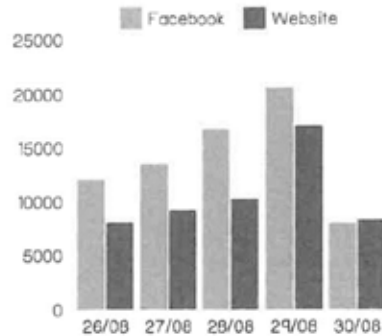
#### NUMBER OF PERFORMERS PER YEAR



**= 13.08% increase  
from last year**

"Polyfest is a time where we can appreciate our cultures and celebrate our differences... it means supporting and thinking and honouring you, your whānau and ancestors before you."

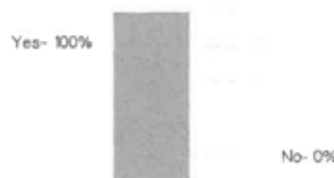
"We were very impressed with the manaakitanga shown and given to us as a school of special needs. We felt the care and respect as soon as we entered the door, and the support was there until we were off the stage."



#### TOTAL FACEBOOK AND WEBSITE VIEWS PER DAY

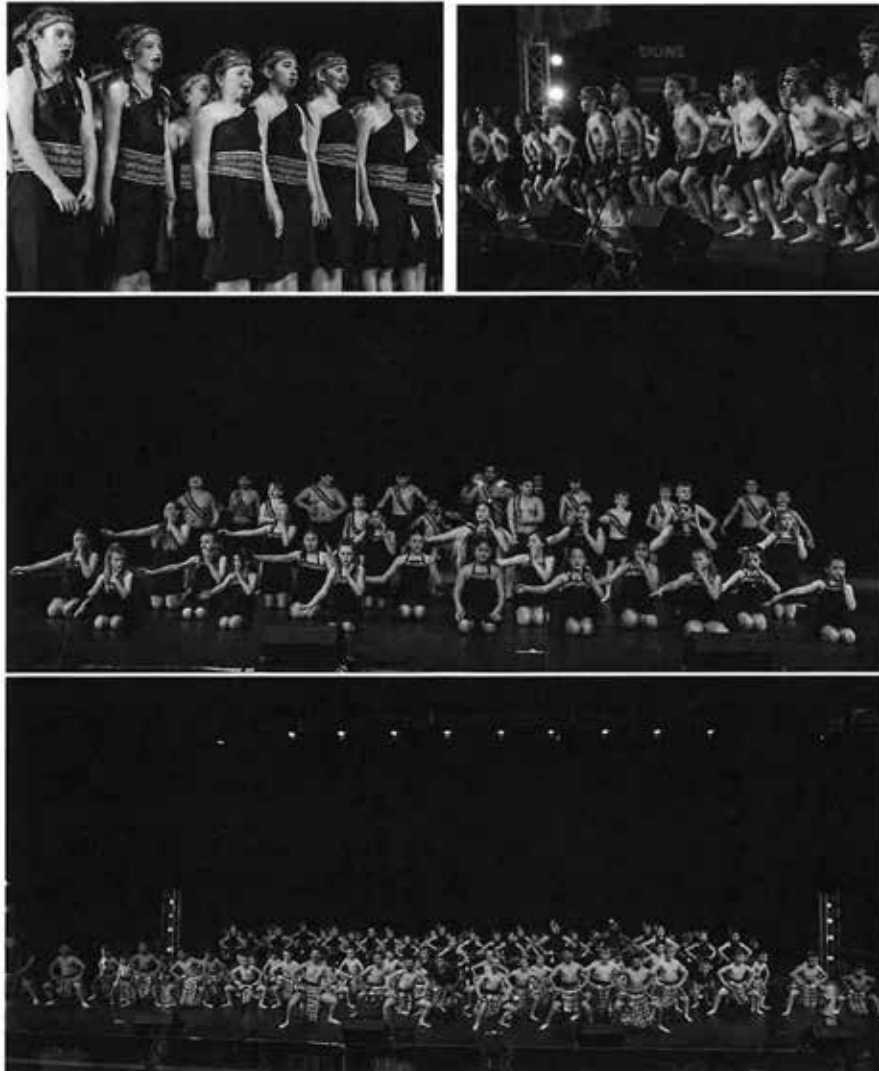
For Murihiku Polyfest we had a total of 71.1k Facebook page visits, and 53k website views, from 49 different countries.

**100%** of rangatahi volunteers said they enjoyed volunteering at Polyfest, and that Polyfest helped them connect with their culture and identity.



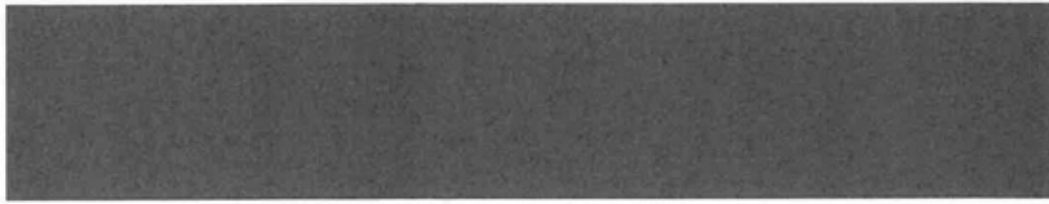
"This is such an incredible week for our tamaiti to be involved in. We appreciate the space to be able to share and showcase Pasifika and Māori culture and language."

Murihiku Polyfest Articles &  
Interview Links 2024



Murihiku Polyfest Articles &  
Interview Links 2024





## DANCING TO THE BEAT:

Movement Experiences of Polyfest Participants  
in Otago & Southland.



Prepared by: Dr Sierra Keung (Principal Investigator – Outback Lifestyle)  
Lefaoalii Dr Dion Enari (Senior Lecturer – Auckland University of Technology)  
Susana Sotutu & Asenati Tavita (Research Assistant)

## Table of Contents

<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....</b>	<b>2</b>
Introduction .....	3
Literature Review .....	3
The role of dance in the Pacific .....	4
Cultural dance and wellbeing .....	4
Pacific Youth Physical Activity and Sport Participation .....	5
Research Framework and Design.....	5
Key engagement approaches .....	6
Kava Bowl Station.....	7
Survey Station .....	8
Group talanoa .....	9
Findings and Discussion .....	9
Kava Bowl & Survey data key insights.....	9
Talanoa data key insights .....	11
Looking forward to the past: Youth recommendations .....	27
Conclusion .....	32

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Introduction

This report draws upon Southland and Otago Pacific youths Polyfest experience and perspectives to better understand physical activity and 'being active' within the context of Polyfest. Strategic collaborative relationships with local communities facilitated engagement points through survey, talanoa and games.

### Key findings

- Southland and Otago Pacific youth highly value social engagement and connection with others when it comes to being active.
- Rugby union, Rugby league, Basketball, Netball, Touch and Volleyball were the most common sport codes that Southland and Otago Pacific youth participated in beyond Polyfest.
- Motivation (or lack thereof), getting up early and getting tired were the most commonly cited challenges to 'being active' for Southland and Otago Pacific youth.
- Te ao Māori and kapa haka serve as an entry point for Southland and Otago Pacific youth to access and engage in Pacific cultural dance.
- Polyfest fosters Pacific kinship and community connection, through vibrant celebratory showcasing of embodied stories and values.
- Cultural dance participation facilitates powerful identity and personal development for Pasifika youth, as a mode of sacred formation and meaningful education to them.
- More opportunities, resourcing and support in this Pasifika dance space may lead to better outcomes holistically for Pasifika youth engagement in school and other areas of life more broadly.

### Acknowledgements

We acknowledge Hawiki Hou at Sport NZ for supporting this research and for the investment that is placed in supporting communities to drive change from within.

Our sincerest and heartfelt gratitude is extended to all our key stakeholders: the Polyfest organising committees of Murihiku, Otago and Central Lakes. To Mīharo Murihiku Trust, thank you for your manaaki and commitment to the kaupapa, and for always opening space for our youth in the deep South to engage and thrive.

Most importantly, to all the youth who shared their time, talents and experiences through this project. Thank you for being willing to engage and we hope you continue to 'actively move' with pride and confidence on every stage you step on in life.

**Fa'afetai lava, Malo 'aupito, Vinaka vakalevu, Meitaki ma'ata and  
Ngā mihi nunui!**

## Introduction

Kapa haka, an indigenous form of cultural dance in Aotearoa, has a profound impact on a participant's wellbeing by strengthening connections to culture and history<sup>1</sup>. More than just performance, Kapa haka empowers Māori identity, culture, and well-being through language, tradition, and community<sup>2</sup>. Similarly, Pacific people use cultural dance and song to better connect with each other and their environment<sup>3</sup>. Through these modes of expression, Pacific communities have been able to positively enhance wellbeing through established forums for celebrating their own cultural ways of being and knowing<sup>4</sup>. For Māori and Pacific peoples, developing a strong sense of ethnic and cultural identity is a protective anchoring factor in today's increasingly diverse and changeable context<sup>5</sup>.

In 1976, the first Polyfest was held in South Auckland, New Zealand. Polyfest is a Secondary School cultural dance festival that enables young people the opportunity to engage with their cultural identity, values, and practices. The concept has grown from strength to strength with local Polyfest's held across the country including: Wellington, Christchurch, Otago and Southland, each with their own distinct stage environment and scheduling. Secondary school academic credits can now be attained for participation in Polyfest, and kapa haka is an official secondary school subject option in a small number of high schools<sup>6</sup>. Cultural dance provides the ideal environment for wellbeing and identity development to be nurtured in accordance with cultural norms, values and beliefs. Furthermore, given the physical exertion experienced through cultural dance, Polyfest provides a context for young people to physically move as Māori and Pacific.

Hence, Sport NZ commissioned Outback Lifestyle to undertake research that would explore Southland and Otago-based Pacific youth perspectives regarding physical activity/being active within the context of Polyfest. The key aims of this research were to:

- Inform a more accurate reflection of the physical activity profile of Pacific youth in Aotearoa.
- Understand what effect cultural dance has on cultural identity, cultural connection and cultural vitality.

## Literature Review

"I dance to invoke memory. I dance to savour the wholeness I feel when I bring my ancestral lines together. I dance to adorn myself in ancestral mana. I dance for the dead. When I dance... I deepen connection to genealogy."

*Pasifika African American poet and dancer, Ojeya Cruz Banks*

### The Role of Dance in the Pacific

Our collective of indigenous and Pacific advocates have collaborated to explore and discover evidence that supports decolonising the definition of “sport” and the sport eco-system in Aotearoa New Zealand (NZ). With breakdancing set to become an Olympic sport at the Paris 2024 Games, it is an opportune time to revisit what constitutes investment-worthy sporting and recreational endeavours in Aotearoa NZ. As such, we see scope to better understand how alternate forms of active recreation such as cultural dance (often overlooked in sports research) may impact the well-being and identity formation of youth. Cultural dance serves in multiple ways as a unique connective exercise as well as immersive learning environment and platform for cultural expression. Research asserts that cultural dance provides a rich space for meaningful identity development, expression, and celebration thus there is a need to enable Pasifika students broader access to such a vital knowledge-base<sup>7</sup>. Pacific Island studies scholar Hau’ofa poignantly frames this development-through-dance process, stating that “the heightened awareness of one’s water and land connections breeds robust identity and harnesses creativity”<sup>8</sup>. This robust sense of identity ties into wellbeing, a complex but generally positive relationship broadly consolidated by a large body of anthropological research<sup>9</sup>.

### Cultural Dance and Wellbeing

Puna and Tiatia-Seath’s (2017)<sup>10</sup> qualitative wellbeing study with Aotearoa or New Zealand-born (NZ-born) Cook Island youth found that the majority of their participants considered positive mental wellbeing to be achieved by drawing strength and validation from meaningful engagement and relationships. Cultural dance groups were identified as a space for “participants to express their emotions and encouraged personal strengthening of mental, social, spiritual and physical wellbeing” (p. 103). This took place for individuals not in isolation but with their community also. Song and dance were broadly highlighted among the most positive aspects of Cook Island culture and identity (points of pride). Engaging in song and dance were considered to be helpful ways of maintaining and strengthening their holistic wellbeing, cultural expression and cultural connection. Participating in physical dance movement together appears to powerfully facilitate a collective shared learning of cultural values. Fairburne-Dunlop (2013)<sup>11</sup> reinforces that “participation in Pacific cultural club activities (such as customs, practices, language, values and world views) builds in youth a sense of self-esteem, belonging, and well-being and is positively related to school achievement” (p.20).

A highly successful cultural dance intervention recorded by Kaholokula et al. (2017)<sup>12</sup> in Hawaii found that as a culturally meaningful form of movement, hula (an indigenous Hawaiian dance form) was an effective mode of health management, social functioning and sustainable physical



activity for at-risk native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders with hypertension. Hula embodies interconnectedness, its movements mirroring spoken words to bridge mind, body, and present moment. While serving as a valid form of moderate to vigorous form of physical activity with physical health benefits, hula also serves wellbeing and development more holistically<sup>13</sup>. The nature of dance as a powerful vehicle for deeper learning and enhanced wellbeing is well supported by international studies<sup>14,15</sup> as well as locally in the Pacific. In contemporary times, Pasifika studies have highlighted how the pedagogical use of Pasifika dance with youth may empower young Pasifika peoples to navigate their cultural identities through connective learning weaving a tapestry of knowledge from the threads of cultural values, lived experiences and ancestral wisdom<sup>16,17</sup>. Hence, cultural dance facilitates and reinforces the “cornerstones of Pasifika cultural identity”<sup>17</sup>, identified as native languages, shared heritage, and shared experiences, which enhance wellbeing.

#### Pacific Youth Physical Activity and Sport Participation

Pre-pandemic (i.e. 2018), Pacific youth in Aotearoa NZ engagement in organised and informal activities matched the national average<sup>18</sup>. Post-pandemic, participation rates are lower among Pacific young people compared to all youth in New Zealand<sup>19</sup>. Almost nine in ten Pacific young people feel encouraged to take part in physical activity, however, lack the confidence to do so on their own. The pandemic has negatively impacted organised sport participation more than other forms of activity, disproportionately affecting Pacific youth. The decline in organised sports participation underscores the need for targeted interventions to ensure equal access to physical activity opportunities for vulnerable populations such Pacific youth and young people living in poverty.

Cultural dance is one such unique mode, replete with distinct beats, movements, stories, attire, and roles across cultures. The opportunity to explore the broader implications of cultural dance is significant in bridging the gap in active participation rates for Pacific youth in Aotearoa NZ. By exploring the unique narratives, values, and practices embedded within cultural dance, this study aims to elevate the Pacific youth voices of the Otago and Southland regions and highlight engaging, culturally relevant, and sustainable pathways to physical activity, fostering connection and wellbeing.

#### Research Framework and Design

The Kakala framework (Appendix A) was adapted and used to inform our approach. Kakala is the “communal process of weaving together a string or lei of flowers that demonstrates collaboration, sharing of resources and the passing of skills to the next generation”<sup>20</sup>. A key value

that underpinned this framework was reciprocal relationships and this report weaves together the voices and experiences of youth who participate in Polyfest in the Otago and Southland regions in Aotearoa, New Zealand.

Research with Pasifika is best done as a highly collaborative effort with local community leaders, administrators and groups. Hawaiki Hou were instrumental in facilitating introductions to our valued partners Mīharo, and the Otago Polyfest organising committee. These partnerships led to crucial engagement opportunities with youth at Murihiku Polyfest (Invercargill) and Otago Polyfest to different degrees. Three key engagement approaches were utilised to invite youth to participate in the current study, and the ensuing results evolved.

### Key Engagement Approaches

The research team attended Murihiku (August 2023) and Otago (September 2023) Polyfest's to collect data in-person. Stalls were set-up at both locations utilising Pacific games, music, artefacts, and colours. The stall was set-up in 3 primary stations: Kava Bowl station, Survey station, Pacific game station (see fig. 2 and 3). It should be noted that the Pacific game station was not used to collect data, rather it helped the research team break the ice with youth and the community as they walked by. The research team wore a uniform t-shirt (fig 1) that was designed specifically for this project. The logo included words and images that reflected Māori and Pacific dance moves and instruments to facilitate conversation.



Figure 1. Uniform logo



Figure 2. Otago Polyfest Stall - Game participant.



Figure 3. Murihiku Polyfest Stall - Game participant.

Finally, the most critical element of the stall were the invited youth in each region who helped engage their peers and fellow community members to participate in our research. Youth volunteers were compensated for their time and significant contribution towards engaging and empowering the youth voice. Our heartfelt gratitude is extended to all our stakeholders again for being key contributors in bringing this project to life.

The final data engagement approach were the Group Talanoa, which were held outside of Polyfest. The following sections provide a description of each data collection approach, the question(s) asked and the total responses. The 'Findings and Discussion' section will provide a deeper analysis of the results.



Figure 4. Youth volunteers running Kava bowl station at Murihiku Polyfest.



Figure 5. Youth engaging in Otago Polyfest stall.

#### Kava Bowl Station

Participants were invited to respond either Yes or No to "Is cultural dance physical activity to you?". A Kava Bowl was placed in the middle of the table with colourful Pacific language cards or stones that reflected 'Yes' or 'No'. In total, 309 individuals engaged with the Kava Bowl station across Murihiku and Otago with 97% of the responses being Yes. Figure 6 offers a snapshot of the responses per Polyfest site.

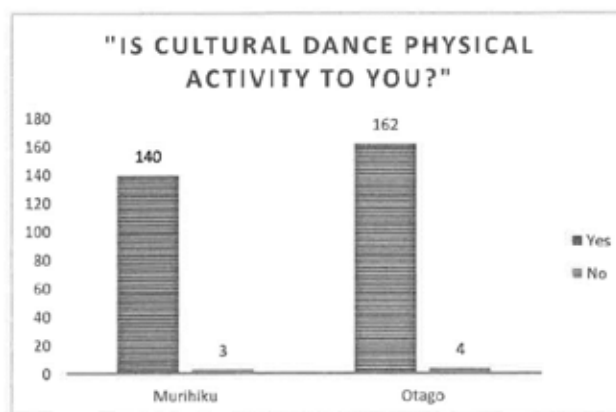


Figure 6. Kava Bowl responses.

Survey Station

Participants were invited to complete an electronic survey that was pre-loaded on a laptop situated at the survey station. Alternatively, participants could scan a QR code and complete the survey on their personal device. Participants were asked to respond to six questions to help us understand what Polyfest means to them, what ‘being active’ means and the challenges they faced in being active. We also sought to develop a profile of what sports Polyfest participants engage in outside of cultural dance.

Overall, we collected 338 survey responses from both Polyfest sites. 82% of survey participants were under the age of 21 with the greatest majority between the ages of 13-16 years old. Participants were able to choose all ethnicity options that were applicable and therefore 36% of all respondents were multi-ethnic and 90% of all respondents whakapapa Māori or Pacific. The following graphs offer a demographic snapshot of the survey participants across the two Polyfest sites.

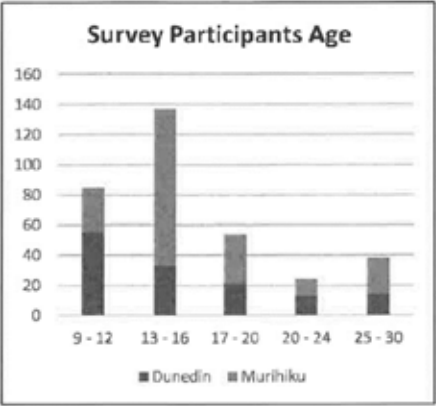


Figure 7. Survey Demographic Snapshot – Age.

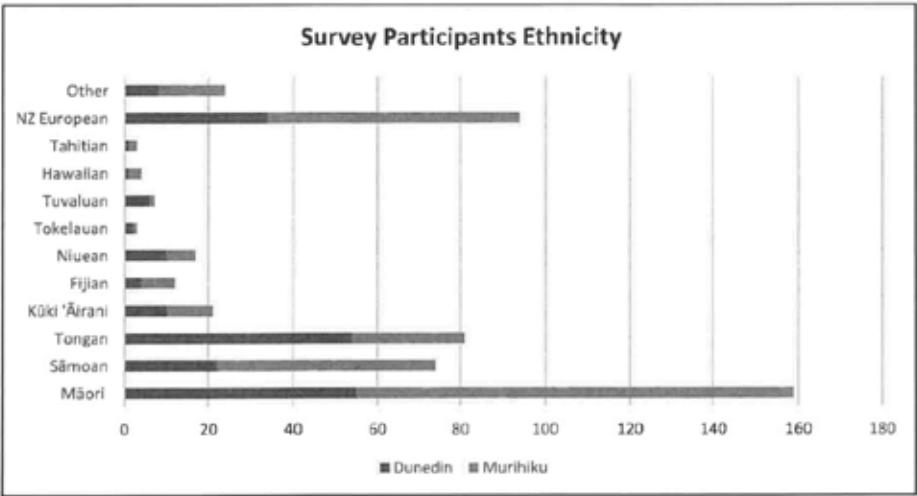


Figure 8. Survey Demographic Snapshot – Ethnicity.

#### Group Talanoa

Three in-person talanoa were held in Murihiku and one in Dunedin. One online talanoa was held with a different group of youth from Dunedin. In total, 9 females and 10 males aged between 13-18 engaged in a group talanoa that lasted on average 45 minutes. The purpose for the talanoa was to take a deeper dive into Pacific youth's Polyfest experience in relation to being active and overall wellbeing, as well as the impact on their connection to culture and cultural identity.

#### Findings and Discussion

Murihiku Polyfest has been in operation for 15 years and Otago Polyfest celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> year. The programme for both Polyfest's have grown from one- or two-day events to a full week of celebration wherein Early Childhood to Secondary School groups participate. There is no competition bracket, rather, it really is an opportunity for the young people to showcase the vibrancy and beauty of cultural dance with their peers to their whānau and community.

This section will highlight the key insights gathered from the survey and talanoa data. The talanoa participants did not shy away from voicing their challenges and what they would like to see more of in the future. Therefore, the recommendations section has been shaped by the youth themselves.

#### Kava Bowl & Survey Data Key Insights

A resounding 302 of 309 (97%) kava bowl poll voters agreed that 'cultural dance is being physically active', with many justifications presented along the lines of *"you have to work hard!"*, *"you get so tired but it's fun"*, *"you practise and practise and make it perfect"*. The willingness of youth to endure the physical exertion required for cultural dance practise adds strength to the validity of cultural dance as a physical activity that youth should be able to access beyond Polyfest.

'Culture' or 'cultural', 'fun' and 'family' were common words that participants used to describe Polyfest and their Polyfest experience. Interestingly, these words featured more prominently than other keywords such as dance, song, Pacific/Pasifika or community. Notably, te reo Māori was integrated in descriptive word associations with Polyfest in the forms of 'kapa haka', 'whānau', 'mana', 'tikanga'. The ethnic make-up of survey participants (multiple choice for blended ethnic backgrounds were enabled) also reflected a strong Māori presence, with Māori recorded as the largest group in both Murihiku and Otago (see Table 3). This mirrors the regional demographics whereby Māori and Pacific make-up 23.6% and 5.3% of population respectively<sup>21,22</sup>.

It must be noted that we anticipate that these population statistics will change when the 2023 Census data is released. Regardless, understanding the Māori and Pacific population of the

Southland and Otago regions offer context to the influence that te ao Māori and kapa haka has on a young Pacific person's Polyfest experience. Polyfest in the deep South regions are heavily dominated by kapa haka brackets and haka tautoko, of which the Pacific youth were proud, confident, and enthusiastic participants and recipients of.

Participants largely determined **'Being active'** to mean *'sports', 'running', 'fun' and 'movement'*. Again, the influence of te ao Māori in Southland also led to participants associating being active with *'kapa', 'haka', 'singing' and 'dancing'*.

The most common challenges to being active cited were *'being/getting tired', 'time', 'motivation', and 'getting up early'*. Motivation, or the lack thereof, is line with young people across Aotearoa NZ as a result of the pandemic<sup>22</sup>. Getting up early and being tired may possibly influence each other as well as the tiring from the physicality of the activity. The cold short days experienced during the winter season in the Otago and Southland regions may be another reason that affects youth getting up early for informal or organised trainings, however more research would need to be conducted to foster understanding.

One of the project aims was to develop a physical activity profile of Pacific youth. In analysing the survey data related to the final survey question *"What sports have you played in the last 12 months"*, we filtered the data to include only respondents who whakapapa Māori or Pacific and were between the ages of 9 and 20. The decision to include Māori in the analyses was informed by the increased systemic inequities for both Māori and Pacific<sup>23</sup>, as well as many participants having whakapapa to both Māori and Pacific. Unsurprisingly, similar results were found in both regions as shown in Table 1. Participants enjoyed team ball sports, highlighting a high value and engagement in reactive, change-of-direction and collective team sports. These sports may offer the greatest sense of family, fun and a resonant team culture. Affordability and accessibility may also play a role in uptake given that these are common sport offerings across Aotearoa NZ.

Table 1. Sport participation by region.

MURIHIKU REGION		OTAGO REGION	
Top 5 Sports			
1	Rugby		Rugby
2	Basketball		Basketball
3	Netball + Rugby League		Netball
4			Touch
5	Volleyball		Volleyball
Average Sports played per person			
	2.2		2.7

While an overwhelming majority (96%) of the surveyed Māori and Pacific youth participants engaged in various sports, it's crucial to acknowledge the 9 individuals who didn't participate in any. For these young Māori and Pacific youth, cultural dance, particularly through Polyfest participation, becomes a significant avenue for physical activity and expression. It is important to highlight this, despite being a small group as it offers valuable insights into the physical activity habits of a population often targeted for interventions, allowing for more nuanced and inclusive approaches.

#### Talanoa Data Key Insights

Our survey provided a glimpse into how young people in Southland and Otago perceive physical activity. Social interaction, enjoyment, and familiarity with kapa haka emerged as key motivators. Recognising this, we delved deeper into the significance of cultural dance, particularly in the context of Polyfest, as a central space for Pacific movement and expression. Five key themes emerged from our talanoa discussions:

- Fostering Pacific kinship and pride through Polyfest.
- Southern Polyfest's are a celebratory, learning space for all members of the community.
- Pacific dance activates core cultural values, strengthening sacred connections and understanding of identity.
- The experiential journey of a youth in Polyfest.

These themes will be explored in detail before offering recommendations, which prominently feature the voices and perspectives of the youth themselves.



#### *Theme 1: The role of kapa haka for Pasifika youth*

The majority of the study's participants who had grown up in Southland/Otago were comfortable and familiar with te ao Māori. This comfort with engaging with Māori language, culture

and customs was widely attributed to early exposure and participation in kapa haka and singing waiata in their primary and intermediate school contexts. In this, junior kapa haka in Southland serves as an introductory medium of engaging with cultural storytelling in formative educational contexts, shaping youths' sense of confidence and connection with tikanga Māori.

*"I actually used to be like a real shy person before, but then when I started to join kapa haka I started like doing more and more performances. Like those nerves just went away."*

*Aged 15 - Samoan female*

*"Probably just more confident in myself yeah. Being in kapa haka... I've kind of found that I can be a part of something. Feels like belonging, like sense of belonging with what I've been doing, especially with starting to lead some stuff. Like that's quite a new thing for me. I've never really been a leader as such, just been in the background. But it's just been quite cool starting to lead stuff."*

*Aged 18 - Māori/Pākehā male, kapa haka leader and member of his school Pasifika group*

The established practices and learning opportunities for youth kapa haka engagement in the deep South appear to be increasingly embedded in early childhood education contexts. These have allowed Southern youth of all ethnic backgrounds to participate and develop an appreciation for Māori culture and movement through performing arts.

As long as Pacific dance was not an option, the youth leaned into kapa haka as their primary form of performative cultural expression in their formal education contexts. The transition point to participating in a Pacific group in high school was something they longed for and highly enjoyed. In this, kapa haka appears to foster an appetite for cultural performances of the Pacific more broadly.

*"I've just been doing kapa haka, it wasn't up until high school where I finally got to do like Pasifika. Kapa was the only thing we could do [at primary school] ... But when we finally got the opportunity [to do Pacific dance] when we started high school, we're like 'ohh we're gonna take it, do whatever we can.' Especially so we can like learn more about other cultures and you know, know more about our culture."*

*Aged 16 - Niuean/Samoan female*

*"I only went to [high] school because of PI [Pacific Island group] ... I feel like having the opportunity to go somewhere where everyone just comes together. There's people talking to people who are also Pasifika. Everybody, like, from everywhere and anywhere. Everyone talks to each other. Everyone talks to each other, and there's like no man left behind."*



*Aged 13 - Fijian female*

Polyfest traditionally celebrates all kinds of cultural dance performances particularly from the South Pacific. However, unlike in Auckland or other parts of Aotearoa NZ, in the Deep South "Poly" or Pasifika groups (generally high schoolers) have tended to feature only occasionally and oftentimes are placed at the end of Polyfest performance days as the climactic performances. Instead, a vibrant celebration and strength of te ao Māori in performance is evident in the Polyfest programmes; as the majority of performances are large junior kapa haka groups (ECE, primary or intermediate) with strong high school kapa haka representation. In 2023, volunteers and hosting MCs wore Māori-designed and patterned attire, greeting and affirming largely in te reo Māori, irrespective of their own ethnicity. Audiences were taught how to sing waiata or shout out encouragement in te reo Māori such as "karawhiua!" (give it heaps!) in between performances.

Haka tautoko – a performative response an acknowledgement from audience members to support an excellent stage performance – was frequent and emphatic, mostly driven by youth especially in response to kapa haka groups (although not exclusively).

*"When you're watching someone else do a haka tautoko for another group, you see how much respect that one group has for the other group."*

*Aged 15 - Samoan female*



*"You do it because they performed really well or like you know someone in there... Yeah like as support, saying that was really good, thank you for sharing it with us."*

*Aged 18 - Māori/Samoan female*

*"It's good too, so you know, sometimes like because they're doing it for you, then you do it back and it's all respect at the end of the day. We do it a lot here."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan male*

*"You feel real respected and cared about, when they do a haka for me."*

*Aged 13 - Samoan male*



Haka tautoko was widely agreed upon in talanoa as a right and befitting cultural sign of respect and aroha following performances, communicating appreciation more powerfully than traditionally conventional modes such as clapping or cheering. Murihiku talanoa participants conveyed a confidence to not only participate in haka tautoko but to also instigate and lead from the audience, and to reciprocate or join in from the stage – independent of having Māori heritage themselves. Through kapa haka as the early taught cultural dance medium in schools, Southern youth (including Pasifika) are formed and inspired by their cultural immersion into te ao Māori. Two distinct sociocultural and relational dynamics became evident as participants spoke of the role of cultural dance in developing:

1. Genuine kinship and comfort between tangata whenua (indigenous Māori) and tangata o le moana (Pacific peoples) as Pasifika are inducted into te ao Māori through kapa haka, school education and sporting involvement (i.e. rugby).
2. A sense of deepened kinship between tangata o le moana more broadly, where Pasifika youth engage (in part by necessity as minorities) more with other Pacific cultures outside of

their own cultures and traditions, learning to simultaneously own their identity with pride in being part of the wider Pacific family.



*Theme 2: Fostering Pacific kinship and pride through Polyfest.*

It is worth noting that Southern Polyfest's are held once a year and are non-competitive, showcasing all ages and stages (in terms of schooling levels) on a big stage in indoor stadium contexts. This enabled a fun, inclusive and celebratory culture to develop, establishing Polyfest (which has run in Dunedin for 30 years, and Murihiku for 15 years) in the South as a unique annual community showcase event of South Pacific cultures. This learning about and interacting with other Pacific cultures was spoken of as a major Polyfest highlight for talanoa participants. In fact, engaging with other Pacific cultures was a big drawcard for many Polyfest participants, finding other Pasifika friends and connections.

*"Polyfest has really helped me understand other people's culture and also has helped me to understand my own culture. And want to be proud of it, because there's not much Fijians down here in Dunedin and that I'm really grateful that there is Polyfest."*

*Aged 17 year - Fijian female*

*"[I love] building the connection. Like just there's people going, dancing, coming back. It's more like going in there and just being around everyone... You know, everyone's energy bouncing off each other and they sort of keep my boys going for the whole practice."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan male*

*"When I joined year nine it was really fun and I got to explore many other cultures."*

*Aged 17 - Samoan female*

*"[I joined because] I wanted to see other cultures and that."*

*Aged 15 - Samoan male*

School Pasifika groups honour the diversity within their own collective by developing varied dance brackets or sets representing the diversity of cultures present. This leads to a much broader learning of Pacific cultures, as they engage with different ways of storytelling in terms of song lyrics, rhythm, movements, positioning, transitions.

*"[I learnt] It's more about like how each culture kind of has their own like vibe to it. So I feel like for Samoan it's more graceful, Tongan it's still graceful but like \*head cocked thoughtfully to one side\*. But Niuean, aw Niuean is like kind of all over the place and then Tuvaluan is like all about just having fun and vibing with everything. But like they all work together well with each other."*

*Aged 16 - Niuean/Samoan female*

*"It was good cos we actually learned new cultural dances like Tongan and Niuean."*

*Aged 18 – Samoan/Chinese female*

The process of crafting and learning these dances involves drawing on community members outside of school staff, such as family (aunties, cousins), church connections, and tutors – oftentimes alumni. In this way, Polyfest offers a forum for intergenerational knowledge transmission, and the exchange of important cultural values such as connection, service, faith, genealogy and excellence through engaging in cultural practices together.

*"Just having my aunties and the family connection was really good to just help. Even like the songs, like, they made the songs."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan male*

*"Earlier this year they [an all boys' Pasifika group] had like workshops with someone from the EFKS (Ekalesia Fa'apotopotoga Kerisiano Samoa) church."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan male*

*"We've had the same tutors the past three years, but then in past years, like they've had different tutors, like they had like older siblings and stuff."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan/Niuean female*

*"It's just tutors coming and just teaching students, and then the seniors would help correct until everyone is perfect and we'd move on to something else."*

*Aged 13 - Fijian female*

Collaboratively developing their cultural dance sets reveals an integral Pacific way of being that highly values the input and contributions of the collective, especially elders, in cultural performance. The input of elders in teaching cultural dance ensures historically accurate learning and correctness of form in storytelling, while also allowing for distinct stylistic expression and development. As such, Polyfest is a cherished space for not only youth, but for community members more widely to engage in fostering cultural learning, belonging and connection within a small and vibrant collective of the few (mostly) Islanders in the school.



The wider Pacific community are involved in teaching and providing informal and formal opportunities for consolidating cultural learnings. However, in addition to this, Pasifika group members themselves are encouraged to be creative in representing and sharing their own culture, by teaching and correcting others in their group. In the Southern contexts this honour, generally held by Year 12 or 13 seniors, was also extended to juniors (contingent to their level of knowledge and competency) including Year 9s, to encourage cultural representation and build confidence and leadership skills. Throughout the process, group members and elders are involved to help perfect the dances.

*"My aunty helped us. Yeah. She pretty much taught the girls. And we came up with our own actions to kinda, like, meet in the middle... Yeah, so that was good. And one person who planned out our dances and stuff like, was my little cousin, she's year 10. She pretty much taught everyone everything because yeah, she's just like, cos she was up you know."*

*Aged 18 – Samoan/Chinese female*

*"For the times the tutor wasn't there, it was just them [seniors] teaching us the songs and going over and over the songs. So then we all knew it by heart. That was actually really helpful because some people showed up to some and some people couldn't show up at all. Cause during when we were practising, it was also rugby season for the boys. So we had to juggle*

*that as well. When we were dancing, we had to go through it a couple of times and then correcting. There was a lot of help coming in from the seniors most of the time, it was the seniors correcting us until everyone is perfect and we'd move on to something else."*

*Aged 13 - Fijian female*

*"I was just like, you know, little Year 9 me and I didn't know anyone like, maybe like 2 weeks into the practises and they asked me to teach them a Fijian song and I'm like 'Okaaay...' So I just taught the song and yeah!"*

*Aged 17 - Fijian female*

These quotes capture how Polyfest can be an empowering space of personal and cultural expression owned by individuals' inputs in a proud collective representation.

The wide acknowledgment and celebration of many Pacific cultures within a group, as represented in their performance set, strongly fosters a sense of Pacific pride and kinship. The emphasis in Southern groups is not about being Samoan or Tongan, but about being Pasifika proud, and enjoying the shared space and resonance of values and ways of being derived from their different cultures.

*"It's just the vibes and having fun like a family together."*

*Aged 18 - Niuean/Samoan female*



*"Polyfest is like more of a free environment. It's like, like you can actually like communicate with people. Like you can talk to someone to your side and ask them what's happening... It's fun."*

*Aged 13 - Fijian female*

*"I was just happy knowing that everyone had somewhere to go to, you know what I mean?"*

*Aged 18 - Niuean/Samoan female*

Beyond the focus on dance movement, Polyfest preparation and performance provides extensive opportunity for personal and interpersonal development for participants in the way of growing in communication skills, intergenerational collaboration, creativity, patience, leadership, pride and resilience to excel together.

*"It was good just to like enhance their knowledge about our [Niuean] culture just because it's just us two, you know? So it's like when we teach it, then they went like, wow, you can do that."*

*Aged 18 - Niuean/Samoan female*

*"You learn to be patient, be more patient, cos you don't usually get on your first try. Learning the songs and the dances. So to be patient and it'll come... With myself and with others."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan male*

*"I loved how like all our girls, you know they put in their cultural dances, and it was fun. It was good... It was hard but with all my cousins' help, and my aunties', it was good."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan/Chinese female*

*"For me, being the ka'apo or the manai of my group... You're having the talk with your nana the night before and even the year when it starts... You're like playing a really sacred role in your group."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan male*

*"[I learnt] that I can push myself more than I thought I could. At the start of the year, we had a bit of a like an argument with one of the matua, and our kaitātakiwahine, she dropped out. And then they made me be kaitātakiwahine, which I would prefer not to, I'm more of a performer than a leader... But yeah, I realised I can push myself further than I thought I could."*

*Aged 18 - Māori/Samoan female*

Enjoying and excelling together is the ultimate goal, and practising extensively to bring it all together is an important part of the process.

*"Once we're on that stage and we're off, we're like 'guys, we pulled it off like, we did it!' I think it was just being able to see all our hard work put together and showcase to everyone. And it shows that you know, all our practices wasn't a waste of time. And you know, I think it's just good to see it and everyone is happy with themselves."*

*Aged 16 - Niuean/Samoan female*

*That Polyfest [in 2019] really helped me to see how much work is put into these practices and how hard everyone tries to get it right. Like perfect every single time so that we don't have to go over and over and over it again."*

*Aged 17 - Fijian female*

*"Seeing them practising, we were so hard on them. One of our Year 9 girls dropped out. But then, at times we stayed there [training]. They loved it, in the end."*

*Aged 18 – Samoan/Chinese female*

*"There was a few rocky parts here and there, but in the end we all came as one and pulled it together."*

*Aged 13 - Fijian female*

In this, Polyfest is not just a generic dance performance, it is a manifestation of identity and embodied celebration of being Pacific. This is honoured by adorning traditional costume/attire, music, movement, lyrics and interactions. Talanoa participants spoke of working hard to showcase their cultures and make their families and community proud. They also spoke of feeling so proud of other participants, particularly the younger ones as they begin their cultural learnings through Pacific dance.

*"It's all excitement though, like these kids are excited to just get on and show not only the community but their parents what they've learnt, like just trying to do it their parents proud and their parents are sitting there just watching the kids and it's all fun."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan male*

*"So my younger cousin, he's like 5 and he went up. And my young brother, he's 10 and he jumped up too... I just felt so proud of them"*

*Aged 15 - Samoan female*



*"[A highlight of Polyfest is] seeing like the little kids' schools and then they're having fun"*

*Aged 18 - Samoan male*

These sharing's reemphasise how participating in Polyfest fosters a broader sense of Pasifika community connection and kinship across Pacific cultures.



*Theme 3: Southern Polyfest's are a celebratory, learning space for all members of the community.*

Our 2023 Southern Polyfest's experience revealed a fascinating discovery: Polyfest serves as a joyous gateway to Pacific cultures for non-Pasifika attendees. This was evident at both the community level (among unrelated members) and within schools (as non-Pasifika youth participated). For the broader Southern communities, Polyfest transforms key sporting venues like Stadium Southland and the Edgar Center into vibrant introductions to Pacific culture.

Pacific sights and sounds envelop visitors upon entry. Music and beats fill the air, while vibrant flags, floral decorations, and colourful attire paint a visual feast. Traditional dances unfold on stage, each movement a story waiting to be told. But the warmth extends beyond performances. Organisers like Miharo create welcoming spaces for elders and VIP guests alike, from dedicated lounges to delicious meals. This generosity, witnessed by Pākehā elders alongside their Pacific counterparts, becomes a tangible lesson in cultural values and respect. Even young performers and the youth volunteers recognise the joy in honouring their elders, adding another layer to the Polyfest experience.

*"It was fun to watch seeing all the cultures represent themselves... Cool to see the oldies in the back. Just enjoying it. Watching all the kids have fun."*

*Aged 15 - Cook Islander female*

Both Polyfest events were hosted at well-known community sporting hubs with plenty of parking available and a very low entry free (a gold coin), if at all. Venue accessibility, warm interactions, energy, decorations, and quality sound setups of Polyfest events allow for easy engagement in a celebratory and educational experience of Pacific culture. This facilitated accessibility – or invitational welcome - is true not only for external community members, who are otherwise generally unrelated to Pasifika people or cultures, but also for youth in school contexts, who are drawn in by the [oftentimes loud] emphasis on celebration, fun and learning about Pasifika cultures together.

*"Polyfest is a great experience, especially for non-Pasifika people who come in and try their best to learn our culture like... to share it with them as well. So I applaud every single person who is non-Pasifika who decides to join PI, it's actually not easy..."*

*Aged 17 - Fijian female*

*"[I loved] Yeah just seeing the kids getting up on stage and like you know some of them are not like Māori or Samoan, but they're still wanting to give it a go and stuff."*

*Aged 15 - Samoan male*

*"Polyfest is fun. It's a great opportunity and I feel like dancing is a good way to get fit. I love sports, but I love Pasifika more."*

*Aged 13 - Fijian female*

As Pasifika youth are a minority in the South, Polyfest is a space where they can be themselves, learning more about their ancestral or Pacific roots, and share this with other peers and the wider community. In this, non-Pasifika find a celebratory, learning space to better understand Pacific cultural values through performative dance together.

*Theme 4: Cultural dance activates core cultural values, strengthening sacred connections and understanding of identity.*

Cultural dance, as a performative and embodied medium of expression, taps into the core of born or inherited identity. Consequently, participation in cultural dance may shape one's identity and activate the sacred and spiritual realm in ways that conventional sporting participation cannot. There are many layers to the identity of a Pasifika youth in Aotearoa NZ today, whereby youth are navigating a range of expectations and narratives from parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, siblings, teachers, coaches, role models, peers and even strangers (in society at large, with historic stereotypes or discrimination to contend with). Culture, faith (including church involvement) and family are deeply valued by Pasifika groups<sup>24</sup>, providing means of identity, security, purpose, joy and celebration. For those who have experienced familial disconnect or distancing from the church or islands, having spaces for Pasifika expression and learning becomes more important.



*"Polyfest is like the only thing that keeps me in contact with my Samoan culture. I don't go to church or anything like that like."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan/Māori male*

*"It [Polyfest] helped not only me, but helped my boys like, connect with their culture. Because these boys don't get exposed to much because you know, we're not [grown] from Samoa so we don't get exposed to that. We're not around it as much. Like, all the language barriers and all of that, but just seeing all the boys get up and come to practices and stuff was really good to see they're really keen."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan male*

In Southland, where Pasifika are the minority, designated spaces where other Pasifika are present and celebrated are somewhat magnetic.

*"I did Polyfest, just cos that's when I started to hang out with all the Poly boys, I guess. And then since they were all doing it, I kind of just tagged along."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan/Māori male*

*"When I started Polyfest in year nine, I did not know what Polyfest was. My friends just kind of dragged me there on a Wednesday afternoon. And I'm just like, 'what am I doing here with a*

*bunch of loud hyenas?" \*laughs\* Cause it was just laughing, eating and I didn't know anyone and I was just like, 'OK, let's try this one out'... I feel like I just found more friends"*

*Aged 17 - Fijian female*

*"Volleyball was really fun, just cause most of the Pacific Islanders play volleyball, so Friday after school you just go to the Edgar Center and you just wait for your game and there are just people walking around, you're talking to everyone. You know everyone. But Polyfest is definitely way funner, funner, funner, funner, with Pasifika."*

*Aged 13 - Fijian female*

To have other Pasifika in a context is a huge comfort and support to having a great experience, as shared experiences and values enable friendships of fuller understanding. Sport in Aotearoa NZ is an identity-refining domain where one's culture and identity may be expressed, however at the end of the day, the jersey that is worn is extrinsic to one's own skin. A black jersey (NZ's national uniform colour for most sporting codes) is acquired by work, awarded by coach selectors, and requires that team members fit into a broader national team culture. Pacific cultural dance is one of very few spaces where Pasifika youth are the majority in determining the vibe or culture and shape of their engagement. Additionally, in Pacific cultural dance, what is internal, innate, and literally embedded in one's DNA is represented and celebrated through performative storytelling. Unlike in sports, performing isn't about winning but displaying an excellent showcasing of culture through rhythmic unity, which induces deep pride. You dance to say, 'this is who I am' and 'this is where I'm from'. Your culture is inbuilt, and dance allows you to express it directly.

*"I think there is a difference because like, say sports wise, there's always competition between where like people whereas when you're dancing, it's more of like a graceful kind of movement like, it's not a competition, no one will judge you for it cos you're trying to embrace each other's culture."*

*Aged 17 - Fijian female*

It is a sacred undertaking of connecting with, honouring and representing Pacific culture, through forms that Pacific peoples, including your own ancestors, have long valued and participated in.

*"You're playing a really sacred role in your group. And I wanted to get up with my boys and then make a dick of myself just before we got up there, but it wasn't something that I could do."*

*You know like just having fun... But at the end of the day, it was all for my culture. And I chose to do my nana proud, and my dad."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan male*

Cultural dance reinforces and celebrates the core identity that is and always will be, regardless of injury, non-selection, transferring clubs or codes or retirement, realities found in sporting participation. Your culture is inherited from your parents, and their parents, and their parents before, a sacred gift from God for Pacific youth. This makes cultural dance, as a means of cultural storytelling and connection, a deeply meaningful form of movement and learning of self beyond the constructs of a win-lose game.



*Theme 5: The experiential journey of a youth in Polyfest*

The enjoyment of Polyfest participation was highlighted several times by talanoa participants, who loved Polyfest and their Pasifika groups because of how much fun they had together, even as juniors. The embodied nature of learning to move well in sync together to Pacific music that their families and communities have made or love, elevates their experience.

*"Polyfest is fun. It's a great opportunity and I feel like dancing is a good way to get fit. I love sports, but I love Pasifika more."*

*Aged 13 - Fijian female*

*"I prefer Polyfest over like studies because it was more fun."*

*Aged 17 - Samoan female*

*"So it was really good to just sing, you know, because it's fun to do."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan male*

*"I noticed it with the boys and when we practice anything it's like, we all feel like connected, even with like the little ones. So then it's not just like us senior boys, like being all together, we're all just around each other."*

*Aged 18 - Tongan male*

*"I learnt that along the time that you spend with the people here the closer they get and turn into family. It's taught me how to appreciate others. All this because if I don't have my team with me, I don't think we can stand."*

*Aged 13 - Samoan male*

*"So making the connections with the other volunteers and things with them and hanging out with them for the week and then also performing in the practices leading up, the majority of them were fun. Some were stressful but just, yeah."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan/Māori female*

For juniors, Polyfest practices are often simultaneously strict and fun. However for seniors, there is an added weight of responsibility to ensure everyone else is well-connected and on the same page.

*"Seeing them practising, we [the leaders] were so hard on them. One of our Year 9 girls dropped out. But then, at times we stayed there [training]. They loved it, in the end."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan female*

*"I'll just take it [Pacific dance responsibility] because then it's like at the end of the day, it's like less for the girls."*

*Aged 18 - Niuean/Samoan female*

*"It's about being sacred, like you're, you're playing a really sacred role in your group. And I wanted to get up with my boys and then make a dick of myself just before we got up there, but it wasn't something that I could do. You know like just having fun... But at the end of the day, it was all for my culture. And I chose to do my nana proud, and my dad."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan male*

While younger teenage Pasifika love to be immersed in their cultural dance environment, the older ones feel a keen sense of responsibility to lead well and ensure the environment is all good. Rather than fun being the pure emphasis for the seniors, it is about servant leading and role modelling with representation in mind. This sense of deeper connection to one's culture and sacred whakapapa through cultural dance makes it a more effective form of physical activity than other modes such as gym or running.



#### Looking forward to the past: Youth recommendations

*"There's not enough!"*

Polyfest provides school Pasifika groups with a clear performative goal and purpose for cultural learning and showcasing of their cultures together. Above and beyond the physical benefits, participation in Polyfest builds a sense of connection, belonging and pride to be associated with Pacific culture, boosting the confidence and self-assurance of teenagers involved.

*"The hype of the whole performance just kind of boosts our confidence up, just being with everyone."*

*Aged 18 - Māori/Pākehā male*

*"The more you perform the less you care about what other people think, so it gives you more confidence. Once you stop caring about a lot of [what] people think, you're all good."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan male*

However, the opportunities to engage in this formative space of Pacific-specific practise and performance are few and far between, which talanoa participants lamented. While Pasifika youth honour te ao Māori and kapa haka, as high schoolers they have a strong appetite to participate in Pacific cultural dance.

*"I think there's like not enough [Pacific cultural dance]. It's just us and Girls High that have Pacific groups like the rest are kapa haka, right? When I go Polyfest, I feel like I don't get enough of it, but then I don't go to church as well so..."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan male*

*"It's more, better to do heaps [of cultural dance] throughout [the year]."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan male*

Several talanoa participants even had schematics for how broader South Island Pasifika dance connection could take place, with regional hub connects and stay-over cultural dance workshops.

*"We'd like more opportunities. I reckon we should do like a Dunedin, Invercargill, Oamaru thing. I feel like if we get like two regions together, I reckon it'll be bigger groups and more people forced to connect with so that it's not just Dunedin, if that makes sense. So that we have more connections like networking I guess with other Pacifica students from the South Island... Maybe we could do like workshops to help each other learn about each other's culture."*

*Aged 17 - Fijian female*

*"I feel like everyone was like 'ohh next year then Polyfest'... It's just a day thing and then it's done. But I feel like there should be something more like [for] regions to come together, like maybe for a week or like 3 days long, having days with other people that you don't normally like talk to or live with. I think that could expand our relations. They can be a Pacific Council and they can, like, organise it for us and get funding. So then everyone can like have like a place to stay, like a whole and they could be like two halls. And then people can go through there."*

*Aged 13 - Fijian female*

*"[I would want] more support from teachers"*

An area of great challenge highlighted by talanoa participants is the lack of cultural awareness, understanding and practical support from school staff for Pasifika culture at large. Schools are evidently eager to publicly promote support for Pacific students to express their respective cultures. However, the practical operations of this support are not clarified or negotiated between students and staff members to ensure mutual understanding and respect. Rather than feeling empowered, the students expressed feeling dismissed or distrusted when they expressed their cultural needs and how they wanted support.

*"It's just hard because you don't really have that kind of support that we want. And every time we say like 'ohh, we've got to do something for like our Pasifika stuff' our teacher's kind of don't really take it into consideration and like they don't realise how important that is to us. So*



*they're like, 'ohh, no, like stop making up issues or whatever'. And I think it's just hard that we want to express it [Pacific culture] day in, day out, but they're like restricting us from that."*

*Aged 18 - Niuean/Samoan female*

*"There's like no support for many of the teachers and there's like no adults [for a Pacific dance group] ... The school already like already unappreciated the kapa haka group and the competition and me doing two groups. There's no one helping me [for Pacific dance]."*

*Aged 18 - Māori/Samoan female*

This has led to feeling exploited for the school's gain (social status, celebrating cultural diversity) at the cost of student wellbeing. Notably the students felt demoralised at the perceived lack of physical follow through with staff presence attending events, cheering for students, or meeting students halfway to support cultural dance as an important part of their schooling formation.

*"I don't really feel like schools appreciate the culture, they appreciate it when it makes them look good, like tokenism. They only appreciate it when it's Samoan language week and Tongan language week and you know, they just wanna post something on the Instagram to look good to show that they, you know, that they're there for us but when it comes to that stuff you know they're like throwing some of us under the bus. Saying oh we shouldn't do this and shouldn't do that because that doesn't make them look good to the board."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan male*

*"It's just really inconsistent. Like they want us to embrace our culture but then they only want us to embrace our culture at some point like when we have our [Polyfest] showcase. They're really quick to go to social media and talk about how highly we are, how much they support us and this. But then it's like on the actual day, we don't see them, and we see like two different things there. So it's like, you know, you can't do a half job like, you know, showcase our culture, but then are you guys actually gonna turn up."*

*Aged 18 - Niuean/Samoan female*

*"We want to meet in the middle."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan male*

*"It's a cultural awareness thing, but also education as well."*

*Aged 18 - Māori/Samoan female*

A key message to school staff would be that physical presence and logistical support speak volumes beyond public or published words of affirmation. Additionally, teachers would benefit from developing an understanding of the importance of cultural dance to their students as a mode of identity formation and security and considering negotiating student workload during performance times. Teachers may positively impact engagement with re-visioned practice by giving attention to the value of deep relationality that Pasifika students live by<sup>25</sup>.

*"[I would want] more cultural awareness of what like we [Pasifika] believe in. And like, how we do things at home. We shouldn't just stop that just to go to school"*

There appears to be a real dearth in cultural awareness and understanding of strong Pacific beliefs, customs, and ways of moving within Southern school contexts. The youth spoke of feeling misunderstood and judged for wanting to proudly display their culture. This is particularly disheartening for them, as their collective and individual cultural pride is being denied. This is particularly concerning given the deep value and embedded meaning in cultural artefacts that are worn as visual and felt reminders of one's identity.

*"Some appreciation as well, or awareness. They call the ie's like skirts and they try to bum us out for that like, "ew you're a boy why you wearing a skirt for?" Like that's important to me, like it's my culture you know. But they don't get it and they won't get it. You know, they got movies and that, books and that and they still won't get it."*

*Aged 18 - Samoan male*

*"Quite a few teachers in school ask us 'Can you tuck in your greenstone [necklace], or your [carved] bone into your shirt?"*

*Aged 18 - Māori/Samoan female*

*"I think it's [hard] because of the community like right here at OG's we kind of really feel judged for trying to raise our culture and do anything like that."*

*Aged 16 - Niuean/Samoan female*

The daily battle to toe the different lines of school, home and community life is exhausting. Presently, students experience a pressure of 'either or' needing to conform at school rather than 'both and', where they can authentically show up as themselves and succeed in the various domains of their life.

*"It was just really stressful on my half that like I'm trying to like help the girls out [to organise events and performances] but then also trying to respect the teachers. But then it's like, I kind of can't do both."*

*Aged 18 - Niuean/Samoan female*

*"Yeah, it's just hard for us to balance the school and the extracurricular because if it's not under the school they're not gonna accept it... We can't either just skip school or skip cultural right."*

*Aged 18 - Niuean/Samoan female*

*"They [teachers] expect us to do things their way when we have a way of doing things. We shouldn't just stop that [cultural expression] just to go to school."*

*Aged 15 - Cook Islander female*

Cultural dance is not only an important domain for personal and social cultural expression, but also of education for others within school and community contexts. The learning that takes place is not limited to actively involved participants (dancers), but also wider community members who are exposed to different values and customs embodied in the performances and preparation. It must be valued accordingly.

Considering the participants' desire for more Pacific cultural dance opportunities and cultural awareness education, we recommend:

- Further exploration of how cultural dance enhances physical, mental, emotional and social development.
- Establishing regional Pacific Youth 'Movement' Councils to ensure Pasifika youth have a voice in shaping opportunities for cultural engagement and expression through movement, be it through sports, recreation or dance. Youth should name their council.
- Collaboration of Ministry of Pacific Peoples and local Pacific sport/art trusts with Pasifika school youth leaders to consider developing multi-day opportunities for teenagers to learn and engage with Pacific cultural dance outside of regional Polyfest.
- School staff leadership to engage with Pasifika school leaders and families at the start of the school year to discuss integrating and establishing modes of resourcing/support for cultural celebration via Polyfest and Pacific Language Week engagement

- Highlighting the resonance and crossover of Pasifika values and ethics with te ao Māori, demonstrating connections between tangata whenua and tangata o le moana as Pacific kin, and celebrating the diverse nuances across groups.
- Investment support innovations to address Pacific cultural dance capability and capacity development.

## Conclusion

Polyfest is a highly anticipated annual event, especially for Pacific youth. Polyfest also appeared to be a critical site not only for physical activity and movement but also for broader wellbeing implications related to cultural and social connection for Pacific youth in the Otago and Southland regions. More specifically:

- Southland and Otago Pacific youth highly value social engagement and connection with others when it comes to being active.
- Rugby union, Rugby league, Basketball, Netball, Touch and Volleyball were the most common sport codes that Southland and Otago Pacific youth engage in.
- Motivation (or lack thereof), getting up early and getting tired were the most commonly cited challenges to 'being active' for Southland and Otago Pacific youth.
- Te ao Māori and kapa haka serve as an entry point for Southland and Otago Pacific youth to access and engage in Pacific cultural dance.
- Polyfest fosters Pacific kinship and community connection, through vibrant celebratory showcasing of embodied stories and values.
- Cultural dance participation facilitates powerful identity and personal development for Pasifika youth, as a mode of sacred formation and meaningful education to them.
- More opportunities, resourcing and support in the Pacific cultural dance space may lead to better outcomes holistically for Pasifika youth engagement in school and other areas of life more broadly.



The study has illuminated a significant opportunity to address the active participation gap for Pacific youth in Aotearoa NZ. The former Honourable Minister of Pacific Peoples, Aupito William Sio has already acknowledged, that our young people are "calling for the importance of music, dance...to help them to connect with their language and culture"<sup>25</sup>. Let us move beyond mere

exploration and embrace this powerful tool by investing in programs and initiatives that leverage the vibrant world of cultural dance. This requires collaboration, innovation, and a commitment to cultural sensitivity. Through strategic engagement with key community stakeholders and local youth across the region, we can empower our Pasifika youth to discover the power and joy of movement, celebrate their heritage, and lead the way towards a more active and vibrant future for all.



**Mahalo nui loa, Fakafetai lahi lele, Fakaaue, Tangkiu, Fakafetai lasi and Tangkyu!**

## References

- <sup>1</sup> Pihama, L., Tipene, J., & Skipper, H. (2014). Ngā Hua a Tāne Rore: The Benefits of Kapa Haka. *Ministry for Culture and Heritage*.
- <sup>2</sup> Isaac-Sharland, W. (2019). Kapa haka- A catalyst for change. *NZ Curriculum Online*. Retrieved from <https://nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/Curriculum-resources/NZC-Online-blog/Kapa-haka>
- <sup>3</sup> Matapo, J., & Enari, D. (2021). Re-imagining the dialogic spaces of talanoa through Samoan onto-epistemology. *Waikato Journal of education*, 26, 79-88.
- <sup>4</sup> Enari, D., & Faleolo, R. (2020). Pasifika collective well-being during the COVID-19 crisis: Samoans and Tongans in Brisbane. *Journal of Indigenous Social Development*, 9(3), 110-126.
- <sup>5</sup> Manuela, S., & Anae, M. (2017). Pacific youth, acculturation and identity: The relationship between ethnic identity and well-being-new directions for research. *Pacific Dynamics: Journal of Interdisciplinary Research*, 1(1), 130-147.
- <sup>6</sup> Ministry of Education. (2023). *Te Ao Haka*. Retrieved from <https://ncea.education.govt.nz/arts/te-ao-haka?view=learning>
- <sup>7</sup> Wagner, T., Roundell, T., & Vargas, L. (2003). *Arts education in the Pacific region: Heritage and creativity*. UNESCO.
- <sup>8</sup> Cruz Banks, O. (2021). I dance for the dead: The blue and black in the Pacific: A eulogy for Teresia Teaiwa. *The IATC Journal/Revue de l'AICT*, 23.
- <sup>9</sup> Matika, C. M., Manuela, S., Houkamau, C. A., & Sibley, C. G. (2021). Māori and Pasifika language, identity, and wellbeing in Aotearoa New Zealand. *Kōtuitui: New Zealand Journal of Social Sciences Online*, 16(2), 396-418.
- <sup>10</sup> Puna, E. P., & Tiatia-Seath, S. (2017). Defining positive mental wellbeing for New Zealand-born Cook Islands youth. *Journal of Indigenous Wellbeing*, 2(1), 97-106.
- <sup>11</sup> Fairbairn Dunlop, P. (2013). Pacific youth connecting through Poly. Chapter 28. 440-457.
- <sup>12</sup> Kaholokula, J. K. A., Look, M., Mabellos, T., Zhang, G., de Silva, M., Yoshimura, S., ... & Sinclair, K. I. A. (2017). Cultural dance program improves hypertension management for Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders: a pilot randomized trial. *Journal of racial and ethnic health disparities*, 4, 35-46.
- <sup>13</sup> Hosoda, M. K. (2010). *Halau education: A review of hula, haka and siva education strategies in Hawai'i and New Zealand*. [Master's thesis, University of Otago].
- <sup>14</sup> Buck, R. (2022). Teaching and learning in, about and through dance education. In *Dance Pedagogy and Education in China: A personal narrative of teaching in, about and through dance education* (pp. 19-41). Singapore: Springer Nature Singapore.
- <sup>15</sup> Duberg, A., Möller, M., & Sunvisson, H. (2016). "I feel free": Experiences of a dance intervention for adolescent girls with internalizing problems. *International journal of qualitative studies on health and well-being*, 11(1), 31946.

- <sup>16</sup> Taeao, S., & Averill, R. (2021). Tu'utu'u le upega l le loloto—cast the net into deeper waters: exploring dance as a culturally sustaining mathematics pedagogy. *The Australian Journal of Indigenous Education*, 50(1), 127-135.
- <sup>17</sup> Drysdale, D., Carrington, L., Sanerivi, O., Smith, D., & Perry, M. (2022). Perceptions of Pasifika Caregivers on a Pacific Community Playgroup and Implications for Paediatric Physiotherapists. *New Zealand Journal of Physiotherapy*, 50(2).
- <sup>18</sup> Sport NZ. (2018). Active NZ main report: The New Zealand participation survey 2018. <https://sportnz.org.nz/media/1440/published-final-active-nz-main-report-the-new-zealand-participation-survey-2018-12-august-2019.pdf>
- <sup>19</sup> Sport NZ. (2023). Participation of Pacific ethnic communities.
- <sup>20</sup> Fua, S. J. (2014). Kakala research framework: A garland in celebration of a decade of rethinking education. USP Press.
- <sup>21</sup> Stats NZ. (2018). 2018 Census place summaries: Otago region. <https://www.stats.govt.nz/tools/2018-census-place-summaries/otago-region>.
- <sup>22</sup> Stats NZ. (2018). 2018 Census place summaries: Southland region. <https://www.stats.govt.nz/tools/2018-census-place-summaries/southland-region>
- <sup>23</sup> Sport NZ. (2022). Active NZ changes in participation: The New Zealand participation survey 2021. <https://sportnz.org.nz/media/5150/active-nz-changes-in-participation-2021-1.pdf>
- <sup>24</sup> Gordon, B., Sauni, P., & Tuagalu, C. (2013). Sport means 'family and church': Sport in New Zealand Pasifika communities. *Asia-Pacific Journal of Health, Sport and Physical Education*, 4(1), 49-63. <http://doi.org/10.1080/18377122.2013.760427>
- <sup>25</sup> Anae, M., & Peterson, I. (2020). I am who I am—Pacific tertiary students and the centrality of ethnic identity for successful outcomes. *MAI Journal*, 9(1), 38-48.
- <sup>26</sup> Ministry of Pacific Peoples. (2022). *Leo Moana Survey Report*. Retrieved from <https://www.mpp.govt.nz/assets/Reports/Leo-Moana/Leo-Moana-Survey-Report-Web2.1.pdf>



Annual Report

2024



# CONTENT

Our Board & Patroness .....	3
Our Team .....	4
Message from our Chairman .....	5
Message from our General Manager .....	6
Our Core Values .....	7
Rangatahi Māia .....	8
The Conch .....	8
IWI 2024 .....	9
Raranga Kete Vananga .....	9
Dancing to the Beat .....	11
All in for Arts Breakfast Tour .....	12
The Gentle Collective .....	13
Senior Artist Exhibition .....	15
Koha for our Hāhā .....	17
Mīharo Murihiku Art Exhibition & Awards .....	18
Southland Creative Art Awards .....	19
Murihiku Polyfest 2024 .....	21
Central Lakes Art Exhibition & Awards .....	23
Central Lakes Polyfest 2024 .....	24
The Heart of a Father - Fua Creative .....	26
Whakamanahia te Rangatahi 2024 .....	28
Rangatahi Aspiring Artist Scholarship .....	35
Friends of Mīharo .....	37
Sponsors & Supporters .....	38



# OUR BOARD & PATRONESS

We are grateful for our dedicated Board of Trustee and Patroness, whose voluntary contributions of time, energy, and expertise are vital to Mīharo's success. Their unwavering support and leadership continue to drive our kaupapa and empower our communities.



**Patroness**  
Marcia Te Au-Thompson



**Board Chair**  
Gary Davis



**Deputy Chair**  
Angela Blair



Raiha Johnson



Junior Tonga



Karina Davis-Marsden



Loretta Schmidt



# OUR TEAM



**Tania Carran**  
General Manager



**Tara McIntosh**  
Business & Finance Manager



**Peta Kuresa**  
Programme & Event Lead - Murihiku



**Anjelina Nikora-Wilson**  
Rangatahi & IT Lead



**Aroha Solomon**  
Programme & Event Lead - Central Lakes



**Fogafu (Baba) Kuresa**  
Kaitiaki & Admin Support

## MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

Gary Davis



Tēnā koutou

He kai kahikatea, he rākau pāpua, te kiri amoko,  
te kiri kōwae, he uho hīnau tē wharemoa nei mai  
i te whenua ki te rangi! Whakahuiā kia tau, ka  
tau! ka pai! Kei ngā toforewa o tai wiwi, kā  
kikopuku o tai wawā, nei rā te  
whakamānawataka o te ngākau te tauhi ake rā  
i kā tauwhirotaka a te wāhi ngaro kia tau iho ki  
ruka i a koutou katoa, tīhei maurioro!

Warm greetings to you all who continue to support Mīharo, the leading organisation for cultural activities in the Southern region of Te Waipounamu. This past year has been extraordinary, and I have been truly amazed by the growth and recognition we have received, not only within our own community but also on a national scale. Seeing our initiatives flourish and make a meaningful impact on our people is a source of great pride and a testament to the dedication and passion of our team.

A heartfelt acknowledgment goes to our esteemed kuia, Whaea Marcia, who has now relocated to Waitaha. Although she has moved away from our region, she will always remain a foundational pillar of Mīharo. Her unwavering commitment and dedication will never be forgotten, and her legacy will continue to inspire future generations. I also extend my gratitude to the incredible team who work tirelessly to deliver high-quality programmes for our people. Their energy, perseverance, and love for our kaupapa ensure that we continue to strengthen and uplift both Māori and Pasifika cultures.

As we look ahead to the new year, we embrace the exciting challenges that come with further growth and development. We remain committed to expanding and celebrating our rich Māori and Pasifika heritage, ensuring that our cultural traditions thrive for generations to come.

Mauri ora!

mīharo  
2024 ANNUAL REPORT

5

## MESSAGE FROM OUR GENERAL MANAGER

Tania Carran



2024 has been a year of growth, reflection, and strengthened commitment for Mīharo. We continue to uplift the Murihiku community by fostering deep connections, empowering our rangatahi, and celebrating the vibrancy and beauty of our Māori and Pasifika peoples. Our ongoing initiatives have created meaningful opportunities for cultural enrichment and leadership development, leaving a lasting impact on individuals and communities alike.

Our values remain central to our kaupapa, helping to instill a strong sense of identity, belonging, and leadership in those we serve. Through mentorship, cultural immersion, and support, we are empowering the next generation of leaders to carry forward their traditions with pride and confidence. The growth and transformation we witness in our youth are a testament to the power of cultural connection and community support.

This year also marks an exciting period of growth within our organisation. We are proud to welcome two new role positions to our team, reflecting the increasing demand for our services. Aroha Solomon has joined us as our Programme and Event Lead based in Tāhuna (Queenstown), while Fogafu Kuresa has taken on the role of Kaitiaki in our Waihopai office. Their addition brings our team to six, further enhancing our capacity to deliver meaningful change and support across our communities. This expansion is a reflection of the impact we are making and the trust placed in us by the people we serve.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our incredible staff and board of trustees for their unwavering dedication and mahi that makes everything we do possible. We also sincerely thank our funders for their ongoing support and investment in our vision, and express our deepest appreciation to the communities we serve for trusting us to walk alongside them on this journey. Finally, we are profoundly grateful to the amazing artists and arts communities we are so fortunate to work with. Your creativity, passion, and collaboration enrich our kaupapa and allow us to create meaningful relationships that celebrate the transformative power of the arts. Together, we continue to achieve remarkable things.



# OUR CORE VALUES

## MANAAKITANGA

***Care and respect for all people, resources, culture and environment.***

Miharo is dedicated to taking care of our community. During each event, we use Manākitanga to ensure our guests, performers and supporters feel appreciated and respected.

## WHANAUNGATANGA

***Part of developing the community means building positive and committed relationships with people.***

Miharo work to build strong relationships within our community, so that we all grow together.

## RAWE

***Excellence. People in our community receive the best experience, resources and events.***

Rawe is an important part of manaakitanga and taking care of our community. We want our guests to receive the best care and resources possible, and ensure that we use rawe as one of our core values.

## MANA TAKATA

***Our community are valued and provided opportunities to realise their potential and flourish.***

As a trust, our focus is on people and our community; particularly youth and cultural development. As such, many of our events, such as our Youth Mentoring Programme, are targeted specifically to uplifting people and mana takata.

## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

**RANGATAHI MĀIA***Annual Programme*

Rangatahi Māia is a weekly drop-in held every Wednesday from 3 pm to 5 pm. It offers rangatahi a safe and welcoming space to connect, work on homework or school projects, support with scholarship applications and processes, create art, access Chromebooks, or seek support in any area they need. We are excited to continue developing and expanding this programme in 2025, ensuring it remains a valuable resource for rangatahi to thrive and achieve their goals.

**THE CONCH***January*

2024 began with our second engagement with The Conch, Pacific Theatre Company, as Co-Founder, Tom McCrory and Actor, Matthias Luafutu joined us in Waihopai for a film and storytelling workshop.

This collaboration has sparked a learning journey and deepened our approach to supporting rangatahi in thriving creatively. The Conch eagerly reconnected with rangatahi from their December 2023 workshop, reflecting on past sessions and shaping the next steps. The rangatahi are beaming with enthusiasm to explore new creative pathways.

We developed our understanding of the 'Narrative Arc,' learning to build strong foundations and momentum, much like the work we do with our rangatahi. Together with The Conch, we'll continue creating art through film and theatre while fostering our rangatahi in their creative journeys.



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

## IWI 2024

## INDIGENOUS WOMEN IN INDUSTRY SUMMIT

*"Uniting indigenous women for a stronger global economy, people, and planet."*

## February

Angela Blair (Deputy Board Chair) and Tania Carran (General Manager) had the privilege of attending the IWI-Indigenous Women in Industry Summit in Rotorua. This incredible gathering brought together over 200 wāhine from around the world to share inspirational stories and discuss topics such as the journey of wāhine Māori activists, investing in indigenous entrepreneurship, indigenous-to-indigenous trade, climate change, and more.



A highlight was connecting with Dr. Simone Bull (Ngāti Porou), whose presentation on lesser-known Māori women who have significantly shaped history deeply resonated with us. Her kaupapa aligns beautifully with the NZ Histories curriculum, and she has expressed interest in collaborating with us, as well as with teachers and the Murihiku Young Parents' Learning Centre. We're already looking forward to the next summit, which will be held in Vancouver in 2026.

## RARANGA KETE VANANGA

## March

We had the privilege of hosting Teokotai Paitai (Ta'i) in Waihopai, where he shared his extensive knowledge and expertise in raranga kete with our community. Ta'i has woven a remarkable journey in the Arts, spanning dance, performance, event management, and now raranga kete. The response was overwhelmingly positive and the workshop was fully booked within 24 hours. The workshop brought together 15 participants, ranging from experienced weavers to beginners. Each worked at their own pace and benefitted from one-on-one guidance with Ta'i, mastering new skills. By the end, participants took home not only their completed kete but also the knowledge and resources to continue their weaving journey.



## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

**RARANGA KETE VANANGA***March*

The feedback from this vananga was exceptional, with 100% of participants expressing how much they valued the experience and Ta'i's gentle, insightful teaching style. It was an absolute pleasure to host such a gifted artist, and we are excited to continue this connection with Teokotai.

We had the immense privilege of welcoming Teokotai Paitai (Ta'i) back to Murihiku as our Special Guest Artist for our Murihiku Polyfest in August. Ta'i facilitated a series of Raranga Kete Vananga workshops with Komiti Pasifika Murihiku, local māmā and community members, and at Murihiku Polyfest, where participants were able to weave and create onsite.

Teokotai Paitai's visit had a profound and lasting impact on our community. His workshops not only introduced participants to the art of raranga kete but also fostered a sense of connection, creativity, and well-being. His gentle teaching style and wealth of knowledge inspired participants to embrace new skills and explore their cultural heritage in meaningful ways. The enthusiasm and positive feedback from his sessions have highlighted the importance of providing these opportunities to our community. We are excited about the potential for future collaborations with Ta'i, continuing to strengthen this relationship and offering even more opportunities for learning, growth, and creative expression in the years to come.

## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

## DANCING TO THE BEAT

*March*

One of the highlights of 2023 was our involvement in the research report ***Dancing to the Beat: Movement Experiences of Polyfest Participants in Otago & Southland***. This important project, led by Sport New Zealand and the Outback Lifestyle team, explored the Polyfest experiences of Southland and Otago Pasefika youth. By listening to the voices of our rangatahi, the research revealed how Polyfest creates meaningful opportunities for movement, connection, and cultural expression.

We were privileged to welcome the Outback Lifestyle and Hawaiki Hou team to our 2023 Murihiku and Central Lakes Polyfest, as well as Otago Polyfest, where they connected directly with rangatahi to hear their stories and perspectives. It was inspiring to see our youth share how Polyfest has positively influenced their lives. The research findings were presented at the launch of the Dancing to the Beat report in Waihōpai, an event that brought together our rangatahi, kaiako, and community.



## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

**DANCING TO THE BEAT***March*

The success of this launch is a testament to the leadership and bravery of four of our young Pacific leaders—JP Velghe, So'otaga Faalialia, Fa'afetai Lafoga, and Poliko Faalialia—who played pivotal roles in organising the event and contributing to the report. Their courage in sharing their stories highlights the profound impact of Polyfest on individual growth and community connection. As we look ahead, we are excited to continue supporting the next phase of this project. The Outback Lifestyle team is now exploring innovative ways to use technology to support schools in learning cultural dances and songs. We are honored to be part of this mahi and look forward to piloting these new resources with our schools and communities.

**ALL IN FOR ARTS - ARTS FOUNDATION  
BREAKFAST TOUR (TĀHUNA)***March*

We had the privilege of attending the All in for Arts breakfast in Tāhuna, hosted by The Arts Foundation – Te Tumu Toi as part of their nationwide tour. These events provide a platform for artists, rangatahi, and leaders to share their stories and explore the question: *What would our nation look like if we were all in for arts?*

The morning featured insights from local business owners Trent Yeo (Ziptrek Eco Tours) and Penelope Johnson (Slow Cuts – Arrowtown), who shared how creativity drives their ventures. Rangatahi from Wakatipu High School passionately expressed their desire for greater opportunities in theatre and music. The keynote speaker, Oscar Kightley MNZM, shared his inspirational journey as a Pacific artist, reflecting on the challenges he has overcome in New Zealand's arts sector.



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

12

## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

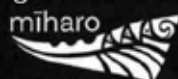
## THE GENTLE COLLECTIVE

April



We had the privilege of hosting The Gentle Boys Ponder (TGBP) company for a 10-day performing arts workshop with our Waihōpai rangatahi. Designed to empower Māori and Pasifika youth, the workshops equipped participants with creative skills such as devising, writing, and creating soundscapes. Led by seven graduates of Toi Whakaari – New Zealand Drama School, TGBP was founded by Seiyon Thompson Tonga, a Whakamanahia te Rangatahi alumni, who returned to Murihiku to share his knowledge and skills with the next generation of storytellers. Supported by a talented team of artists specialising in various facets of the arts, the company engaged deeply with our rangatahi, encouraging them to explore and express their creativity.

Thirteen rangatahi, aged 13 to 18, participated in the workshops, held at Teachers College. Over the first week, they developed fundamental live performance skills, with activities tailored to their strengths and interests. Through these exercises, the rangatahi learned to embrace creativity without fear of failure. The mantra of "no wrong answers" fostered a safe, encouraging environment, allowing their confidence to grow both as individuals and as artists.



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

13

## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

## THE GENTLE COLLECTIVE

*April*

The final three days were dedicated to rehearsals and devising sessions, culminating in a community showcase created collaboratively by The Gentle Boys Ponder and our rangatahi, now known as **The Gentle Collective**. This performance, attended by over 140 whānau and community, received glowing feedback for its artistic quality and the positive impact it had on the participants. Many whānau shared how their tamariki had grown beyond the workshops, demonstrating increased confidence and creativity.

The benefits of this programme have been extraordinary, breaking barriers and connecting rangatahi to their cultural roots while nurturing their artistic potential. We look forward to the opportunity to host this transformative programme again, as it exemplifies the importance of celebrating and supporting Māori and Pasifika arts in our community.





## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

**2024 Senior Artist Exhibition****le Satauro - Lyle Peninsula**

May



Each year, Miharo honours a local Senior Artist, celebrating their body of work and contributions to our community. We were privileged to showcase the creativity of Lyle Peninsula through his powerful exhibition, **le Satauro (The Cross)**. We extend our gratitude to Creative New Zealand and the Ministry for Culture and Heritage for their generous support in making this exhibition possible.



The exhibition opened with a beautiful evening that brought together Lyle's family, friends, and our community. Lyle, a New Zealand-born artist of Samoan and Scottish descent, shared his journey as an artist and the cultural and religious influences that shape his work. Curating this exhibition with Lyle and his son Johnny was a special opportunity to learn more about his creative process and the Peninsula aiga.

le Satauro explores themes of cultural identity and faith, presenting elements of Lyle's Samoan heritage alongside religious motifs. The exhibition was more than just a display of art—it is a space for dialogue and discovery.

## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

**2024 Senior Artist Exhibition***le Satauro - Lyle Peninsula**May*

As part of the exhibition, Lyle facilitated workshops with rangatahi and community members, encouraging participants to express their emotions, explore cultural identity, and find their place in the world through art. These workshops provide a safe and inspiring environment for discussion and talanoa, fostering self-expression and creativity.

Following its success in Murihiku, the exhibition was displayed at Te Atamira, a multipurpose arts and cultural space based in Tāhuna. This expansion brought Lyle's powerful work to a new audience, allowing him to engage with a diverse community through workshops and floor talks that captivated participants of all ages.

The opening night at Te Atamira was a wonderful occasion, celebrating this incredible milestone. Lyle's time in Tāhuna was marked by meaningful interactions, sharing his artistic journey and techniques while creating space for discussion around cultural identity and creative expression.

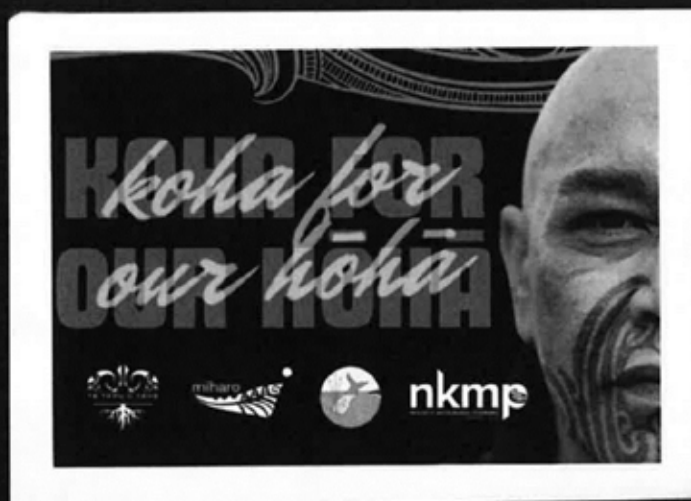
The extension of this exhibition to Queenstown reflects the growing appreciation for Lyle's work and its ability to connect people through art, culture, and storytelling. We are proud to have been part of this significant journey and to see the impact it continues to have on communities beyond Murihiku.



## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

**Koha for our Hōhā***June*

Koha for Hōhā was a heartfelt and collaborative effort between Te Tapu o Tāne, Ngā Kete Pounamu Mātauranga Charitable Trust, SIT – Te Pūkenga, and Ōraka Aparima Rūnaka to raise pūtea in support of Raniera Dallas and his rehabilitation journey following a stroke.



The event was an incredible success, with over 250 attendees coming together for a full local line-up of entertainers and artists who generously gave their time and awhi to this important kaupapa. The unwavering support from local businesses, organisations, whānau, and friends was remarkable, contributing over \$10,000 worth of raffles. Community members from across Te Waipounamu travelled to Murihiku to show their aroha and support for Raniera and the Dallas whānau.

Together, we raised \$15,100 which has gone directly to Raniera and his whānau to assist on his path to hauora. This event highlighted the strength and generosity of our community, proving that when we come together, we can make a meaningful difference in the lives of those we care about. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to this kaupapa and continue to send our aroha and support to Raniera and his whānau.



## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

**Mīharo Murihiku Art Exhibition & Awards***July*

The 2024 Mīharo Art Exhibition was an incredible success, showcasing the talent and creativity of our community. With over 500 participants and 300 entries, this annual event highlighted the theme Legends of our Lands – Our People, Our Places, Our Stories.

The exhibition's opening and awards evening, held at SIT Centre Stage and displayed at Mīharo, brought together over 300 tamariki and their whānau to celebrate the achievements of our aspiring artists. The atmosphere was one of pride and joy as whānau gathered to admire the artwork and support the creative endeavours of the participants. Our esteemed judges, Lyle Peninsula and Sheryl Henare, both extraordinary local artists, spent an afternoon judging and admiring the beautiful entries. They were thoroughly impressed by the exceptional quality and variety of mediums used, as well as the thoughtful connections made to the exhibition's theme.

The Mīharo Art Exhibition continues to be a cornerstone event, encouraging artistic expression and cultural storytelling. We are incredibly proud of all the participants and grateful for the support of our community in celebrating this important kaupapa.



2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Southland Creative Art Awards

August  
Our Mīharo whānau had the privilege of attending the inaugural Southland Creative Arts Awards 2024, a gala evening dedicated to honouring the talent, dedication, and hard work that fuels the thriving arts sector in Murihiku. This special event brought together over 300 attendees, including supporters, nominees, and finalists, to celebrate the collective excellence of Southland's artistic community.

The evening highlighted not only outstanding artistic achievements but also the behind-the-scenes efforts that ensure the success and sustainability of arts organisations. It was a proud moment for Mīharo Murihiku Trust to be nominated in two categories, with our General Manager, Tania Carran, recognised as a finalist in the Good Tech Team Leadership in the Arts category. This award celebrates individuals who have inspired and empowered others through exceptional leadership, management, and vision in the arts.



## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

## Southland Creative Art Awards

August



We were deeply honoured to win the **Community Trust South Community Catalyst Organisation Award**, which recognises organisations that have made significant contributions to fostering community and connection within the arts. With six outstanding nominees in this category, it was a humbling moment for Mīharo to be acknowledged for our role in strengthening the Murihiku arts scene.



The evening also provided an opportunity to support and celebrate the achievements of local artist and master carver, Steve Solomon, of Down South Whakairo. Steve was awarded the prestigious **ILT Supreme Award**, recognizing his exemplary contribution to the arts through pushing boundaries, inspiring others, and leaving a lasting legacy on the Murihiku artistic landscape.

The Southland Creative Arts Awards served as a vibrant showcase of the incredible initiatives, organisations, and individuals working tirelessly to ensure the arts sector in Murihiku continues to thrive. It was an unforgettable evening of celebration, connection, and inspiration, reaffirming the transformative power of the arts in our community.

## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

# 15 YEARS OF

*Murihiku Polyfest*

The 15th Murihiku Polyfest was the largest and most successful celebration to date, reflecting the exponential growth of this cherished event over the past three years. Registrations for Polyfest 2024 opened in May and were fully booked within 12 hours, demonstrating the immense demand for this important kaupapa. This year, 140 groups from across Te Waipounamu and Rakiura performed on the Polyfest stage, bringing together over 8,000 participants to celebrate culture, heritage, and identity through performance.

Murihiku Polyfest featured several exciting developments, including the introduction of a Community Showcase that highlighted Māori and Pasifika cultural groups, and the return of the Rangatahi Toa High School Showcase, which drew a record crowd of over 2,500 spectators. Stallholders from the Māori and Pasifika communities added further vibrancy to the event, sharing art, kai, and services that fostered connections and highlighted local initiatives. The week also marked the unveiling of the new 'Murihiku Polyfest Wall Design' at ILT Stadium Southland, a collaborative project that celebrates youth from diverse cultural backgrounds and will serve as a lasting tribute to our Murihiku Polyfest legacy.

The 15th Murihiku Polyfest saw unprecedented online engagement, with over 71,000 Facebook page visits and 53,000 website views from 49 countries. Participants and whānau praised the accessibility of livestreamed performances and free professional photography, which enabled wider community involvement. Feedback from volunteers, schools, and performing groups highlighted Polyfest as a culturally safe space where tamariki and rangatahi could express themselves proudly and authentically. One participant described it as "empowering for our tamaiti, whānau, and community," while others reflected on the bravery and confidence tamariki showed on stage, as well as the event's ability to foster deeper connections with Te Ao Māori.

## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

# 15 YEARS OF

*Murihiku Polyfest*

The Mīhara Board of Trustees and team have reflected on the festival's success and are already planning for 2025 to ensure another exceptional week of celebration. The overwhelming support and unity shown at this year's Polyfest demonstrate the power of this celebration in bringing people together to celebrate identity, culture, and community.



To the schools, tamariki, rangatahi, and whānau, thank you for your dedication and enthusiasm, which brought the stage to life with such pride and passion. To our wider communities, stallholders, cultural groups, volunteers, and local leaders, your unwavering support and commitment have made this event a resounding success. Together, we have not only celebrated the richness of our cultures but also strengthened the bonds that unite us as one. Fa'afetai tele lava, thank you all for making Murihiku Polyfest 2024 an unforgettable celebration. We can't wait to see you again in 2025!



2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Central Lakes Art Exhibition & Awards

September

The 2024 Central Lakes Art Exhibition officially opened in September, showcasing the incredible talent and creativity of our community. With over 300 participants and 200 entries, this annual event highlighted the theme Legends of our Lands – Our People, Our Places, Our Stories.



This art exhibition was a resounding success, with the opening and awards evening hosted at Te Atamira in Frankton, where the exhibition was displayed for four weeks. The event brought together over 100 tamariki and their whānau, creating a vibrant atmosphere of pride and joy as families gathered to celebrate the creativity and achievements of our young artists.

Esteemed judges, master carver Steve Solomon and Te Reo Māori kaiako Junior Tonga, expressed admiration for the exceptional quality and diversity of the artworks, which showcased a variety of mediums and meaningful connections to the exhibition's theme. Particularly notable this year was the growth in Pasifika inspired artworks and the increasing presence of collaborative pieces such as the Art Programme at Te Atamira entering a piece created by their students.

This event continues to expand each year, fostering artistic expression and cultural storytelling among our youth. We are incredibly proud of all the participants and deeply appreciative of the Central Lakes community for their support in celebrating this significant kaupapa.

## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

# 5 YEARS OF

*Central Lakes Polyfest*

We're thrilled to celebrate an incredible milestone with the 5th Central Lakes Polyfest in 2024! From everyone at Mīharo, we extend our deepest gratitude to our wonderful community. Your ongoing support has been instrumental in making this vibrant celebration of culture, heritage, and identity possible.

2024 has been a truly unforgettable year for us, highlighted by Wakatipu High School's Pasifika group taking the Polyfest stage for the very first time. The atmosphere was electric as a packed house of whānau and community members gathered on both days to witness all the beautiful performances. The pride, unity, and creativity displayed on stage left a lasting impression and reinforced the strong sense of community and cultural connection that Polyfest represents.



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

24

## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

# 5 YEARS OF

*Central Lakes Polyfest*



What an incredible two days we had in Tāhuna, celebrating alongside our Central Lakes community and whānau! To our amazing team and the rangatahi volunteers from Wakatipu High School, as well as all the whānau and community members—thank you for your unwavering dedication and support. Your energy and commitment are what make this event truly special.

A special shout-out to the incredible mamas in the kitchen, whose love and care nourished everyone who passed through Polyfest's doors.



We are also incredibly grateful to Strawberry Sound for their impeccable production and to Studio Jubb for capturing the magic of Polyfest. Your mahi is invaluable, and we are so fortunate to have you as part of the Mīharo whānau.

Finally, to our tamariki, rangatahi, teachers, tutors, principals, and whānau—you are the heart and soul of Polyfest. We can't wait to continue celebrating culture, identity, and togetherness in the years ahead, here in the Central Lakes region.



## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

**The Heart of a Father - Original play by Fua Creative***October*

The Heart of a Father, produced by Fua Creative who travelled to Waihōpai from Blenheim, was a profoundly moving theatrical experience that illuminated the legacy of the Dawn Raids and the intergenerational impact on Pasifika families in Aotearoa. Through powerful storytelling and evocative performances, the production explored themes of cultural identity, resilience, and the journey of overcoming shame to embrace one's heritage.

We were honoured to host over 300 rangatahi from St Peter's College, Southland Boys' High School, Southland Girls' High School, Aurora College, and Te Wharekura o Arowhenua at the matinee showcase of The Heart of a Father. The feedback from the participating kura highlighted the profound impact the play had on each attendee, with kaiako noting the critical need for more culturally resonant and educational experiences like this for our young people in schools and communities.



## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

**The Heart of a Father - Original play by Fua Creative***October*

The evening showcase also received an overwhelmingly positive response from the community, sparking meaningful conversations and emotional reflections. Audience members shared how the play resonated deeply with our Pasifika 'aiga, inspiring many to reconnect learn more about Pasifika history in Aotearoa. We were fortunate to share the feedback we received with Tonga Taumoeofolau, whose story is the heart of this production. Taumoeofolau shared how the portrayal of a son's journey to make his father proud encouraged him to openly discuss his Tongan identity with his family for the first time.

The Heart of a Father demonstrated the importance of supporting Pasifika storytelling. This collaboration with Fua Creative not only provided a platform for cultural expression but also reinforced our commitment to initiatives that enrich and educate our community.

## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

## WHAKAMANAHIA TE RANGATAHI YOUTH MENTING PROGRAMME 2024

Whakamanahia Te Rangatahi is the Mīharo annual youth mentoring programme, designed to uplift rangatahi and support our Māori and Pasifika youth in developing a strong sense of identity, language, and culture. This programme also emphasises the growth of leadership skills and community service through a range of wānanga, workshops, and events.

This year, 54 rangatahi applied to the programme, representing 8 different kura across Murihiku. Their journey began in March with the first wānanga at Te Rau Aroha marae in Bluff. We were welcomed with a pōwhiri, followed by Matua Corey Bragg, who shared the whakapapa of Te Rau Aroha Marae. This was an important way to connect with the history and significance of this beautiful whare.

During the wānanga, we participated in whanaungatanga activities and a Te Tiriti o Waitangi workshop led by Whaea Raiha Johnson. While many of our rangatahi had a basic understanding of Te Tiriti, they were deeply moved by Whaea Raiha's insights into its full depth and intent. Reflecting on what Te Tiriti means was empowering, as each individual was able to connect more personally with the history and its ongoing relevance.

Whaea Raiha and Mr. Tonga then guided the group through Waiata practice, where the rangatahi learnt songs from different Polynesian cultures and later, had the opportunity to perform these waiata at Polyfest, showcasing the talents and unity of the collective. This first wānanga not only expanded their knowledge of Te Tiriti and cultural practices but also helped get to know one another better and understand the diverse backgrounds and experiences each person brings to the programme. Through this process, their sense of belonging and community had strengthened.

## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

# WHAKAMANAHIA TE RANGATAHI YOUTH MENTING PROGRAMME 2024



After the wānanga in Bluff, the next project for the group was learning the waiata composed for the programme in 2023. During the previous year, the group collaborated with singer-songwriter Michael Kuresa and Peta Kuresa to write and compose the waiata. In 2024, the group learned the waiata and had the opportunity to perform it together.

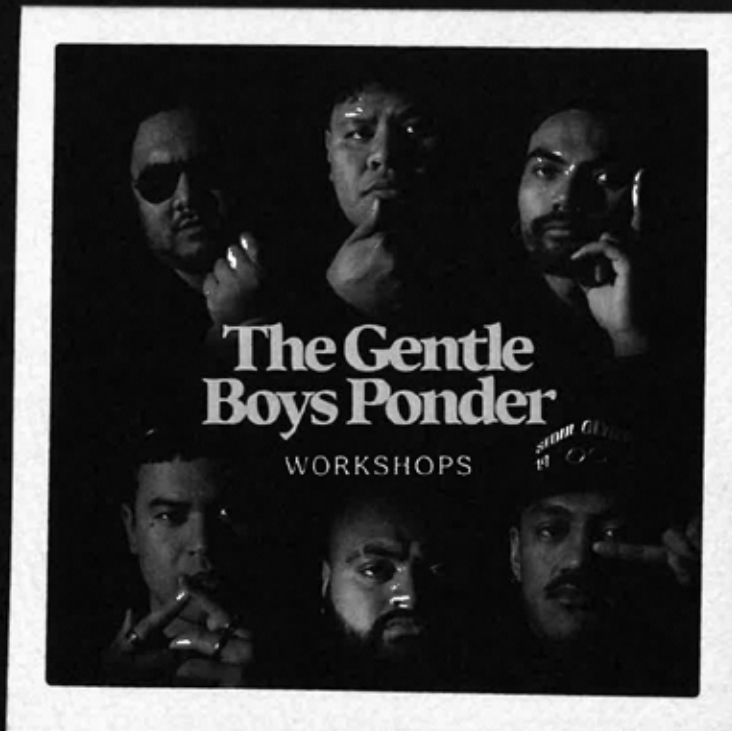
The waiata, titled **He Iwi Kōtahi**, reflects their experiences growing up in Invercargill and expresses the significance of being together on the programme.

## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

## WHAKAMANAHIA TE RANGATAHI YOUTH MENTING PROGRAMME 2024

In April, we were fortunate enough to host The Gentle Boys Ponder in Invercargill. The Gentle Boys Ponder, a performing arts company consisting of seven graduates from Toi Whakaari, facilitated a 10-day workshop with rangatahi based here in Murihiku.

The first week of workshops, held at Teachers College, focused on live performance skills through dance, poetry, clowning, and music. The theme of the workshop was that there were no wrong answers and that failure was acceptable. The experience was enriching and created a safe space for our rangatahi to celebrate their culture, build new friendships, and acquire a range of skills.





## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

## WHAKAMANAHIA TE RANGATAHI YOUTH MENTING PROGRAMME 2024

The final three days of the workshops were dedicated to rehearsing for a community showcase, which the group performed for whānau and the community. Following the workshops, the rangatahi, together with The Gentle Boys Ponder, formed **The Gentle Collective**. The showcase was beautiful, and the collective felt honoured to share their talents with the community, highlighting the importance of nurturing and celebrating Pasifika and Māori arts in the region.



The Gentle Collective would like to extend their gratitude to Kasi, Seiyan, Brett, Albert, Kaisa, Leka, and Havea for their guidance and support in developing valuable performing arts skills and knowledge. Their celebration of the individuals and artists in the collective made this a once-in-a-lifetime experience for all involved.

## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

**WHAKAMANAHIA TE RANGATAHI  
YOUTH MENTING PROGRAMME 2024**

The next major programme and event on the calendar for the Whakamanahia Te Rangatahi rōpū was Murihiku Polyfest! In preparation for Polyfest, we facilitated workshops to equip the rangatahi for a week of volunteering and supporting schools, the community, and whānau. Matua Kane Johnson led MC workshops, preparing the rangatahi to take the Polyfest stage and manage the live stream, which attracts tens of thousands of online viewers. Kane taught the rangatahi how to read biographies and teleprompters, and provided them with the tools and skills needed to engage audiences and overcome challenges. Induction workshops were also held to familiarise the rangatahi with the flow of Polyfest and the best practices for taking care of everyone attending.

Each rangatahi chose an area to explore and develop skills in, ranging from tour guiding schools, assisting kaumatua and special guests, presenting on the livestream, and writing scripts for the teleprompter, to various other roles designed to build leadership skills and capabilities.

This year, Polyfest saw a record 8,500 performers, the largest number in its history, and also celebrated its 15th anniversary. Each day at Polyfest, almost 100 volunteers, including the rangatahi, contributed to its success. During the first two days of the event, the rangatahi focused on learning as much as possible in their respective areas. By Wednesday, the rangatahi were fully running the Volunteer Headquarters, Livestream, Media Room, Backstage, Crowd Control, Traffic Management, Troubleshooting, and Changing Rooms.

The opportunity to be part of one of Murihiku's largest events was invaluable. The rangatahi gained practical skills they can carry with them throughout their lives. We are so proud of all our rangatahi and the confidence and skills they have gained from this event are invaluable, as well as all our rangatahi who took the Polyfest staged and performed with their kura and community groups. We have the most beautiful and talented babies!





## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

## WHAKAMANAHIA TE RANGATAHI YOUTH MENTING PROGRAMME 2024

The final event of the year for the Whakamanahia Te Rangatahi programme was the Rangatahi Māia - Whakamanahia te Rangatahi End of Year Celebration. It was an absolute privilege to celebrate the incredible rangatahi alongside their whānau and communities. With 54 rangatahi enrolled this year, it has been an amazing journey watching each individual grow in their identity, culture, and creativity. From aspiring performing artists and visual artists to future leaders and change-makers, the growth observed in all rangatahi has been remarkable. We thank our rangatahi for being their true selves and for bringing their whole selves to this journey. Celebrating each of them has truly been the highlight of the year.



In recognition of their accomplishments, and the many exciting events they have participated in throughout the year, a small folder was prepared for each rangatahi. These folders contained a certificate of completion for the programme, as well as a letter of support. As part of the celebration, the portraits of our WTR babies, captured by the incredibly talented Jaime Marama Smith from iShotz Photography, were officially unveiled. These stunning portraits will be on display from December 2024 - March 2025 for whānau and community to view.

The rangatahi of Murihiku continue to inspire, and it is a privilege to be part of their journey as they explore their identity, language, and culture through their creative passions. A heartfelt mihi is extended to all the parents, grandparents, siblings, and whānau who guide and support the rangatahi. Their involvement has been an integral part of the journey. Here's to an exciting 2025!

## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

# RANGATAHI

## ASPIRING ARTIST SCHOLARSHIP

Our mission as a trust is encapsulated in our whakatauākī: to charge at the horizon, ensuring that rangatahi and whānau in our community are given the best possible opportunities to flourish and thrive. With this in mind, the purpose of our scholarships is to support the next generation of talented artists in realizing their creative aspirations and showcasing their unique cultural identities.

Miharo is incredibly proud to offer two scholarships—one for a rangatahi Māori and one for a rangatahi Pasifika—who are passionate about the arts in any form, including music, theatre, painting, or other creative expressions. Open to youth aged 16 to 24 based in Murihiku, these scholarships are designed to nurture creativity, build confidence, and provide vital support to rangatahi as they pursue their artistic journeys. We recognise the importance of empowering rangatahi to make decisions for rangatahi, which is why our scholarship recipients were chosen by a dedicated youth panel.

We are thrilled to offer these scholarships for the first time, marking a significant milestone in our commitment to supporting the creative aspirations of our community. This initiative reflects our dedication to fostering emerging talent and celebrating the vibrant artistic voices of our rangatahi.

We would like to acknowledge the Peninsula Aiga, who have been instrumental in creating the criteria for both scholarships. Their contribution has been invaluable in bringing this opportunity to life.

## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

# RANGATAHI

## ASPIRING ARTIST SCHOLARSHIP

### Our 2024 Recipients!



**TAHLA WARD**  
Ngāi Tahu, Waitaha,  
Ngāti Māmoa, Ngāpuhi

Tahla is a passionate and talented performing artist with a bright future ahead. She started singing at age 7, began playing guitar at age 10, and now competes in national and international country music competitions. She's also been teaching beginner vocal and guitar lessons for the past three years! In 2025, Tahla will be attending The Academy in Tamworth, Australia, for the Senior Academy Singer/Songwriter/Performer Course. Her ultimate dream is to become an international musician and share her beautiful voice with the world. We are beyond proud of you, Tahla, and can't wait to see where your music takes you!



**NICKLAUS TUTINI**  
Nukuroa, Kūki 'Āirani

Nick is a passionate filmmaker, dedicated to amplifying underrepresented voices and stories. As a student at James Hargest College and Frontline, he produced two films, QUARANTINE and WAR OF THE WORLDS, and is currently working on his next short film! Nick dreams of creating a film that showcases the beauty of the Cook Islands, its people, and its stories, with an emphasis on mental health and philosophical ideas. We are incredibly excited to support Nick on his filmmaking journey and can't wait to see the stories he will bring to life!

Our rangatahi in Murihiku continue to amaze us, and we are privileged to be part of their journey in exploring their identity, language, and culture through their creative passions.



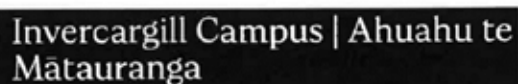
2024 ANNUAL REPORT

36

## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

## FRIENDS OF MĪHARO ♡

Throughout the year, we have had the privilege of building meaningful connections with many differently businesses, organisations, and community groups. These partnerships have enabled us to amplify our impact, foster innovation, and bring lasting benefits to the Murihiku community and beyond. Each collaboration brings unique strengths, insights, and resources that support our shared vision for a thriving community. Together, we are making a tangible difference, and we are deeply grateful for the continued dedication and incredible work of our partners. We look forward to further strengthening these connections in the coming year and exploring new opportunities for growth and impact.



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

## 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 SUPPORTERS & SPONSORS!

As we reflect on the achievements of the past year, we want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude to our sponsors. Your generous support has been instrumental in helping us accomplish our goals and positively impact our community. Thanks to your commitment, we have been able to deliver an incredible programme of events to our community highlighting and celebrating our Māori and Pasifika communities. Your partnership has not only enhanced our efforts but has also inspired those we serve. We look forward to continuing our collaboration in the future and achieving even greater successes together.

*Thank you once again for your invaluable support.*



Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round  
Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form  
Application No. WaihopaiCPF004MAR25 From Menzies College  
Form Submitted 29 Apr 2025, 1:08PM NZST

Applicant details

\* indicates a required field

Applicant details

Applicant name \*  
Menzies College

Street Address  
Alma St  
Wyndham Wyndham 9831 New Zealand



Postal Address (if different from above)



Phone Number \*  
03 206 4979  
Must be a New Zealand phone number.

Email \*  
kath.luoni@menzies.school.nz  
Must be an email address.

Purpose/main activity of your organisation?  
Secondary School

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round****Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF004MAR25 From Menzies College**

Form Submitted 29 Apr 2025, 1:08PM NZST

**How many members belong to your club/organisation?**

435

Must be a number.

**Contact details for this application**

Please give the names of two people who can be contacted if further information is required. The first contact must be the person who filled out this form. Under the Privacy Act (1993) consent from these people must be given before their details are recorded here.

**Name 1 \***

Kath Luoni

**Phone Number \***

Must be a New Zealand phone number.

**Email \***

kath.luoni@menzies.school.nz

Must be an email address.

**Name 2 \***

Dean Ritani

**Phone Number \***

Must be a New Zealand phone number.

**Email \***

dean.ritani@menzies.school.nz

Must be an email address.

**Application details****\* indicates a required field****Project details**

Please assume that we know nothing about your project. Give as much information as possible.

**What are you applying for? (pick one) \***

- ☐ The development of community facilities or amenities
- ☐ Sport & recreational opportunities
- ☒ Community programmes, activities or events
- ☐ Operational costs
- ☐ Other

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Please provide a short title for your project: \***

Page 2 of 9



## Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round

### Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form

Application No. WaihopaiCPF004MAR25 From Menzies College

Form Submitted 29 Apr 2025, 1:08PM NZST

'See Me' mural project

#### What is the location of your project? \*

Menzies College

#### What does your organisation want funding for? (please describe fully) \*

To partner with a young artist, Ralph Raluto, to create murals within the school and on the boundary. The theme is 'See Me'. Groups within the school will work with Ralph to create artworks on plywood that will be displayed for 5-10 years. The artworks will all display elements of the culture at Menzies College and in the wider community. This supports our community to be connected and engaged. Ralph will tutor 46 students to create 23 murals (1.2x0.5m). Ralph will then work with selected students on a 2.4x2.4m piece.

What is your project? What specific purpose will the funding be used for?

#### How will your project benefit the Waihopai Toetoes community? \*

'See Me' will better engage the school community and the wider community together and foster a feeling of connectedness and belonging. The murals will highlight our community's culture and provide a focal point for discussion.

i.e. improvements/events that will enable the community to be more connected, or improvements to a facility that will enable it to run more efficiently etc

#### Project start date

29/05/2026

Must be a date.

#### Project end date

05/12/2025

Must be a date.

### Community Board plan alignment

The Waihopai Toetoe Community Board plan document can be found [here](#). The Waihopai Toetoe Community Board outcomes can be found on page 8. Please indicate below if you think your project aligns with any of these outcomes.

#### Do you think your project aligns with any of the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board's community board plan outcomes? (please tick all that apply) \*

- ☐ A thriving, healthy & safe community with access to quality facilities, amenities and services
- ☒ Our community is connected and engaged
- ☐ Our unique, natural environment is healthy & protected
- ☒ Our communities have the opportunity to celebrate their history and heritage
- ☐ N/A

#### What is the difference you expect to make through your work or project?

Please describe up to **two** outcomes (i.e. changes or differences) you would like your work or project to achieve.

#### Outcome 1 \*



**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round****Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form****Application No. WaihopaiCPF004MAR25 From Menzies College**

Form Submitted 29 Apr 2025, 1:08PM NZST

Young artists collaborating with each other to create 23 murals and a selected number collaborating to create a larger piece of work.

**Outcome 2**

The murals reflect the culture and values of the school and wider community.

**How will you know you are achieving the above outcome(s)?**

Reflection of the learnings of the students during the collaborative phase of the project.

Feedback from the school and wider community.

What data/information will you collect that shows your progress?

**Are there any similar projects or services in your area?**

☐ yes

☒ no

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Community benefits**

This section enables us to gather useful data on the different groups of people in our communities that will benefit from our grants.

**Approximately how many people in the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board area will benefit directly from your project? \***

46

Must be a number.

**Additional comments on numbers benefiting:**

The wider Wyndham districts area will benefit from the project.

**What age group will predominantly benefit? \***

☐ All ☐ Early years (pre-natal - 4yrs) ☐ Children (5-13yrs) ☒ Youth (14-24yrs) ☐

Adults (25-64yrs) ☐ Older persons (65+yrs)

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Does your project mainly focus on any of the following:**

☐ Parents/families ☐ People with a disability ☒ Rural communities ☐ At risk families ☐ People who are not currently participating and those experiencing barriers to participation ☐ Volunteers ☐ At risk youth ☐ New migrants ☐ Refugees ☐ High needs populations

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**The following are the main ethnic groups in our region - please indicate who will predominantly benefit? \***

☒ All ☐ NZ European ☐ Maori ☐ Pacific peoples ☐ Asian ☐ Middle Eastern/Latin American/African ☐ Other

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Building & facility information****Does your application relate to a building or facility?**

☐ Yes

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round**  
**Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF004MAR25 From Menzies College**  
Form Submitted 29 Apr 2025, 1:08PM NZST

☒ No

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

## Project Budget & Financial Details

\* indicates a required field

### Financial details

**Bank Account \***

Account Name: Menzies College  
Board of Trustees

Account Number:

Must be a valid New Zealand bank account number.

**Please upload verification of your organisation's bank account details \***

Filename: Deposit slip.pdf

File size: 56.7 kB

i.e. a bank coded deposit slip or bank verified account details

**Are you registered for GST? \***

☒ Yes

☐ No

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**If yes, GST number:**

51849353

Must be a number.

**Please upload your organisation's latest financial statements \***

Filename: SDC19UNIFLOW\_20 DON\_2452\_001.pdf

File size: 946.5 kB

**Please upload a current bank statement from your organisation \***

Filename: Bank Statements January - March 2025.pdf

File size: 4.0 MB

**Total project cost \***

5926.58

Must be a number.

**Amount you are requesting from the Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund? \***

3000

Must be a number.

**Please indicate your current level of reserves: \***

\$0.00

Must be a dollar amount.

## Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round

### Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form

Application No. WaihopaiCPF004MAR25 From Menzies College

Form Submitted 29 Apr 2025, 1:08PM NZST

At the time of this application

**Please comment on your level of reserves and if they cannot be used towards this project, explain why: \***

Reserves are held for the school's operating expenses

**Briefly describe any voluntary effort or donated materials provided for this project:**

Staff hours organising, overseeing and installing artworks - 100 hours

**How do you envisage paying for any future operational costs for this project?**

not applicable

### Budget

List all the income you plan to get towards your project e.g. grants/donations, your own funds, fundraising. **Also include the grant amount you are requesting for this application (income and expenditure totals must match).**

If you are GST registered please provide figures that EXCLUDE GST. If you are NOT GST registered please provide figures that INCLUDE GST.

Income	\$	Expenditure	\$
School contribution	\$2,926.58	Tutor	\$4,300.00
Grant	\$3,000.00	Plywood	\$721.18
		Paint & brushes	\$905.40

### Budget Totals

The income and expenditure totals should balance/match.

Total Income Amount	Total Expenditure Amount	Income - Expenditure
\$5,926.58	\$5,926.58	\$0.00
This number/amount is calculated.	This number/amount is calculated.	This number/amount is calculated.

### Quotes

You should obtain two quotes where practical. If this is not possible, please just explain why below.

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round****Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form****Application No. WaihopaiCPF004MAR25 From Menzies College**

Form Submitted 29 Apr 2025, 1:08PM NZST

**Have you sought at least two quotes?**☐ yes☒ no

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Please upload quote(s)***No files have been uploaded***Quotes****If you have not provided more than one quote, please explain why:**

using preferred suppliers

**Supporting documentation****Supporting documentation**

Attach any other relevant information, e.g. covering letter, letters of support, or other documents.

**Attach documents here***No files have been uploaded***Feedback****Feedback****How did you find out about the Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund?**☐ Have applied previously ☐ Southland District Council website ☐ Council or Community Board Facebook page ☐ Radio ☐ Newspaper ☐ Online ☐ Referred by another funder ☐ Word of mouth ☒ Council staff ☐ Other

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Please rate the following statements****The time required to prepare and complete the application was reasonable**☒ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree ☐ N/A

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**The application process is very straightforward**☒ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree ☐ N/A

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

**Please provide us with any suggestions about any improvements we could make to the application process**

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round**  
**Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF004MAR25 From Menzies College**  
Form Submitted 29 Apr 2025, 1:08PM NZST

### Declaration

\* indicates a required field

### Declaration

I consent to the Southland District Council collecting personal details provided on this form. The consent is given in accordance with the Privacy Act 2020.  
This declaration and authorisation relates to information in this application and attachments that the Southland District Council may hold about your organisation/group now or in the future.

In making this declaration I declare that:

- this application has been submitted with the full knowledge and agreement of the management/governance of my organisation/group;
- the information supplied in this application and any attachments is true and factual;
- any grant received will be used for the purpose for which it was approved.

I authorise Southland District Council to:

- use the information supplied as part of this application and any attachments for the purposes of administration and consideration of this application;
- make any enquiries of third parties, (which may involve discussing information contained in this application);
- advertise or publish the name of our organisation/group and the amount of any grant approved if this application is successful, including disclosure of this information to other funding agencies.

I acknowledge that:

- any decision made is final
- Southland District Council has the right to withdraw any grant approved or demand the return of funds already paid if it is discovered that any statement made in this application is incorrect, incomplete or misleading, in a way that may have affected the funding decision.

**I am authorised to complete this application and I have read and understood this declaration and privacy statement:**

**Name \***  
Kath Luoni

**Position in organisation \***  
Principal

**Date \***  
11/04/2025  
Must be a date.

### Submitting your form

There is a review and submit button at the bottom of the navigation box to the right of the screen.

**Waihopai Toetoes Community Partnership Fund - March 2025 round****Waihopai Toetoe Community Partnership Fund application form**  
**Application No. WaihopaiCPF004MAR25 From Menzies College**

Form Submitted 29 Apr 2025, 1:08PM NZST

You need to review your form before you submit it - you won't be able to submit your form until all required questions (marked with an \*) are completed.

Once reviewed you can submit your form by clicking on "submit" at the top of the screen or on the navigation box.

Once submitted, you will receive an email from SmartyGrants acknowledging receipt of the form. If you do not receive this email please check you have clicked the submit button at the top of the form. No further editing of your form or uploading of support material is possible once submitted.

If you have any queries or experience any problems please phone 0800 732 732 or email funding@southlanddc.govt.nz.



## Community pools - request for allocation of grant

Record no: R/25/5/19402

Author: Gordon Crombie, Community liaison officer

Approved by: Sam Marshall, Group manager customer and community wellbeing

☒ Decision

☐ Recommendation

☐ Information

### Purpose

- 1 The purpose of this report is for the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board to consider and make a decision on requests from the five pools in their area for grants from the Waihopai Toetoe community pool reserve.

### Executive summary

- 2 As part of the local rate \$27,993 has been set aside for grants to community swimming pools in the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board area in the 2024/25 financial year. Requests are made on an annual basis by community pools to the community board to uplift these funds.
- 3 Requests have been received from all five pools (Wyndham Pool, Edendale Pool, Gorge Road Pool, Woodlands Pool, and Tokanui Pool). Detailed information regarding their requests are attached to this report. Please note that the attachments to the applications (including financials) are not attached to this report as they contain information sensitive to the applicant's privacy. These attachments were provided to the community board with the applications for their perusal prior to the meeting.



## Recommendation

That the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board:

- a) Receives the report titled “Community pools - request for allocation of grant”.
- b) Determines that this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of Section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002.
- c) Determines that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with Section 79 of the act determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.
- d) Receives requests from the following:
  - 1. Wyndham District Community Pool
  - 2. Edendale Community Pool Society.
  - 3. Gorge Road and Districts Swimming Pool
  - 4. Woodlands Swimming Pool
  - 5. Tokanui Pool.
- e) Approves/declines a grant of \$14,106 to the Wyndham & District Community Pool to assist with the costs of pump repairs, heat exchange pumps, painting, and electronic door repairs.
- f) Approves/declines a grant of \$5,000 to the Edendale Community Pool Society to assist with the costs of automatised chemical controllers.
- g) Approves/declines a grant of \$5,000 to the Gorge Road and Districts Swimming Pool to assist with the costs of a water testing kit and repainting of the pool surface.
- h) Approves/declines a grant of \$5,000 to the Woodlands Swimming Pool to assist with the costs of improvements and upgrades – reseal/repaint.
- i) Approves/declines a grant of \$2,650.47 to Tokanui Pool to assist with the costs of painting, replacing purlins and coat hooks.

## Background

- 4 As part of the local rate \$27,993 has been set aside for grants to community swimming pools in the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board area in the 2024/25 financial year. Requests are made on an annual basis by community pools to the community board to uplift these funds.

- 5 There are five pools in the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board area that are eligible to apply each year – Wyndham Pool, Edendale Pool, Gorge Road Pool, Woodlands Pool, and Tokanui Pool.
- 6 In order to uplift funds, pools apply to the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board for a grant advising how much they require and what the funds will be spent on. Grants are only given for maintenance or capital works projects, not for general operating costs.
- 7 A summary of the applications received is below. Detailed information regarding the requests is attached to this report.

<b>Applications received</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Funds available</b>	<b>\$27,993</b>

<b>1</b>	<b>Wyndham District Community Pool</b>	
	Requests assistance with the costs of pump repairs, heat exchange pumps, painting and electronic door repairs.	
	Total project cost	<b>\$14,106</b>
	Amount requested	<b>\$14,106</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Edendale Community Pool Society</b>	
	Requests assistance with the costs of automated chemical controllers.	
	Total project cost	<b>\$26,000</b>
	Amount requested	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Gorge Road and Districts Swimming Pool</b>	
	Requests assistance with the costs of a water testing kit and repainting of the pool surface.	
	Total project cost	<b>\$13,600</b>
	Amount requested	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Woodlands Swimming Pool</b>	
	Requests assistance with the costs of improvements and upgrades – reseal/repaint.	
	Total project cost	<b>\$23,500</b>
	Amount requested	<b>\$5,000</b>

## 5 Tokanui Pool

Requests assistance with the costs of painting, replacing purlins and coat hooks.

Total project cost (will depend on number of purlins replaced) **\$unknown**

Amount requested **\$2,650.47**

## Issues

- 8 No issues have been identified.

## Factors to consider

### Legal and statutory requirements

- 9 There are no legal or statutory requirements.

## Community views

- 10 The board, as representatives of the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board area will consider each application and how it benefits their communities, aligns with the community board's vision and community outcomes, and will allocate funds as they see fit.

Vision – a united, engaged community where people are valued, assets are nurtured and local heritage and the environment is respected.

Community outcomes –

- a thriving, healthy and safe community with access to quality facilities, amenities and services (outcome 1)
- a community that is connected and engaged (outcome 2)
- the unique, natural environment is healthy and protected (outcome 3)
- communities have the opportunity to celebrate their history and heritage (outcome 4).

Applicant	Application purpose	Community plan outcomes
Wyndham District Community Pool	Pump repairs, heat exchange pumps, painting, and electronic door repairs	Meets outcomes 1 & 2.
Edendale Community Pool	Automated chemical controllers	Meets outcomes 1 & 2.
Gorge Road and Districts Swimming Pool	Water testing kit and repainting of the pool surface	Meets outcome 1 & 2.
Woodlands Swimming Pool	Improvements and upgrades – reseal/repaint	Meets outcomes 1 & 2.
Tokanui Pool	Painting, replacing purlins and coat hooks	Meets outcomes 1 & 2.

### Costs and funding

- 11 The total amount of available funding to distribute from the Waihopai Toetoe community pool rate is \$27,993.
- 12 Wyndham Districts Community Pool are seeking \$14,106, Edendale Community Pool Society are seeking \$5,000, Gorge Road and Districts Swimming Pool are seeking \$5,000, Woodlands Swimming Pool are seeking \$5,000 and Tokanui Pool are seeking \$2,650.47 (though total project costs are unknown).

### Policy implications

- 13 There are no policy implications.

### Analysis

#### Options considered

- 14 The options for consideration are to allocate funding to the community pools from the Waihopai Toetoe community pool reserve pursuant to the funding criteria set by the community board or decline the applications.

### Analysis of Options

#### Option 1 – Approves and allocates funding to the community pools from the Waihopai Toetoe community pool reserve pursuant to the funding criteria set by the community board

<i>Advantages</i>	<i>Disadvantages</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>the applicants will have received assistance to achieve the work required.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>no disadvantages.</li></ul>

#### Option 2 – Declines the applications

<i>Advantages</i>	<i>Disadvantages</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>reserve will increase.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>work may not be able to proceed.</li><li>as the funds come from rates there may be a negative perception from the community.</li></ul>

### Assessment of significance

- 15 Not considered significant.

### Recommended option

- 16 It is recommended that Option 1 be approved by the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board.

### **Next steps**

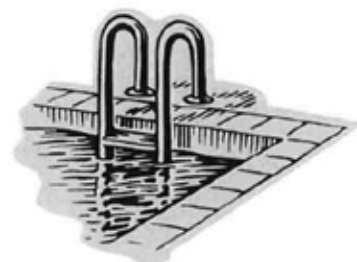
- 17 Staff will notify pool committees of the outcome and will process payments as required.

### **Attachments**

- A Wyndham District Community Pool - Pool Rate Reserve - March 2025 - redacted
- B Edendale Community Pool Society - Pool Rate Reserve - March 2025 - redacted
- C Gorge Road & Districts Swimming Pool - Pool Rate Reserve - March 2025 - redacted
- D Woodlands Swimming Pool - Pool Rate Reserve - March 2025 - redacted
- E Toe Toes Community Pool - Pool Rate Reserve - March 2025 - redacted

**WYNDHAM DISTRICT COMMUNITY POOL INC.**

c/o C Stewart  
R.D.2  
WYNDHAM 9892  
wyndhampool@gmail.com



29 March 2025

Waihopai Toetoe Community Board  
PO Box 903  
Invercargill

Dear Pam and Community Board Members

Please find attached our application for uplift of this year's pool rate. Included are a breakdown of what the last two year's rates have contributed to and a summary of our season to date. As well as looking at covering upgrades already completed this season we are looking for funding to contribute toward painting the pool over the winter.

As you will see from the documentation, the Wyndham Community Pool continues to thrive; offering the community a quality local facility, as well as ensuring our schools and preschools have access for their students. We are very privileged to have JC Swimmers operating from our pool allowing us to achieve our goals. We also had another member complete their water quality training.

***Our Vision***

The Wyndham Community Pool as a vibrant, well maintained, well used and well respected facility that caters for all in our community.

Our children having the skills to be able to safely swim in any water resource.

Opportunities and training for our children to safely be involved in other water sports.

Wyndham Community Pool complements the Community Board vision and outcomes giving our community the opportunity to be safely, connected and engaged, in a quality facility. We really appreciate the community volunteers that help to ensure this great facility can continue to thrive, and the members that purchase keys.

In response to your comments in last year's letter, we are pleased that you place the same value on the Southland Community Pool network that we do. As such we have been involved in this since its inception, with different committee members attending depending on commitments. You will see in the attached documentation that the other matters raised have been addressed.

We thank you for your consideration and look forward to speaking to this request in due course.

Regards

Cathy Chapman  
Chairperson

**A very big thank you to our sponsors: Eunson Plumbing; Lee's Dairy; Malloch McClean (Inv); Cleanflo; Rodgers Garage; Udy's Grain and Feed; Vetco; 4 Square Wyndham; JC Swimmers; Georgia Yeoman – Property Brokers; Redan Valley Engineering; Grant McGregor – Ultrascan; Wyndham Engineering.**

**WYNDHAM DISTRICT COMMUNITY POOL INC.**

c/o Carlyn Stewart  
RD 2  
WYNDHAM  
wyndhampool@gmail.com

**2024 / 25 FUNDING REQUEST SDC****REPAIRS TO MAIN OUTSIDE PUMP**

The Pool Committee paid 1/3 of the repair cost of this shared pump.

**ACTUAL SPEND**                      **\$ 576**

**REPLACEMENT OF HEAT EXCHANGE PUMPS**

**ACTUAL SPEND**                      **\$ 1742**

**PAINTING CHANGING ROOMS AND SURROUNDS**

The paint was kindly donated by Dulux and committee members completed the preparation and painting on a voluntary basis, around 100 hours.

**ACTUAL SPEND**                      **\$ 61**

**ELECTRONIC DOOR REPAIRS**

**ACTUAL SPEND**                      **\$ 397**

**POOL PAINTING**

We will be painting the pool over the winter partly due to damage caused during the roof cladding replacement. This included scraping the paint on the bottom of the pool, damage to the sides of the pool, and staining from cutting slag and bolts/rivets/shrapnel left in the pool.

**QUOTED COST**                      **\$ 11 330**

**TOTAL ESTIMATED SPEND**                      **\$ 14 106**

**SUMMARY OF 2023 & 2024 RATES SPEND**

<b>ELECTRONIC DOOR UPGRADE</b>	<b>\$ 1725</b>
<b>FILTER SERVICE</b>	<b>\$ 3226</b>
<b>UPGRADES AS DETAILED IN LAST YRS APPLICATION</b>	<b>\$ 2739</b>
<b>CHANGE TABLE</b>	<b>\$ 569</b>
<b>SEATING REPAIRS</b>	<b>\$ 2793</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 11 052</b>
<b>COMMUNITY BOARD RATE</b>	<b>\$ 10 000</b>

A very big thank you to our sponsors: Eunson Plumbing; Lee's Dairy; Malloch McClean (Inv); Cleanflo; Rodgers Garage; Udy's Grain and Feed; Vetco; 4 Square Wyndham; JC Swimmers; Georgia Yeoman – Property Brokers; Redan Valley Engineering; Grant McGregor – Ultrascan; Wyndham Engineering.

## WYNDHAM DISTRICT COMMUNITY POOL INC. MAINTENANCE PLAN

Season Jul - Jun	Action	Estimated Cost	Bank	Voluntary Labour (not included in cost)	Pool Rate	Grants
2023/24	Electronic Door Upgrade New Submersible Pump Plumbing Upgrade Matting General Maintenance	\$ 1 725 \$ 410 \$ 2 070 \$ 235 \$ 697	\$ 697		\$ 1 725 \$ 410 \$ 2 070 \$ 235	
2024/25	Pool Filter Service Painting Changing Rooms and Surrounds Seating Upgrade Baby Change Table Replace Heat Pumps Repair Waste Pump General Maintenance	\$ 3 226 \$ 61 \$ 2 793 \$ 569 \$ 1 742 \$ 576 \$ 500	\$ 1 052	100 hrs	\$ 3 226 \$ 1 741 \$ 569	40l Paint
2025/26	Pool Painting Shower Upgrade General Maintenance	\$ 11 330 \$ 1 000 \$ 1 000		16 hrs		
2026/27	Lane Ropes Door Camera General Maintenance	\$ 1 000				
2027/28	Automatic Chlorine Machine General Maintenance	\$ 1 000				
2028/29	General Maintenance	\$ 1 000				
2029/30	Pool Painting Pool Filter Service General Maintenance	\$ 3 500 \$ 1 000				
2030/31	Pool Cover General Maintenance	\$ 9 770 \$ 1 000				
2031/32	General Maintenance	\$ 1 000				
2032/33	General Maintenance	\$ 1 000				
2033/34	Pool Painting General Maintenance	\$ 1 000				
2034/35	Painting Changing Rooms and Surrounds Pool Filter Service General Maintenance	\$ 1 000 \$ 4 000 \$ 1 000		100 Hours		

\*Actual Figures

**Pool Seals:** Monitor on an annual basis and replace when a problem is identified. Estimated cost \$10K.



**WYNDHAM DISTRICT COMMUNITY POOL INC.**

Wyndham District Community Pool Inc. was formed in October 2013 to rejuvenate and operate the Wyndham Community Pool, in conjunction with Menzies College, for the benefit of the whole community.

***Our Vision***

The Wyndham Community Pool as a vibrant, well maintained, well used and well respected facility that caters for all in our community.

Our children having the skills to be able to safely swim in any water resource.

Opportunities and training for our children to safely be involved in other water sports.

The pool is open from the beginning of term four to the end of term one (October to April).

**SEASON STATISTICS**

	<b>24/25</b>	<b>23/24</b>	<b>22/23</b>
Key Sales	59	63	72
Average Public Weekly Key Swipe			
- Term	35	32	34
- Holidays	54	56	65
School Users	Menzies College Wyndham Mokoreta Preschool	Menzies College Wyndham Mokoreta Preschool	Menzies College Wyndham Mokoreta Preschool
Swimming Lessons	JC Swimmers	JC Swimmers	JC Swimmers
Committee Members	11	12	14
Opening Volunteers	10	10	10
Fundraising	Sponsorship	Sponsorship	Sponsorship
Upgrades	Heat Exchange Pumps Paint Surrounds Filter Service Change Table Seat Repairs Waste Pump Repairs	Plumbing Submersible Pump Door Entry Program Matting Pool Paint touchup	Pool Painting Pool Cover
Events	Open Day SDC Holiday Prog LMV Swimming	Open Day (cancelled) LMV Swimming SDC Holiday Programme	Open Day LMV Swimming (?)



President: Jeannine Cunningham  
6 Cranstoun Lane  
EDENDALE 9825  
Ph :

Secretary/Treasurer: Jenny Coyle  
% 24 Salford Street  
EDENDALE 9825  
Ph  
Email: [ecpscontact@gmail.com](mailto:ecpscontact@gmail.com)

Monday 24th March 2025

Attention: Pam Yorke (Chair) and Waihopai Toetoe Community Board  
% Gordon Crombie, Community Liaison Officer, Southland District Council

Dear Board members,

Thank you for the opportunity to present our request in regards to the allocation of rating funds for use by the Edendale Community Pool Society Inc. (ECPS), which serves to operate the Edendale Primary School swimming pool for community use outside of school hours.

The ECPS is a dedicated team of volunteers, who give their time and energy for the benefit of pool users from the wider Edendale and district area. The season usually runs for member usage from late October through to the end of March/start of April, including weekends and holidays.

Local (and wider) community residents can access the pool through memberships which include the use of a private door-tag. Current season members come from Edendale, Wyndham, Mokoreta, Glenham, Brydone, Morton Mains, Pine Bush, Dacre and Seaward Downs, Maitava and Invercargill.

**Summary of the 2024-2025 Season:**

We have a total of ninety-eight door-tag holders: eighty-six subscribed members, eleven volunteer/committee members, and one complementary user (JC Swimmers Swim School). In 2023-24 we had one hundred and four door-tag holders.

Over all of our memberships (and not counting JC Swimmers' clients), our members have indicated that their memberships give access to **approximately 435 individuals**.

We continue to have a strong team of volunteers who: run the committee and oversee the memberships and finances; organise the roster; running working bees; open and close the pool (cleaning, testing the waters, putting the covers on or off); maintain the heating and filtration systems;

ordering the chemicals and testing strips; and liaising with the School Board, Principal, and contractors or suppliers in regards to maintenance projects or new projects to enhance the facility.

**MEMBERSHIP AS PER LOCATIONS (2024-2025)**

Address	Total
Edendale Township	x46
Wyndham/RD1/RD2	x8
District (RD3)	x27
Other	x16

**MEMBER VISITS: number membership ENTRIES during membership hours for swimming**

- \*numbers are indicative only - we cannot be 100% sure of how many people actually swam
- this does not include volunteer entries or swimming lesson attendees
- the average for the season is 60 member entries per week (2023-2024 average: 48 per week)

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar/Apr	Total
<b>2024-5</b>	32*	233*	317*	329*	193*	171*	<b>1039*</b>

In Term Four of 2024 and Term One of 2025, the pool hosted JC Swimmers Swim School for one-to-one lessons and swim squad lessons once a week.

The pool was again available for community groups including Pounamu South karate dojo, the Seaward Downs Playgroup, the Edendale Scouts, and the Friday night Girls' Rally group.

Gold Card senior members are able to use the pool a little later in the mornings during term-time (when there are no school lessons being held) and three members joined to use the pool for rehab exercise.

Prior to this season starting, the committee was able to carry out the major project of repainting the paddling pool and main pool (\$16,585.89) - we were grateful to be able to use 2024's pool rating grant towards the costs for this project.

**We are grateful for the support of the rating funds and this year we would use the allocation that is granted to us to help with the project of installing two automatised chemical controllers (remote digital systems) to deliver chemicals to each of the pools within our facility.**

**Having these chemical controllers operating within our complex will allow our volunteers to confidently provide a healthy and safe facility for our community to use for their recreational activities during the summer season. The system will help us to attract and retain our volunteers, and to keep this facility available to the community in the long-term.**

Regards, Jeannine Cunningham (Pres.) and Jenny Coyle (Sec/Treas)



### TEN YEAR MAINTENANCE PLAN 2025-2034

Year	Property Maintenance/Major Projects
2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working bee to tidy before season opens.</li> <li>• Unexpected repairs eg toilets (\$2000?)</li> <li>• New automatic testing system (\$26,000)</li> <li>• Install a baby-change table (bench at waist level by the paddling pool seats/shower corner, constructed/attached as per the bench seats; Donald Engineering) (\$1500?)</li> </ul>
2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working bee to tidy before season opens.</li> <li>• New pool vacuum (\$7000?)</li> <li>• Unexpected repairs eg toilets (\$2000?)</li> <li>• Touch-up of painted surfaces (\$500?)</li> <li>• Replace sand in sand filters (\$2000?)</li> <li>• Replace hot water cylinder (\$2,000?)</li> <li>• Paddling pool filter replacement (\$2,500?)</li> </ul>
2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working bee to tidy before season opens.</li> <li>• Unexpected repairs eg toilets (\$2000?)</li> <li>• Touch-up of painted surfaces (\$500?)</li> <li>• Redo/relay the non-slip concrete around the paddling pool and level it down so there is a fall for draining water away (\$7,000?)</li> </ul>
2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working bee to tidy before season opens.</li> <li>• Unexpected repairs eg toilets (\$2000?)</li> <li>• Touch-up of painted surfaces (\$500?)</li> <li>• Replace door-tag reader interface (\$350?)</li> </ul>
2029	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working bee to tidy before season opens.</li> <li>• Unexpected repairs eg toilets (\$2000?)</li> <li>• Touch-up of painted surfaces (\$500?)</li> </ul>

<b>2030</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Working bee to tidy before season opens.</li><li>● Unexpected repairs eg toilets (\$2000?)</li><li>● Touch-up of painted surfaces (\$500?)</li><li>● Replace Heat Pump (\$40,000?)</li></ul>
<b>2031</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Working bee to tidy before season opens.</li><li>● Unexpected repairs eg toilets (\$2000?)</li><li>● Repaint pool surfaces (\$20,000?)</li></ul>
<b>2032</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Working bee to tidy before season opens.</li><li>● Unexpected repairs eg toilets (\$2000?)</li><li>● Replace big pool cover (\$10,000)</li></ul>
<b>2033</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Working bee to tidy before season opens.</li><li>● Unexpected repairs eg toilets (\$3000?)</li></ul>
<b>2034</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Working bee to tidy before season opens.</li><li>● Unexpected repairs eg toilets (\$3000?)</li></ul>



Gorge Road & Districts Swimming Pool  
C/- G Black

14<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Waihopai Toetoe Community Board  
Southland District Council  
P O Box 903  
INVERCARGILL 9840

Dear Pam and Community Board Members

**RE: Application for Pool Rate Funding**

We would like to take the opportunity to apply for funds available under the Waihopai Toetoe Pool Rate. At this time, we would like to also express our appreciation for the funds allocated to the Committee last year, to go towards the pool cover winding system and replacement of the pool cover.

The new winding system has made pulling the cover on a much easier, more efficient process, and we do feel we have seen a reduction in heating costs as a result of increased use of the cover by pool users.

With regards to the cover replacement, the Committee had manually stitched up sections of cover that had come apart, which has got us through two further seasons as we set aside funds for the re-clad, however we are looking to replace the cover prior to the 2025-26 season, and greatly appreciate the funds contributed towards this.

The Gorge Road & Districts Swimming Pool has served the Gorge Road and surrounding districts for over 30 years and is currently operated by a committee of nine community members. The pool season generally runs from Labour Day through to Easter each year, though this may be shortened at the Committee's discretion, dependent on the weather and usage.

Community members can purchase a fob for personal access to the pool and it is also utilised by the Gorge Road School for student swimming in Terms One and Four each year, along with the school swimming and triathlon events in Term One. Gorge Road School pupils are incredibly lucky to have the pool available for swimming lessons, with two weeks of structured swimming and generally several further weeks of teacher/parent-led swimming each year.

In addition to this, we have had Rural Women holding weekly aquarobics classes during Term One, along with block swimming in the Summer holidays and weekly preschool and primary age one on one classes as well as squad swimming in Term Four and Term One, run by JC Swimmers.

The pool is also generally utilised for the Southern Zone Swimming and Triathlon events, however for unforeseen reasons these events were respectively cancelled and postponed this term.

Summary of Pool Usage for the last six seasons

Season	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Total individual pool accesses*	576	518	537	575	508	416
Total individual pool users	47	52	51	55	53	46

*\*Based on individual daily pool access, actual group numbers unknown. includes Committee and School entry.*

This season we opened the pool around two weeks later than the usual opening date, due to cold weather throughout October, that unfortunately continued through November, which we feel has definitely impacted use this season.

In terms of our application for funds this year, we would like to apply for funding to cover the cost of a water testing kit (refer quote attached), to replace the existing manual system, that we do not consider to be as accurate. As we look to our next big maintenance project, being the re-painting of the pool surface & cover winder, we would also greatly appreciate a contribution towards this (currently planned for the next Autumn).

The amounts we would like to apply for are:

- Water Testing Kit	\$1,600
- Contribution towards repainting pool surface	<u>\$3,400</u>
Total Request	\$5,000

We are currently in the process of planning our bi-annual major fundraiser (Golf Day) to be held in June, to raise funds to go towards the 2025-26 season running costs and pool painting.

We appreciate you taking the time to review our application; should you require any further information please don't hesitate to contact me on 022 064 6873, or email [gasblack@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gasblack@xtra.co.nz).

Yours Sincerely,



Grant Black  
CHAIRMAN

**Gorge Road & Districts Swimming Pool  
2020 – 2030 10 Year Maintenance Plan**

Item	Financial Year										
	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	
Clean up of pool and surrounds, prepare for season	\$ 350	\$ 286	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 321	\$ 343	\$ 368	\$ 393	\$ 421	\$ 450	
General maintenance for season	\$ 2,053	\$ 3,380	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,070	\$ 1,145	\$ 1,225	\$ 1,311	\$ 1,403	\$ 1,501	
Pool cover which (currently manual wind up)				\$ 650							
Reclad pool with clearlite to MOE standard <sup>A</sup>					\$ 60,000						
Repaint pool <sup>*</sup>						\$ 12,000					
Replace entrance key mechanism							\$ 3,500				
Replace pool cover <sup>**</sup>						\$ 12,000					
Replace pool pump <sup>***</sup>		\$ 780					\$ 1,200				
Replace pool vacuum								\$ 7,000			
Replace pump for toilets and basins											
Replace sand filter and chlorination system <sup>****</sup>	\$ 817		\$ 13,275				\$ 1,200				
<b>Total Estimated Maintenance</b>	<b>\$ 3,220</b>	<b>\$ 4,446</b>	<b>\$ 15,575</b>	<b>\$ 1,950</b>	<b>\$ 61,391</b>	<b>\$ 25,488</b>	<b>\$ 7,493</b>	<b>\$ 8,704</b>	<b>\$ 1,823</b>	<b>\$ 1,951</b>	

<sup>A</sup> The pool reclad occurred in Autumn 2024, the pool contributed \$60,000 in July 2024 as previously agreed with the MOE

<sup>\*</sup> Anticipated that pool repainting will be done in the Autumn of 2026. Window cover also needs painted/re-rust proofed at this time.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Cover replacement anticipated prior to the 2025-26 season. R&M done by the Committee has seen a further two seasons out of the existing cover than anticipated but really in need of replacement. Funds of approx \$10,000 from rates reserve are set aside to go towards this, and costs are being looked into as part of the Active Southland pool collective maintenance plans.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> There are 2 pumps that circulate pool water. Upgrading the sand filter and chlorination units appears to have significantly reduced wear and tear on these pumps, so less regular maintenance/replacement is expected.

<sup>\*\*\*\*</sup> Long term maintenance. First time replaced since pool built in 1994.

Costs inflated based on average inflation of 7% per annum.



**Attention:** Waihopai Toetoe Community Board

Please find enclosed our application for funding for the Woodlands Swimming Pool and Recreation Trust in 2025.



#### **History**

The Woodlands Swimming Pool and Recreation Trust (WSPRT) was established in 2019 to prevent the local school pool from closing due to lack of maintenance and funding from the Ministry of Education.

Since then, the WSPRT has entered into a lease with the MOE and has worked diligently to ensure the Woodlands School and local community have continued access to a safe swimming pool each season.

Since our last application, there have been several upgrades at the pool complex. We recently refurbished the bathrooms, replacing both toilets and basins in the changing rooms. Although this was initially part of a longer-term plan, we ran short on time during the off-season while the pool was closed to complete the resealing and painting of the internal pool. Not wanting to delay our opening for a second year in a row, we decided to postpone this project by eight months and now plan to begin it in May 2025, once the pool is empty and dry enough to start. This timeline will give us ample time to complete the work without disrupting pool operations. In the meantime, we moved forward with the changing room upgrades, which cost \$3,435.87. Additional improvements, such as painting as well as replacing the aged seating, are planned for the upcoming off-season and will be undertaken once the pool is resealed and painted, ensuring safety and minimizing disruptions during the refurbishment.

Unfortunately, our original electronic key system malfunctioned just two weeks before our scheduled opening. With no way to access the pool except via the master key, we decided that replacing the system would be more cost-effective than attempting repairs, given that the system was already six years old. After researching options, we chose to replace it with the same system used at Edendale Pool and other facilities around Southland. This new key system has proven to be an excellent decision, offering more features that save time for the trust members, such as automating key activations, making the process more efficient. While this replacement was an unexpected expense, it was a necessary investment, with a total cost of \$3,582.25.

In addition to these upgrades, the Ministry of Education completed the re-roofing and cladding project in 2023. The WSPRT also installed a saltwater dosing system, completed in December 2023, which has already proven to be a valuable asset. The new system has significantly reduced our chemical usage, leading to cost savings in pool operations. We continue to focus on running the pool as economically and sustainably as possible.

#### **Purpose**

WSPRT is requesting funding to the amount of \$5,000 to support the completion and continuation of improvements and upgrades to the Pool and its surrounding areas. We kindly ask for your consideration of this request.

The funds will be used to reseal and repaint the internal pool area. This has a crack around it that has been sealed previously but it is time for it to be resealed properly and then to support and cover the crack, we will look to paint the internal surface of the pool whilst the pool is empty. We have had some wear and tear happen this season and this project can no longer be delayed. Some of the internal seals have come out, thankfully the pool is still water tight at this stage, but we cannot delay and risk this causing some major issues going forward. We have been monitoring the situation and have made it this far without too many problems. This will include the correct paint used to do this and also having the lines reinstalled in the pool along with the depth stencils as required. This is coming to an approximate cost of \$30K to \$35K.

#### **Project Benefit for Community Boards**

The proposed projects are essential to continue the upgrade work and ensure the ongoing provision of pool services for the Woodlands and surrounding communities. We are also pleased to be allowing Rimu School access to the pool at Woodlands.

The primary benefit for the WSPRT has always been to provide an affordable facility for families, enabling children and adults to acquire vital water safety skills. Our community strongly believes that increasing access to swimming facilities is a key way to address New Zealand's alarming drowning statistics.

By continuing to improve and maintain the facility, we aim to ensure that the surrounding communities will continue to support and use the pool. Our commitment extends to supporting local schools, including Woodlands and neighboring schools, as well as offering private swimming lessons for any community member who wishes to participate. This service, initiated

in the first term of 2022 by JC Swimmers Ltd, remains active and ongoing. Additionally, Johnston Waters utilizes the pool for 1:1 preschool lessons during the school day, as outlined in the lease agreement with the school. Johnston Waters also offers after-school lessons for school age children. This wide range of users ensures the pool is actively used and helps us maintain and improve the facility, allowing us to upkeep this pool to be the best it can be.

#### **Payment for Future Operational Costs**

Payment of ongoing operational costs will be challenging; however, we are fortunate to have a small yet passionate committee and a supportive local business community that rallies behind our fundraising efforts.

This season, we raised funds by selling raffle tickets, with the grand prize being a trailer load of dry firewood, delivered to the winner. The raffle was a success, generating \$550. In addition, we continue to offer local businesses the opportunity to advertise within the pool complex through various-sized signboards. Businesses have committed to a four-year term, with an initial payment and annual renewals for the subsequent three years. We are nearing the end of the second year of this advertising program, which will hopefully bring in additional income to the community that backs our pool.

The heat pump that provides continuous warmth alongside the recladding has enabled us to keep the pool open for the entire 2024/25 season. Last year (2023/24), construction delays meant that the season didn't begin until mid-December. Additionally, income from new ventures like hiring the pool to Rimu School and offering swimming lessons, combined with our ongoing efforts to apply for Grants as appropriate, will help ensure the continued operation of the pool into the 2025/26 season and beyond.

One of our continued challenges is keeping Trustees in the role for sustained periods of time and for an effective handover. We have started a new social media page this year that is open to the public and where we will continue to advertise and look for new supporters and trustees. However, this is not just for this pool committee, people's worries about changes and fears of Health and Safety regulations prevent people from wanting to join, but the systems are all in place to ensure longevity for the committee. We want to entice new members while also being collaborative and sharing with similar committees.

## Ten Year Maintenance Plan 2020 - 2029



Year	Property Maintenance / Major Project	Outcomes
2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working bee to tidy up before season opens</li> <li>• Touch up of painted surfaces (\$500?)</li> <li>• Clearlite above male changing rooms (\$1000)</li> <li>• Winding pulley for main pool cover (\$500?)</li> <li>• Replace keypad for door system panel (\$300?)</li> <li>• Check pool vacuum (\$300?)</li> <li>• Unexpected repairs (\$2000?)</li> <li>• Roof and cladding repairs (\$45,000?)</li> </ul> <i>Funds raised (2020/2021) deferred to 2022 due to MoE property updates</i>	Other tasks completed
2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working bee to tidy up before season opens</li> <li>• Unexpected repairs (\$2000?)</li> <li>• Repaint pool surfaces (\$5,000)</li> <li>• Replace chlorine dosing for pool (\$3000)</li> <li>• Install heat pump system (\$48,000)</li> <li>• Fencing and safety items (\$3000)</li> </ul>	All items completed
2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working bee to tidy up before season opens</li> <li>• Unexpected repairs (\$2000?)</li> <li>• Replace door-tag reader interface (\$4500 quote)</li> <li>• Camera security system (\$5000 estimate)</li> <li>• Laptop to operate camera and door system (quote)</li> <li>• Roof and cladding repairs (\$45,000)</li> </ul> <i>Funds raised (2020/2021) deferred to 2022 due to MoE property updates</i>	All items completed
2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working bee to tidy up before season opens</li> <li>• Unexpected repairs (\$2000?)</li> <li>• Completion of the roof and cladding repairs (\$150,000) - covered by MoE</li> </ul>	Major MoE contribution completed cladding, fixing some beams in changing area and also a cage around the outside door +

*Updated March 2025*

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace main pool cover (\$5000)</li> <li>• Touch up of painted surfaces (\$500)</li> <li>• <i>Hot water cylinder for shower and shower installation - not completed</i></li> </ul>	<p>new entrance door to the pool</p> <p>Also installation of a new salt water dosing system (\$7K)</p> <p>Replacement and removal of some pipe work into the pool</p>
2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working bee to tidy up before season opens</li> <li>• Unexpected repairs (\$2000?)</li> <li>• Upgrade toilets and changing rooms tidy up (\$12,000)</li> </ul>	<p>Working bee held</p> <p>Toilets/basins updated</p> <p>Paint has been supplied by Dulux to paint the changing rooms</p> <p>New electronic key system installed (unexpected) - \$4K</p>
2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repainting of internal pool surface (\$20,000? - awaiting quote) <i>deferred until the end of the 2024/2025 season</i></li> <li>• Working bee to tidy up before season opens</li> <li>• Unexpected repairs (\$2000?)</li> <li>• Repainting of seating (\$5000)</li> <li>• Updating of changing room wood - due to wear and tear.</li> <li>• Painting of changing rooms</li> </ul>	<p>New timer system installed to ensure water levels are kept at an ideal level (feb 2025)</p>
2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working bee to tidy up before season opens</li> <li>• Unexpected repairs (\$2000?)</li> <li>• Touch-up of painted surfaces (\$500)</li> </ul>	
2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working bee to tidy up before season opens</li> <li>• Unexpected repairs (\$2000?)</li> <li>• Replace door-tag (\$350?)</li> </ul>	
2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working bee to tidy up before season opens</li> <li>• Unexpected repairs (\$2000?)</li> <li>• Replace sand filters</li> </ul>	
2029	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working bee to tidy up before season opens</li> <li>• Unexpected repairs (\$2000?)</li> <li>• Touch up of painted surfaces (\$500)</li> </ul>	

Updated March 2025

### **Woodlands Pool - 2024/25 season report**

The 2024/25 season so far has been a great success. We have had so much positive feedback regarding the upgrade to the cladding as well as displaying the advertising boards around the external walls of the building. The upgrade to the cladding has provided a more secure environment from dust and dirt and proving to be valuable in keeping the internal pool and the building cleaner and free from dust, dirt and leaves. The new electronic swipe system is working well, while it was an unexpected cost it has provided us with more data on usage and allows us to control the door and access to the pool remotely.

#### **Key sales**

We have sold 75 keys this year, with quite an influx of new key holders. This is an increase in sales on last year by 33%.

#### **Swimming lessons**

Lessons have been held in Term 4 of 2024, during the January school holidays and in Term 1 of 2025 by JC Swimmers and Johnston Waters. JC swimmers hold weekend lessons and Johnston waters hold lessons at our pool on a Monday, starting with preschoolers during the school day and then the older children later in the afternoon once the finish school. During the January school holidays JC swimmers offered block lessons for 5 days. People are travelling from near and far for these lessons and I believe that they both have waiting lists.

The predicted number of hours that will be held in total come the end of the 2024/25 season is close to 300 hours. While this does provide an income stream to the pool, the most important benefit is for the community and all of the students who attend and are improving their swimming ability.

#### **Usage**

The pool is definitely a popular spot, especially when the Southland summer treats us well. Due to the excellent heating, we have, even on the cooler days there is often someone there. It is used most days by Woodlands School. During March, Rimu School has been busing their entire school back and forth for their students to immerse themselves in a two-week block of swimming lessons.

Overall 2024/25 has been a successful season. I am looking forward to seeing what we can do during the off season when the pool I closed to make the 2025/26 season even better. We are due to close on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025. The above figures are current to 24 March 2025.

Kim Grant

Woodlands Pool Treasurer

## Toe Toes Community Pool

Secretary: Sandra Earwaker  
156 Tokanui-Haldane Road  
Tokanui 9884  
email-

Ph

Thursday 27 March 2025

Dear Waihopai Toe Toes Community Board

We had our fibreglassing completed just before the new season was to start so unfortunately we couldn't do the purlins as it was a waiting game for the fibreglassing. (This was a redo as the fibreglassing completed in 2020 was faulty). We couldn't have scaffolding all set up for purlins when they needed to fibreglass so we have not spent the last funds for the purlins.

We did purchase a spare pump and it is working well.

The quote last year was for 6-8 purlins that we noticed needed replacing, since then we have seen more that are also needing replaced. At least 15-18 are urgent and we are sure when we get up there, more will be required. We would appreciate assistance with more timber and paint costs. Approximately \$1500 for timber and we have decided to not just undercoat as was the first quote but a more substantial primer, undercoat, top coat application to ensure they last long term. We have a quote for 4 litres of this paint which we hope will be sufficient but we won't know for sure until we have inspected the purlins up close.

### 2025 Off season plans

Replace purlins	
timber for additional purlins	\$1500
Special primer/paint for purlins	\$ 490.75
Repaint floor surfaces of changing sheds and toilets	\$ 191
40 New Hooks for changing sheds	
14 packs @ \$33.48	\$ 468.72
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$2650.47</u>

We did paint the roughcast wall around the pool and replaced the main drain and hydrostatic valve which has been a great way to keep the water in our pool all season!! The sand/glass was replaced in each filter before the 2024 season started and we were told Filter 2 was still looking good so we could postpone replacing it as we had planned in 2025. We do have funds set aside for this if it does malfunction unexpectedly.

We were very fortunate to have a truck and trailer of water donated by Fonterra at the start of this season as the fibreglassing wasn't completed until October 10 (2 weeks before we were supposed to open) so we paid for 1 truck and trailer and Fonterra water and school tank water got us full enough to open 2 weeks after Labour Weekend.

Our school numbers have remained low at 43 this year and this has impacted on the amount of families in our area, and swimmers but our season key purchases have been ok at 35 this season.

Other regular users are – Swimming Club lessons every Monday afternoon during the school terms with 35 registered swimmers, Home and School funded lessons with instructor, Plunket preschool swimming sessions were 7 before Christmas and 11 after with 6-8 swimmers and parents), Tokanui School (43 pupils) for the REAP Swim Safe programme as well as swimming techniques and skills from November to April School holidays and Cubs and Scouts – swimming skills for badges and camps.

This season we have 35 full season key holders (at \$80). 40 casual keys were issued to families @ \$10 per swim. A very approximate count up of swimmers based on those who recorded their swim was 1,856 swimmers up to March 26. This was very similar to last season.

We fundraised with a raffle table at the local Winter quiz (\$645) and a Lions Meal (\$925).

We have had a trouble free, season with swimmers looking after the pool, water quality remaining very high, temperature a constant 29+ degrees, water from school tanks and bore keeping up over the summer, lovely weather and many positive comments from outside users and instructors on the warmth, cleanliness and top water quality.

We appreciate the chance to apply for these funds again.

Yours sincerely

Sandra Earwaker  
Secretary



### Toe Toes Swimming Pool Maintenance Plan

Year	Major Project	Maintenance/Minor Work
2024	Replace sand/glass in Filters \$2500 (completed)  Purchase spare water/filter pump \$1500 (completed)  Repaint roughcast edging outside pool. \$500 (completed)  Replace Main drain plug and surrounds \$300 (completed)	Maintenance on filter handles (completed)  Replace main drain and hydrostatic valve (completed)
2025	Replace rotten purlins	Increase shelving space and paint inside filter and equipment shed for easy cleaning  Replace rusty/broken hooks/hangers in changing sheds.  Repaint all concrete floors – toilets, changing sheds
2026	Replace wooden walls of wheelchair toilet \$2000	Replace heat pump cover
2027	Replace Spouting on pool building and fascia boards.	Replace sink taps
2028	Repair/replace pool cover winder \$2000  Repaint all white shelving, wooden work	Replace toilet cisterns/seats
2029	Replace pool cover. \$1200	
2030	Replace water/filter pump (10 years old)	
2031	Heat pump replace (15 years old)	
2032	Dolphin Robo Lux (\$6000)	
2033	Replace/Repair wooden walls of Girls Changing Sheds	

## Contract renewal agreed levels of service

Record No: R/25/4/14348

Author: Lance Spencer, Contracts and programme lead

Approved by: Sam Marshall, Group manager customer and community wellbeing

☒ Decision

☐ Recommendation

☐ Information

### Purpose

- 1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board for the levels of service and areas to be included in the future mowing, toilet cleaning and gardening contracts.

### Executive summary

- 2 The current contracts for mowing, gardening and toilet cleaning within the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board area will expire 30 June 2026.
- 3 The primary focus of this report is to receive feedback from community boards and confirm any changes to levels of service and any maintenance areas in the contracts. This is part of reviewing the current maintenance contracts in preparation to going to market.
- 4 The community boards will receive a briefing on the revised contract content and structure proposed for the contract(s) to cover the three work areas, prior to a tender being released to the market.
- 5 Staff have worked with the community board to identify the areas and levels of service associated with the contracts that will be included in the tender documents for the renewal of the contracts.
- 6 Council has indicated that various contractors (including local contractors) should be provided opportunity to be part of contract renewal process.
- 7 Staff are proposing to release the tender to the market in the final quarter of the 2025 calendar year to provide sufficient time to work through this process, and to allow successful contractors time to mobilise to start the new contracts on 1 July 2026

## Recommendation

That the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board:

- a) Receives the report titled “Contract renewal agreed levels of service”.
- b) Determines that this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002.
- c) Determines that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the act determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.
- d) staff request that the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board provide the contact details of any contractors who may be interested in the upcoming contract renewal or carrying out general maintenance and improvement works for Council
- e) agrees to approve the areas and levels of service identified in the attachments to this report:
  - Contract renewal map – Waihopai Toetoe community board towns
  - Waihopai Toetoe community board area analysis
  - Levels of Service for Contract Renewal 2025
  - Contract renewal timeline.

## Background

- 8 The mowing, gardening and toilet cleaning contracts for the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board area were renewed in 2020. These contracts were for a four-year term with the provision for up to a two year extension.
- 9 The contracts are due to expire 30 June 2026.
- 10 The community board has had the opportunity to review the existing levels of service and areas that the current contracts cover.
- 11 Boards have provided feedback on the changes that they would like to see in the tender documents that go out to market. These changes have been made and the areas updated based on the latest aerial photography that is available and included in the maps attached to this report.
- 12 For Edendale, the community board has made some minor changes to the areas and retained the same levels of service for mowing.
- 13 For Fortrose, the community board has decided to retain the same areas and levels of service.
- 14 For Gorge Road, the community board has decided to retain the same areas and levels of service.
- 15 For Tokanui, the community board has decided to retain the same areas but changed the levels of service.
- 16 For Waikawa, the community board has decided to retain the same areas and levels of service.
- 17 For Weirs Beach, the community board has decided to retain the same areas and levels of service.

- 18 For Woodlands, the community board has decided to retain the same areas and levels of service.
- 19 For Wyndham, the community board has made some minor changes to the areas and retained the same levels of service for mowing and have included open drain spraying and clearing.
- 20 The attached maps also show areas that are not locally funded for the community boards information.
- 21 Staff have had discussions with the community board about what the contract structure could look like in the future. There is a strong preference for these to be available for local contractors and where possible combine the activities into a single contract.
- 22 In some areas separate mowing, gardening and cleaning contracts may be more practical in terms of the scale of the contract works to be completed within settlements/community board areas to recognise contractor capability and availability.
- 23 This thinking also aligns with the direction that Council has indicated to staff they would like for future contracts.
- 24 It is proposed that when the tender documents are released to the market, they will include separable portions. This will provide prospective tenders the ability to tender for all of the work or only portions of the work.
- 25 The indicative timeline for the contract renewal is attached to the report.

**Factors to consider**

**Legal and statutory requirements**

- 26 None.

**Community views**

- 27 Staff have worked with the community board in the preparation of the information that is included in this report.

**Costs and funding**

- 28 The current contracts have been operational for five years with only Council's CPI rate increase added each year. With the changes that have taken place in the economic environment over the last five years it is expected that the cost of providing these services will increase.
- 29 The budgets that have been allocated have been approved through the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan (LTP).
- 30 Once community board feedback on levels of service and areas is confirmed, staff will review the contract documents, levels of service and the structure of the contracts in preparation for going to market.
- 31 Community boards will be briefed on the contract changes and proposed contracting approach prior to the new maintenance contract(s) being released to the market.
- 32 Once the tenders have been evaluated, staff will be in a position to provide the community board with information on the costs associated with the new contracts.

**Policy implications**

- 33 The tender process will follow Council procurement policy.

### Analysis of options

**Option 1 - Agrees to approve the areas and levels of service identified in the attachments to this report, that will be included in the tender documents.**

<i>Advantages</i>	<i>Disadvantages</i>
. the tender documents can be prepared and released to the market.	. none identified.

**Option 2 – Does not agree to approve the areas and levels of service identified in the attachments to this report, that will be included in the tender documents.**

<i>Advantages</i>	<i>Disadvantages</i>
. none identified.	. the contract renewal may not meet the 1 July 2026 timeframe for renewal.

### Assessment of significance

- 34 The assessment of significance needs to be carried out in accordance with Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. The Significance and Engagement Policy requires consideration of the impact on social, economic or cultural wellbeing of the region and consequences for people who are likely to be particularly affected or interested. Community views have been considered throughout this process thus the proposed decision is not considered significant.

### Recommended option

- 35 The staff recommendation is option 1.

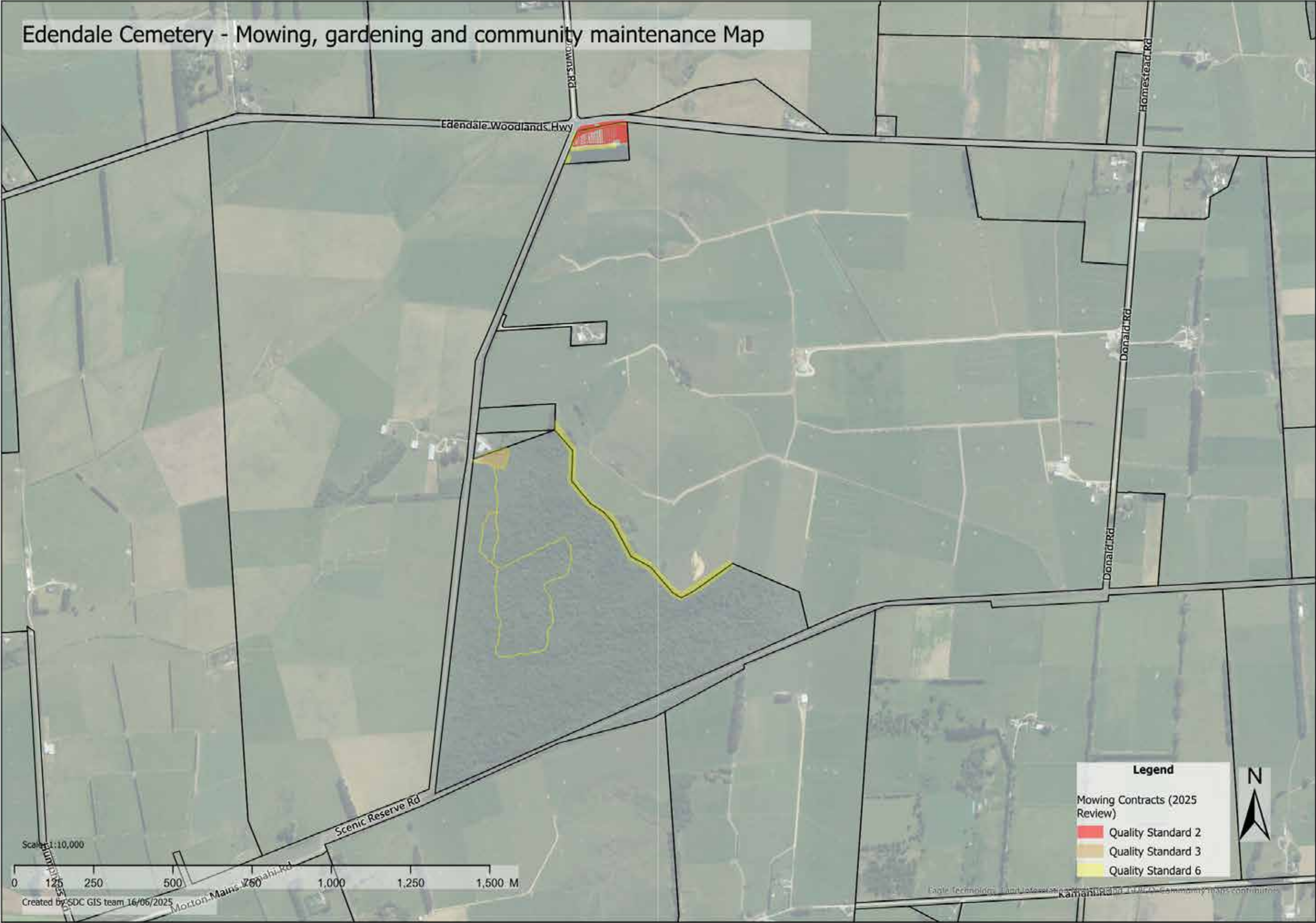
### Attachments

- A Contract Renewal Map Waihopai Toetoe
- B Waihopai Toetoe Community Board Area Analysis
- C Levels of Service for Contract Renewal 2025
- D Contract Renewal Timeline

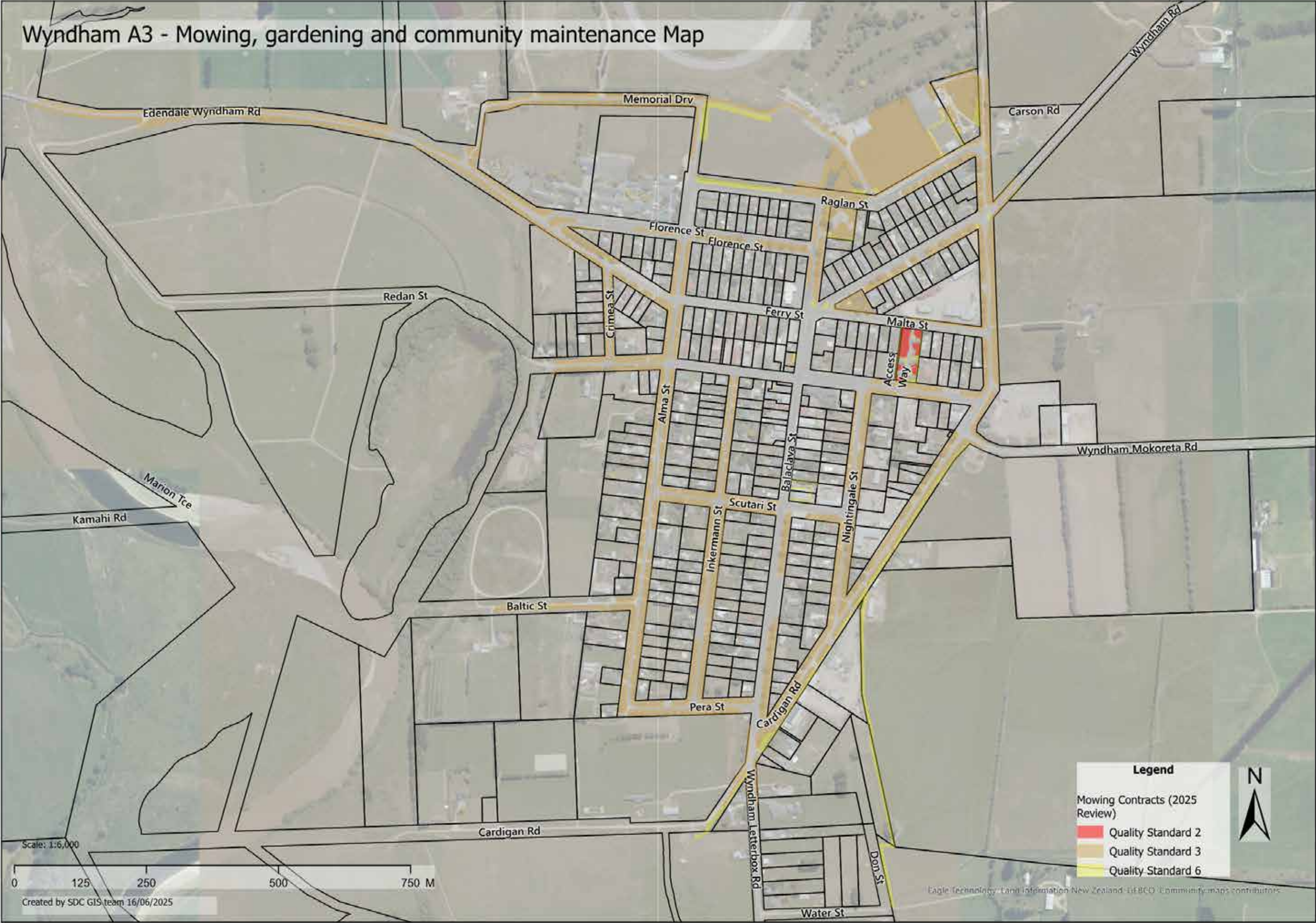








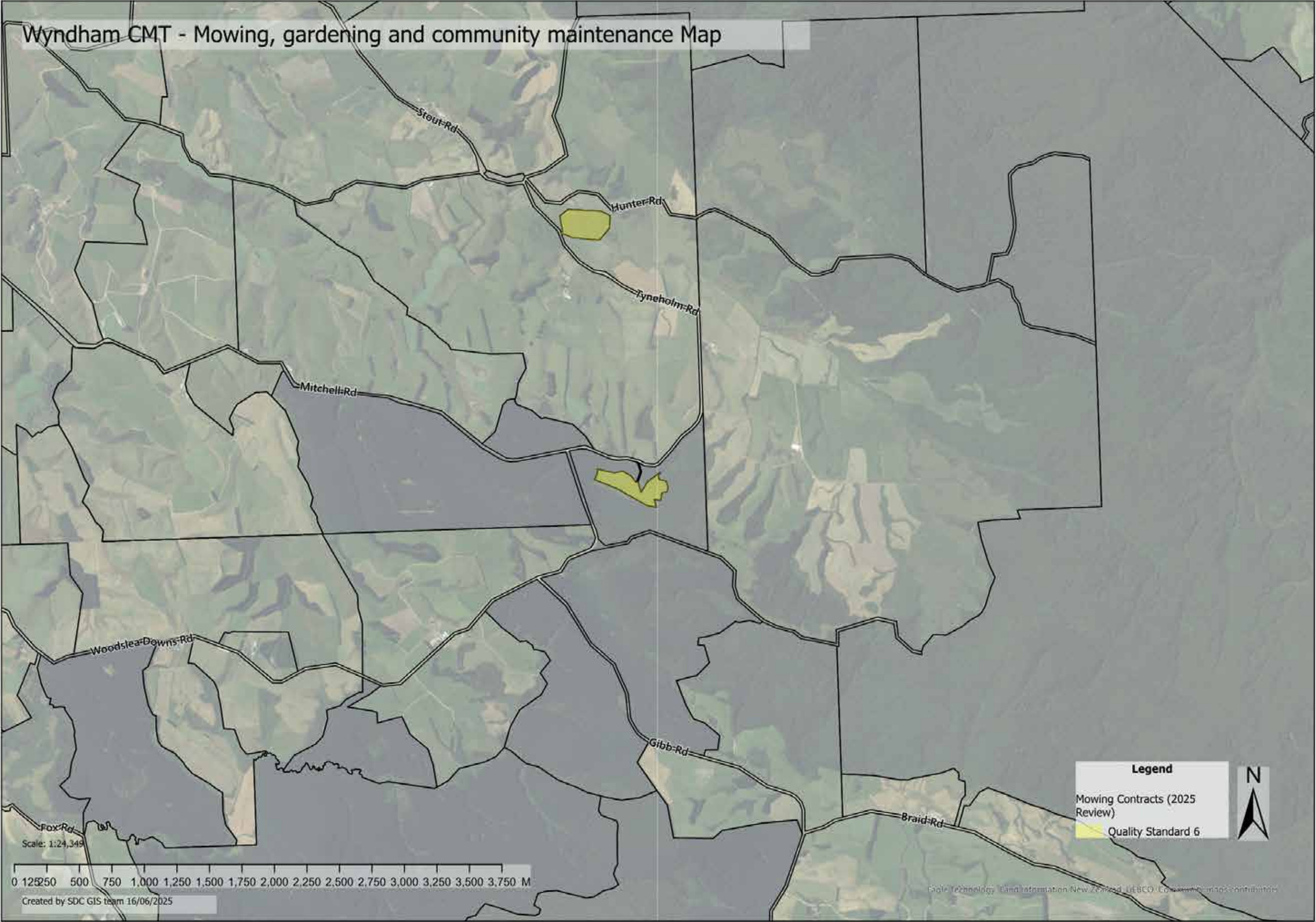








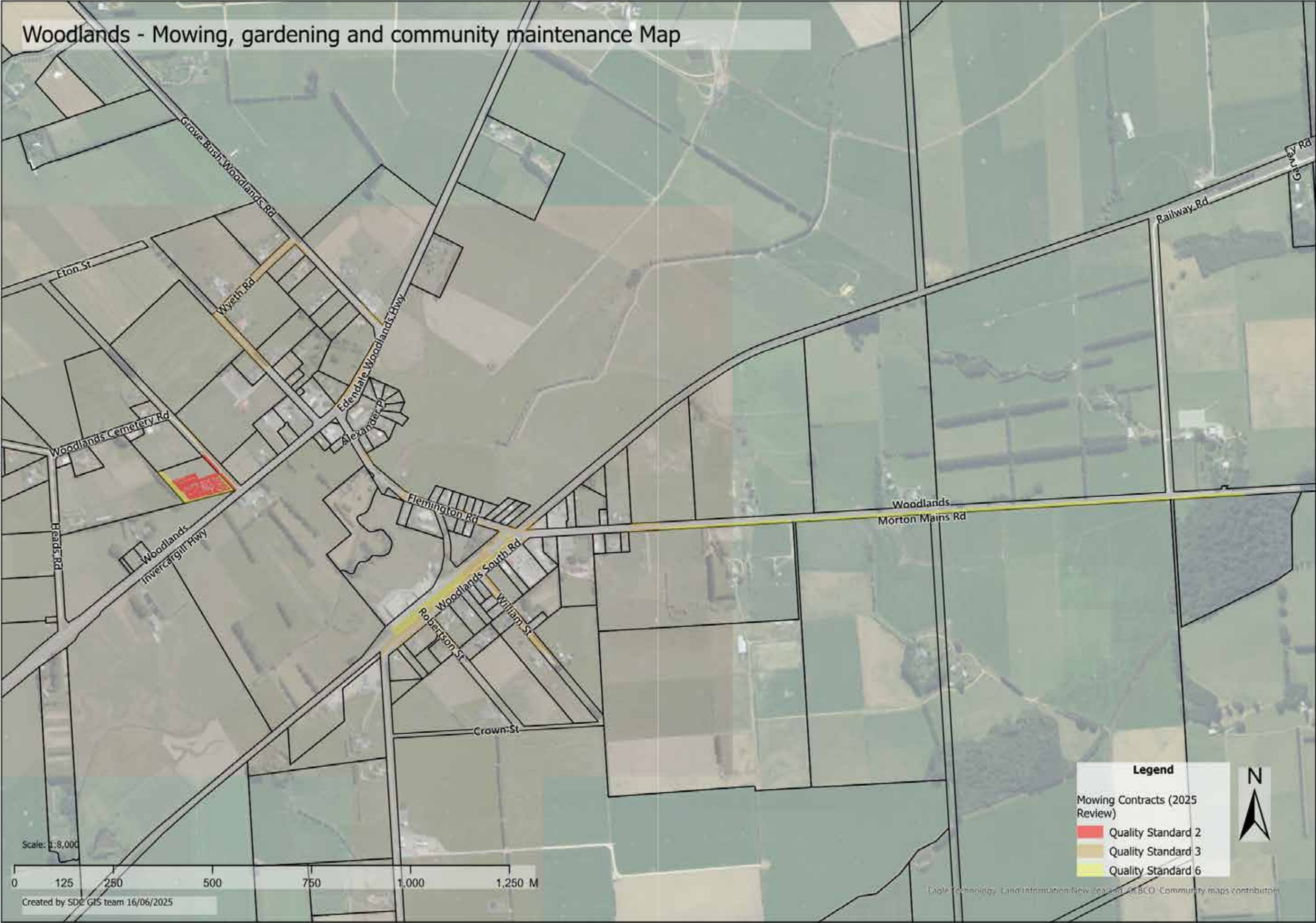














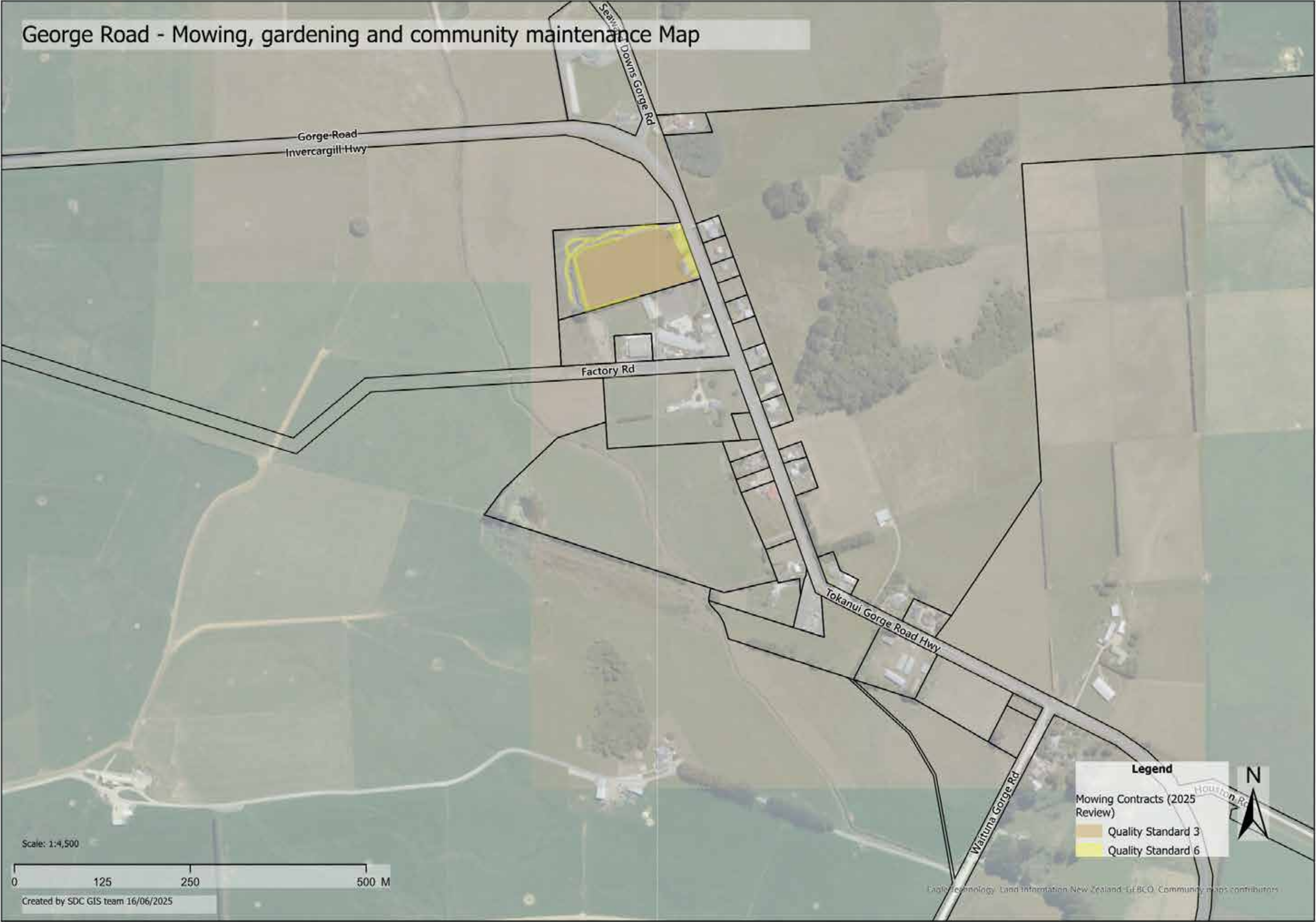






















## Waihopai Toetoe Community Board Area Analysis

CB	Town	Quality Standard	2025 Review (sqm)	Current (sqm)	Difference (Review - current) sqm	% of reduction or accretion
Waihopai	Edendale	QS2	867.35986	1506.4	-639.04014	-42.42%
	Edendale	QS3	73,046.15	73114.61	-68.46303	-0.09%
	Edendale	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>73,913.51</b>	<b>74,621.01</b>	<b>-707.50317</b>	<b>-0.95%</b>
	Edendale Cemetery	QS2	7,858.83	7,858.83	0	0.00%
	Fortrose	QS3	9,865.17	10775.41	-910.23959	-8.45%
	Gorge Road	QS3	11,415.86	11,433.06	-17.20453	-0.15%
	Kamahi Scenic Reserve	QS3	3,027.45	3865.39	-837.93541	-21.68%
	Tokanui	QS2		2,504.44	-2504.44	-100.00%
	Tokanui	QS3	36,215.37	35,343.36	872.00963	2.47%
	Tokanui	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36,215.37</b>	<b>37,847.80</b>	<b>-1632.43037</b>	<b>-4.31%</b>
	Waikawa	QS3	16,876.23	21172.84	-4296.61	-20.29%
	Weirs Beach	QS3	4,974.62	5,759.49	-784.87428	-13.63%
	Woodlands	QS2	5,849.14	7788.69	-1939.54645	-24.90%
	Woodlands	QS3	20,279.98	19921.25	358.72559	1.80%
	Woodlands	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26,129.12</b>	<b>27,709.94</b>	<b>-1580.82086</b>	<b>-5.70%</b>
	Wyndale Refuse	QS3	2,125.98	2,125.98	0	0.00%
	Wyndham	QS2	1,763.40	1702.65	60.746	3.57%
	Wyndham	QS3	130,373.47	115495.88	14877.5868	12.88%
	Wyndham	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>132,136.86</b>	<b>117,198.53</b>	<b>14938.3328</b>	<b>12.75%</b>
	Wyndham Cemetery	QS2	13,520.23	13,521.24	-1.01344	-0.01%

Community Facilities Levels of Service		
Operations and Maintenance	Task	Quality Standard 2
All Categories	Amenity grass mowing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grass height maintained between 40mm and 80mm</li> <li>Stalks no more than 150mm</li> <li>Clippings to be evenly distributed (no clumps or windrows) and removed from paths and paved areas.</li> <li>Edges are trimmed to the same standard as the turf, or a vegetation free strip is maintained               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Around structures and along hard surfaces no more than 100mm</li> <li>Around trees and along boundary fences no more than 200mm</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Maintenance Operations	Task	Quality Standard 3
All Categories	Amenity grass mowing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grass height maintained between 50mm and 100mm</li> <li>Stalks no more than 300mm</li> <li>Clippings to be evenly distributed (no clumps or windrows) and removed from paths and paved areas.</li> <li>Edges are trimmed to the same standard as the turf, or a vegetation free strip is maintained               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Around structures and along hard surfaces no more than 200mm</li> <li>Around trees and along boundary fences no more than 300mm</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Maintenance Operations	Task	Quality Standard 6
All Categories	Vegetation Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gorse, broom noxious weed control</li> </ul>

## Contract Timeline







## Update on 2025 triennial election

Record no: R/25/5/23267

Author: Jayson Trent, Democracy Advisor

Approved by: Vibhuti Chopra, Group manager strategy and partnerships

☐ Decision

☐ Recommendation

☒ Information

### Purpose

- 1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update and general information on the local government 2025 triennial election.

### Executive summary

- 2 The triennial local government election will be held on Saturday 11 October 2025.
- 3 Candidate information sessions will be held on 15 July 2025, 6pm at the Otautau SDC Office, 176 Main Street and on 16 July 2025, 6pm at the Lumsden Memorial Hall, 8 Meadow Street.
- 4 Candidate packs that include nomination forms, the candidate handbook, pre-election report and electoral expense forms will be available at all Council area offices/libraries from 4 July 2025.
- 5 Election related documents and resources will be made available on the Council website at [www.southlanddc.govt.nz/council/elections](http://www.southlanddc.govt.nz/council/elections).
- 6 The Local Government Commission (LGC) released its determination of SDC's representation arrangements for the 2025 triennial elections on 29 January 2025. The LGC decided to instate the arrangements outlined in Council's final representation proposal. These representation arrangements will take effect at the commencement of the 2025-2028 triennium.
- 7 Elected members of the 2022-2025 triennium will cease to hold office on the day after the official results are declared by public notice. Those elected for the 2025-2028 triennium will take office on that day, but will not be able to act in their capacity as an elected member until they are sworn in.

## Recommendation

That the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board:

- a) receives the report titled "Update on 2025 triennial election".
- b) notes the following key dates in relation to the 2025 triennial election:
  - 4 July 2025 – nominations open
  - 15 July 2025 – candidate information session
  - 16 July 2025 – candidate information session
  - 1 August 2025 – nominations close at 12 noon
  - 9 to 22 September 2025 – delivery of voting documents
  - 11 October 2025 – election day (voting closes at 12 noon)
- c) notes the Local Government Commission determination for the Southland District, released on 29 January 2025, will apply from the commencement of the 2025-2028 triennium.
- d) notes that, the elected members of the 2022-2025 triennium will cease to hold office on the day after the day the official results of the 2025-2028 election are declared by public notice, unless they are re-elected

## Background

- 8 On 2 August 2023, Council confirmed the first past the post electoral system for the 2025 triennial election and any associated by-election.

## Update on the triennial elections 2025

### Nominations

- 9 Nominations for all seats will open on Friday 4 July 2025 and close at 12 noon on Friday 1 August 2025.
- 10 Nominations can be sent by mail to 15 Forth Street, Invercargill 9810, email to [elections@southlanddc.govt.nz](mailto:elections@southlanddc.govt.nz), or delivered to a Council staff member by visiting any Council office or library.
- 11 To ensure timely processing of all candidate nominations, candidates are highly encouraged to submit their nominations and supporting documents as soon as possible.
- 12 If there are less candidates than seats available at the close of nominations, a by election will be triggered to fill the vacancies. If there are the same number of candidates as seats available, candidates will be elected unopposed.

### Information for candidates

- 13 Candidate packs that include nomination forms, the candidate handbook, pre-election report and electoral expense forms will be available at all Council area offices/libraries and on the Council website from 4 July 2025.

- 14 The candidate handbook provides information for individuals considering standing in the 2025 election. It contains a comprehensive overview of all aspects of the election, including the seats available and the requirements to become a candidate.
- 15 The pre-election report is a document required under the Local Government Act 2002. The report is the responsibility of the chief executive and must be prepared independently of elected members. It focuses on issues that will need to be considered in the next triennium and provides information on the major projects Council expects to fund over the next three years.
- 16 All election resources will be made available at <https://www.southlanddc.govt.nz/council/elections/elections-2025/> and general information about Council elections, including past elections is available here <https://www.southlanddc.govt.nz/council/elections/>.

### **Election protocols for elected members**

- 17 In the lead-up to local government elections, there are protocols elected members should be aware of to ensure fairness, impartiality, and compliance with legal requirements/restrictions. Election protocols for elected members were distributed in the weekly Kia for elected members on 9 May 2025
- 18 The key principles outlined in the election protocols for elected members to note are:
- council resources cannot be used for campaign purposes (this includes Council run social media accounts - these must remain politically neutral during the election period)
  - leading up to the election, elected members continue to have the right and responsibility to govern and to make decisions, but it is likely there will be an increased level of media and public scrutiny
  - elected members will still have access to the information they need to discharge their roles as incumbents and their Council contact information will still be publicly available. Information requests for electioneering purposes will be managed differently.

### **Representation arrangements/representation review**

- 19 On 30 January 2025, the LGC issued its determination on the representation arrangements for the Southland District that will apply from the 2025 local government elections. The determination puts in place the arrangements adopted by Council as its final representation proposal. The new determination is available here [Southland District Council Determination 2025](#).
- 20 Representation arrangements from the 2025 local government election will be similar to those currently in place, with minor ward/community board boundary changes at Dunearn, Drummond, Taramoa, Otamika Valley and Nokomai Station. There are also corrections to some ward and community board names to include macrons, these are Ōraka, Ōreti and Waihōpai.

### **Information campaigns**

- 21 People will be encouraged to ensure their enrolment details are up to date and an enrolment campaign will be conducted by the Electoral Commission supported by each Council. The number of electors in the Southland District is expected to be approximately 22,000.
- 22 Council's information campaigns will have three key phases including, 'enrolling/encouraging people to check their enrolment status', 'standing for election' and 'voting'. These will include information about Council, what it is like to be an elected member, how to enrol, how to stand, how to find out about candidates, why you should be a voter and how to vote. The campaigns will

aim to encourage participation by increasing public knowledge of the elections process for voters and candidates. Where appropriate, staff will work with staff from other councils in the region to provide election information.

- 23 The 'standing for election' phase will include election updates on the website, newspaper stories/ads, social media/Antenno posts, posters around townships, radio advertising and various media informational pieces.
- 24 The Southland District Council website will continue to receive updates on the 2025 triennial election as the election cycle progresses.

#### **Electoral services and electoral officer**

- 25 Electionz.com has been contracted by Council to provide electoral services for the 2025 triennial elections.
- 26 Anthony Morton, from Electionz.com, was appointed as Southland District Council's electoral officer on 23 November 2021 and he will continue to hold this position until either party give notice that they want to make a change. The electoral officer will carry out designated duties under the Local Electoral Act 2001, manage the election independently of the elected body and maintain the security of electoral records. The electoral officer will be supported by a deputy electoral officer who is a staff member. The deputy electoral officer for the 2025-2028 triennial election of Southland District Council is Robyn Rout, Governance Legal Manager.

#### **Voting**

- 27 The triennial elections will be held on Saturday 11 October 2025.
- 28 The election will be conducted by postal vote and voting documents will be delivered from Tuesday 9 September 2025 to Monday 22 September 2025. Voting closes at 12 noon on Saturday 11 October 2025.
- 29 In addition to Southland District Council election, the voting documents will also include elections for Environment Southland, Mātaura Licensing Trust and Gore and Districts Health Incorporated.

#### **Remuneration**

- 30 The remuneration of elected members is set by the Remuneration Authority in its annual determination.
- 31 Elected members are entitled to remuneration while they hold office.
- 32 In accordance with s 115(1) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, those elected for the 2025-2028 triennium will take office on the day after the official results are declared by public notice under s86, and their remuneration will start on this day.
- 33 In accordance with s 116(a) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, elected members of the 2022-2025 triennium will cease to hold office when members elected at the next election come into office, and their remuneration will end on this day.

### **Factors to consider**

#### **Legal and statutory requirements**

- 34 The key legal requirements and protocols for local government elections are set out in the Local Electoral Act 2001, the Local Electoral Regulations 2001, and the Local Government Act 2002.

### **Attachments**

There are no attachments for this report.



---

## Community board reporting

Record no: R/25/6/25638  
Author: Karen Purdue, Community partnership leader  
Approved by: Sam Marshall, Group manager customer and community wellbeing

☒ Decision

☐ Recommendation

☒ Information

---

### Purpose

- 1 The purpose of this report is to inform the board of the community leadership, operational and Council activities in the board area and across the district.

### Recommendation

That the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board:

- a) receives the report titled "Community board reporting".

### Attachments

- A Waihopai Toetoe - community leadership report - 24 June 2025  
B Waihopai Toetoe operational report - 24 June 2025  
C Waihopai Toetoe CB - projects update - March and April 2025





## What's happening in your area

### Community Partnership Fund

The last funding round for the 2024/25 financial year closed on 14 April 2025. Four applications have been received and funding is scheduled to be allocated at the next community board meeting in June.

### Demolition of Wyndham Museum building

Demolition of the Wyndham Museum building is set to get underway.

Initial work started on 26 May and involved the establishment of site facilities, fencing, traffic control in front of the building and protection of the overhead power lines before scaffolding is erected.

Demolition of the building started on 3 June and involved a combination of mechanical and manual deconstruction, using both long reach excavators with specialist attachments and, where required, hand tools primarily on boundary walls adjacent to existing buildings.

Total demolition and site reinstatement is expected to be completed by 27 June.

Southland firm Ryal Bush Transport successfully tendered for the project.

Home to the Wyndham and District Historical Museum, the building was closed in 2017 after it was deemed earthquake prone.

The museum boasted an extensive collection relating to the wider Wyndham area, including family genealogy, sheep and dairy farming, dairy factories, horse racing, household items and histories of local clubs and societies.

Following the building's closure, the collection was digitised with the assistance of Project Ark, a collaboration between the Invercargill City Council, and the Southland and Gore district councils to catalogue every item in the region's 12 museums which started in 2018.

Items are available to view online at [www.chive.com](http://www.chive.com).

Dedicated volunteers continue to actively fundraise with the aim of establishing a new museum on the site in the future.

## What's happening across the district

### Community Service Award – Jeanna Rodgers

Jeanna Rodgers' tireless voluntary work has made her an integral thread in the Lumsden community over more than two decades.

On Thursday evening her wonderful contributions were recognised with a Southland District Council/Northern Community Board Community Service Award.

Mayor Rob Scott and community board chair Greg Tither spoke about the immense value Ms Rodgers adds to her township.

The Northern Southland college teacher has been a member of many groups and committees supporting children and youth, often serving as the secretary. She has willingly given countless hours of her time to support activities and education for young people. Just one example is driving young members of Lumsden's climbing club to Te Anau and Invercargill so they can use the climbing walls there.

Over the years Ms Rodgers has secured several hundred thousand dollars of funding for many community projects and organisations, including the community swimming pool, the Northern Southland Reforestation Trust, and the toy library, as well as providing play equipment for children in the community under the auspices of the LAAMBS (Lumsden and Areas Activities for Miniature Bodies Society) charitable trust.

She is recognised as the first person to offer a helping hand at community events and projects. Mayor Scott said Ms Rodgers was the kind of person who made her community a better place to live in.

Among the many roles and services she has provided for her community are: founding a music and movement group, Plunker car seats, toy library treasurer and grants officer, Playcentre, Friend of Lumsden School secretary, Bibles in Schools, Anglican Church, Oreti Community Bike Park committee, Northern Southland Amateur Swimming Club, Duke of Edinburgh supervisor at Northern Southland College, college football teams manager, climbing club, kapa haka, Northern Southland Reforestation Trust, Kidzone volunteer, and Northern Southland College PTA secretary.

As secretary of the Northern Southland Community Pool Trust, she voluntarily opens and closes the pool daily.

Ms Rodgers often assists with private childcare and tutoring, and she was a relief teacher at Lumsden's former Riverstones Early Learning Centre. At Northern Southland College she offers students access to extracurricular activities, while highlighting her community's events and activities as a casual reporter for The Southland App.



### Community Service Award – Andre Bekhuis

Andre Bekhuis has never been one to shy away from a challenge – a trait which has seen him embrace many leadership roles in the Otautau community over the years.

Bekhuis' unrivalled contribution was formally recognised with the presentation of a Community Service Award from Southland District Council and the Wallace Takitimu Community Board on Saturday.

Southland Mayor Rob Scott said Bekhuis was thoroughly deserving of the honour.

"His involvement in the local community has been extensive and his contributions have undoubtedly had such a positive impact," he said.

"You won't find anyone more passionate about Otautau than Andre and that's reflected in the many roles he has held over the years."

Bekhuis served four terms on the Wallace Takitimu Community Board from 2010 to 2022, including three at the helm as chairperson.

He has spent the past two terms as president of the Otautau RSA and proved instrumental in the organisation attracting worldwide media attention for the procurement of the WW1 quilt that was made by local residents and sent to New Zealand soldiers convalescing in England during the war.

"That amazing piece of history has since been framed and now hangs proudly in our council office at Otautau for everyone to admire and enjoy," Mayor Scott said.

Immensely proud of the town, Bekhuis has been a long-serving member of Otautau Promotions, including several years as chairperson. His handy skills and community spirit are to the fore during events, tackling a vast range of tasks, and even installing the Christmas lights during the festive season.

The hanging baskets on display in the main street even captured his attention with Bekhuis seen watering them daily from his trusty four-wheeler motorbike.

President of the Otautau Golf Club, Bekhuis has been a driving force in its existence and played a key role in organising the 100-year jubilee.

As a local business owner, he generously makes his equipment available at no cost to help out the community, including maintenance of the bowling club and St John building.

Many hours are spent as a caregiver to elderly residents, ferrying them to appointments and RSA meetings.

And he's not adverse to putting on his kilt and playing the bagpipes for special occasions.

"Andre has a big heart for his community and works quietly away in the background to little fanfare so it is an absolute privilege to shine the spotlight on his efforts," Mayor Scott said.



## Community funding

### Funding opportunities

The following funding was granted for the March 2025 funding rounds:

#### Creative Communities Fund

Cathy Irons - Douce Ambiance: Riverton and Te Anau concerts	\$2000
Otautau Patchwork Group: Quilting workshop with Shirley Sparks	\$1,750
The CanInspire Charitable Trust: Beading workshops	\$1,100
Anna van Riel: Voice workshops	\$2,000
TDPI/ Central Western Archive: 100 years of rural women exhibition and workshops	\$2,126
Waimumu Te Tioua Art and Craft: Exhibition and workshop	\$4,700
Nathalie Sterkens: Kidsfest 2 day festival in Otautau	\$2,800
Te Hikoi: Artist challenge exhibition 2025	\$2,660
Te Anau Waitangi Charitable Trust: Te Anau Waitangi festival 2026	\$3,000
Toi Rakiura Arts Trust: Jackie Clarke show	\$1,000

The following Southland District Council funds close on 20 December 2025.

- Centennial Bursary Scholarships for recognised tertiary study
- Valmai Robertson Creative NZ Arts Scholarships
- Eric Hawkes Memorial Outward Bound Scholarship.

Applications can be made on the Southland District Council website via the SmartyGrants link:  
<https://www.southlanddc.govt.nz/council/funding-and-grants/>

## Council department updates

### Governance

Work streams that may be of interest to the board include:

**Pecuniary and other interests** – the register of elected member pecuniary interests is now publicly available on Council's website.

**2025 local government elections** – election protocols were provided to all elected members via the Kia Korero on 9 May. These protocols are a good resource to help you navigate if you are going to be both a



current elected member and an election candidate. The team are preparing for the local government elections nomination period. Information on this is provided in a separate report on this agenda.

**Mileage claims** - please remember to send these claims through promptly to Rachael Poole at [rachael.poole@southlanddc.govt.nz](mailto:rachael.poole@southlanddc.govt.nz).

**Elected member payments** – over the next month the governance team will be arranging the annual communication payment to elected members. This is a non-taxable allowance that recognises elected members are using their own device and services (eg internet connection) to communicate on community board matters. The Remuneration Authority's annual determination also comes out in June each year outlining any changes to elected member pay for the following year. Elected member pay will be altered accordingly from 1 July 2025.

## Policy

### Consultation on Council's draft Dog Control Policy 2025 and draft Dog Control Bylaw 2025

Consultation on the draft bylaw and policy, including the proposed changes, went live on 12 May 2025.

The public can obtain information about the consultation process and make submissions online at [www.makeitstick.nz](http://www.makeitstick.nz) (this redirects to the SDC website landing page).

The proposed changes in the bylaw and policy include providing definitions of 'effective control' and 'public place'. There are some proposed changes to dog access levels in specific community board areas, which are reflected in revised maps.

All SDC-registered dog owners will receive either an email or letter informing them of the consultation period. We will also be promoting this consultation on Council's Facebook page and via Antenno notifications.

The timeline for the entire review process is included on the consultation page at [www.makeitstick.nz](http://www.makeitstick.nz).

### Submissions

Anyone can make a submission by:

- completing the online submission form at [www.makeitstick.nz](http://www.makeitstick.nz)
- emailing a submission to [submissions@southlanddc.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@southlanddc.govt.nz)
- delivering a submission to Southland District Council head office, 15 Forth Street, Invercargill, or any Southland District Council area office
- posting a submission to:

Southland District Council  
PO Box 903  
Invercargill 9840  
ATTN: Draft Dog Control Bylaw and Policy 2025 Submissions

The consultation period runs for **two months**, and submissions close at **5pm on Friday 13 July 2025**.

### Questions and feedback

If you receive any feedback or need assistance in answering any questions about the draft policy and bylaw, please contact Ana Bremer [ana.bremer@southlanddc.govt.nz](mailto:ana.bremer@southlanddc.govt.nz)

## Stakeholder updates

### Citizens Advice Bureau – community directory

The Invercargill Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) recently launched its community directory. This is a directory of local support services, interest groups, and sports clubs etc, all in one place for easy accessibility. This can be located online at <https://invercargill.cab.org.nz/>

The CAB help people to know and understand their rights and obligations and how to use this information to get the best outcomes, provide people with the confidence and support they need to take action, and work for positive social change within communities and wider society. This independent service is provided free to all.

This community directory is managed and maintained by CAB Invercargill. If you want to add or amend a listing on this directory please contact them on [invercargill@cab.org.nz](mailto:invercargill@cab.org.nz) or you can call them directly at [03 218 6648](tel:032186648).





## Waihopai Toetoe Community Board

### Tracker - ongoing

Edendale - Wyndham multiuse track project – boundary survey completed

Wyndham camping ground – work is continuing with a view to reopen the camping ground

Waikawa Hall – lease is currently with the Waikawa Community Hall Charitable Trust for signing

Wyndham and Tokanui playground upgrades – engagement to be completed at Menzies college and on-line at "Make it Stick"

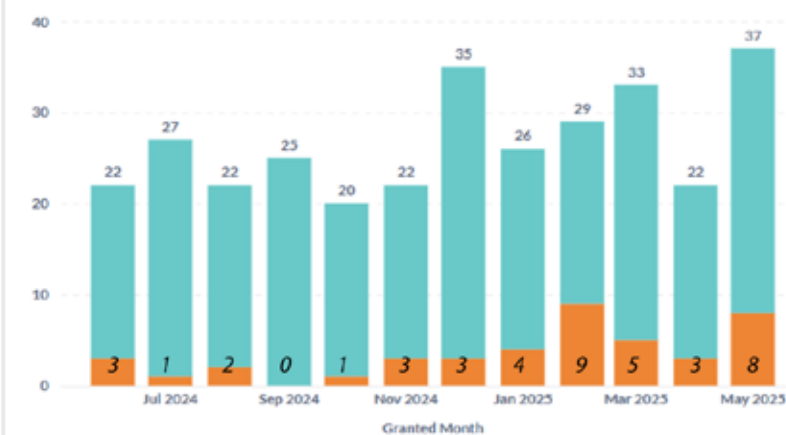
### Upcoming priorities

Curio Bay Masterplan – Boffa Miskell are working on the completion of the draft masterplan

### Resource consents granted

RM applications granted for community board

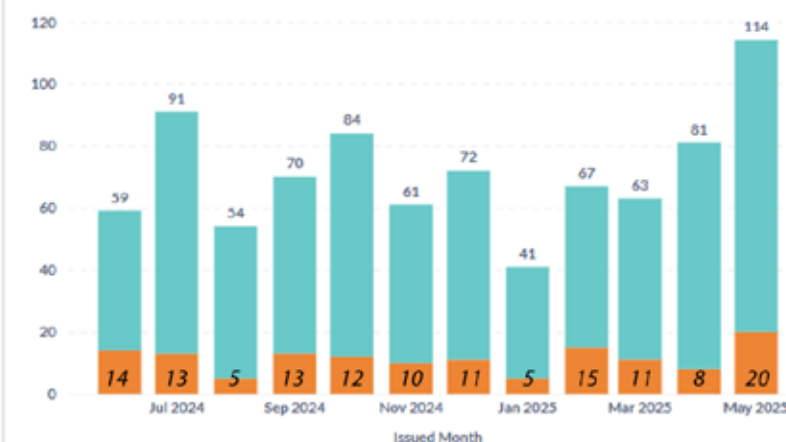
RestOfSDC BoardCount



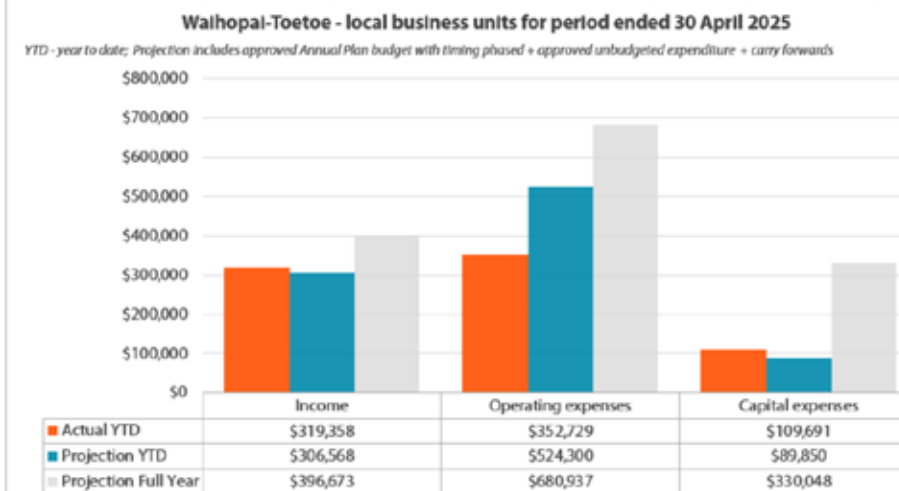
### Building consents granted

Building Consents issued for community board

RestOfSDC BoardCount



### Local Budget Information



### Budget notes

**Income** is \$13k (4%) above projection. This is largely due to Better off Funding of \$12k that has been received for the camping ground that had been budgeted to be received in June.

**Operating expenses** are \$172k under projection (33%). The majority of this (\$126k) relates to the timing of the budget for demolition costs for the Wyndham Museum that is expected to be completed by the end of the financial year. \$5k relates to the Wyndham and Tokanui playground redevelopment concept design that is in progress. General maintenance/gardening costs are \$15k under projection across the parks and reserves and the halls as general maintenance is largely reactive. Tree and hedge maintenance is \$19k under projection due to the timing of tree maintenance, staff have met with the contractor and this is expected to be on track for year end. Woodlands septic tank cleaning is complete and showing as \$6k under projection due to a timing difference with costs expected to be received in May. Interest is \$6k under projection due to lower loan drawdowns in the prior year and footpath maintenance is \$9k under projection due to the timing of the maintenance budget.

Internal grants are over projection by \$4k due to the reallocation of the Fortrose Hall rates income to the Tokonui Hall and the Waimahaka Hall. General maintenance at the Wyndham Camping Ground is \$5k over projection. This will be funded from the upgrade construction project budget that is budgeted in capital expenses.

**Capital expenses** are \$20k (22%) over projection due to several projects. The Wyndham camping ground is \$32k over projection due to the phasing of the construction project budget and the maintenance project that is budgeted in operating expenditure in June. The new Edendale streetlights are \$13k over projection due to the timing of the budget and have been completed on budget. The Edendale to Wyndham multi use track is \$6k over projection also due to the timing of the budget, all costs for the year have been received and this project is under budget for the year. The remaining budget will be carried forward.

The speed feedback signs project is \$33k under projection, this project is underway but has not incurred any costs yet.

### Projects update

A complete projects update table is attached over page.

### Requests for service summary

Request Type	Count
Abandoned vehicles	1
Cemeteries/memorials - repairs and maintenance	1
Community facilities - halls - repairs/maintenance	2
Community housing - repairs and maintenance	11
Council property enquiry	2
Culverts blocked - rural	2
Emergency services assistance	2
Gravel road faults	19
Hazards	5
Litter matters rural (not state highway)	1
New sealed road issues (resealing season)	1
Parks and reserves - repairs and maintenance	6
Rapid numbers - new	1
Rapid numbers - repairs and maintenance	1
Rural verge mowing	1
Sealed road faults	4
Signs repairs (not stop/give way)	2
Street lights out	1
Streetscape - vegetation	2
Toilets - cleaning, repairs and maintenance	3
Transfer/recycling station matters	1
Transport - contractor customer complaint	1
Transport general enquiries	6
Vegetation rural (overgrown or visibility issues)	3
Water and waste general	4
Wheelie bin collection - complaints	2
Wheelie bin - general enquiry	4
Wheelie bin - new/additional	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>91</b>

### Service contracts

#### Water and wastewater services operation and maintenance

The 23/01 operations and maintenance contract is running well across the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board region. Water and wastewater services across the area have continued to operate well with what would be considered a normal number of service requests being received by Council and Downer since the previous report.

Downer have taken over operational responsibility for the Curio Bay wastewater treatment plant and have begun a series of equipment upgrades required for accurate reporting and good practice operational maintenance. The stormwater ditch at the back to the plant is to be cleared out for safer water sampling operations.

Plans to install new fencing around the Tokanui wastewater treatment plant disposal area is underway with the final part of scope close to being confirmed.

#### Mowing contract

June 30 sees the end of the original four year contract with DELTA but with the satisfactory work performance the clause to allow a one year rollover will be implemented.

Mowing is now reduced with the change of season. A round of township spraying is required and will be weather dependant.

#### Alliance roading contract

Pre reseal repairs for 2025/2026 sealing season continue with additional resource and plant on Stewart Island.

Drainage crew continuing with water tabling 2025/2026 pre reseal sites.

Neale Diack has joined the Foveaux Alliance in the role of supervisor and of note is undertaking 600+ diameter culvert inspections.

Noxious and verge spraying weather dependant.

We are experiencing a higher volume of heaves on our sealed network. These are being prioritised for maintenance.

### Service requests

Across the district there were 863 RFS lodged during the period March and April, of which 214 were related to three waters. 91 of the total requests belonged to this board area.

A full summary of those requests is located on the previous page.



January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025	May 2025	June 2025	July 2025	August 2025	September 2025	October 2025	November 2025	December 2025
	25 Feb - board meeting	Board workshop	29 April - board meeting	Board workshop	24 June - board meeting	Board workshop	26 August - board meeting	Board workshop	TBC - board meeting	Board workshop	TBC - board meeting
			Community Partnership Fund applications extended - close 14 April					Community service award nominations close 30 September			
		District Initiative fund, Creative Communities Fund, Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund and John Beange Fund applications close 31 March				1 July 2025 - Local Government Elections nomination period opens	1 August 2025 - Local Government Elections nomination period closes	9 September 2025 - voting Local Government elections opens District Initiative fund, Creative Communities Fund, Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund and John Beange Fund applications close 30 September	11 October 2025 - Local Government Elections election day		Scholarships and bursary applications close 20 December

## Waihopai Toetoe Community Board

### Projects update

Activity	Name	Current Phase	Current Progress	Budget ACTUAL YTD
<b>COMMUNITY FACILITIES</b>	Wyndham museum - sale/demolition	Delivery phase	Monitor	\$156,000 <b>\$3,665</b> P-10840
Tender has been awarded, contractors have established onsite to start demolition.				
<b>PARKS AND RESERVES</b>	Woodlands - interpretation panels	Pre-delivery phase	Off track	\$10,000 <b>\$0</b> P-11117
We are still waiting for the information to create the sign. This project is now likely to be carried forward to the next financial year.				
<b>STORM WATER</b>	Wyndham storm water replacement - includes subsoil	Delivery phase	On track	\$1,143,000 <b>\$78,591</b> P-10431
The design has been completed, and the tenders have closed and are currently being evaluated. Work is more likely to start in July with work continuing into 2025/2026 with another allocation in 2033/2034.				
<b>WASTEWATER</b>	Edendale/Wyndham wastewater - consent renewal	Pre-delivery phase	On track	\$265,054 <b>\$18,270</b> P-10454
The Edendale/ Wyndham consent application has been lodged to Environment Southland for a five year extension to 2028. The consent went limited notified. This process has four written objections, two from Iwi, DOC and Fish and Game. Currently Council is working through a solution to please all parties and are waiting for the Wastewater Standards update clarity. It is still anticipated to start the project construction in the 2025/2026 period through to 2026/2027.				



## Councillor update

**Record no:** R/25/6/25589

**Author:** Rachael Poole, Committee advisor

**Approved by:** Vibhuti Chopra, Group manager strategy and partnerships

☐ Decision

☐ Recommendation

☒ Information

### Purpose of report

- 1 This report is to provide the board an overview of the matters that have been considered at Council and Finance and Assurance Committee meetings from 2 April 2025 to 14 May 2025.
- 2 To watch any of the previous Council or Finance and Assurance Committee meetings select this link: [SDC youtube](#)
- 3 An overview of the reports presented is given in the table below.
- 4 This report is also to provide an opportunity for Councillor Keast to highlight particular matters or update the board on any other issues that have arisen around the Council table.

#### 2 April 2025 – Council meeting

Report	Overview
Public participation	<p>Wendy Joy Baker addressed Council about a 2023/2024 dog report, Make it stick surveys, District plan, Code of Conduct for elected members, follow-up of complaints through texts (more compassion towards ratepayers), more appreciation of sports in community and more respect, upkeep of honorable war memorials all year around</p> <p>Dave Diack addressed the meeting in relation to the use of volcanic ash as a cement for footpaths in the Oreti ward and the District in general.</p> <p>Boyd Wilson addressed the meeting in relation to section 73 of the Building Act 2004.</p>
2024 Rule Speed Limits Rule - Required Speed Limit Amendments	<p>This report provided information on the speed limit changes required to be implemented by Council and set those new speed limits to comply with the Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2024.</p> <p>Fifteen locations were identified where speed limits around schools were required to transition to variable speed limits before 1 July 2025.</p> <p>This report was left on the table to be considered with NZTA present at a later meeting.</p>



Forecasted Financial Position for the year ending 30 June 2025	This report provided information on the expected year-end financial result compared to the Long Term Plan 2024/2025 and sought approval of the resulting forecasted position. The report also sought Council's approval for unbudgeted expenditure requests, and the deletion and deferral of a number of projects.
Financial Report for the period ended 28 February 2025	Council was provided with an overview of the draft financial results for the eight months to 28 February 2025 by Council's seven activity groups, as well as the financial position and the statement of cashflows as at 28 February 2025.
Adoption of statement of proposal for changes to fees and charges 2025/2026 for consultation	Council approved the statement of proposal outlining the proposed changes to fees and charges 2025/2026, which formed the basis of public consultation. Public consultation ran from 4 April 2025 to 3 May 2025. The final Schedule of Fees and Charges 2025/2026 will be adopted as part of the Annual Plan 2025/2026 in June 2025.
Unbudgeted expenditure request for a grant to Orepuki Community Promotions Charitable Trust - Historic railway water tower repair project brought forward	Council approved unbudgeted expenditure of up to \$28,927 to the Orepuki Community Promotions Charitable Trust, to be funded from the Hirstfield Reserve for the restoration work on the historical Orepuki railway water tower.
Public Notification of Plan Change 3	<p>Council gave approval for the public notification of Private Plan Change 3 requested by Blue Sky Meats (NZ) Limited to rezone land at 729 Woodlands Morton Mains Road, recognising an established industrial activity and providing appropriate precinct provisions for environmental management.</p> <p>Council noted that Blue Sky Meats had submitted a private plan change request to rezone their property from rural to industrial, with specific precinct provisions. The plan change has been accepted for processing under Clause 25 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991.</p>
<b>16 April 2025 – Council Meeting</b>	
<b>Report</b>	<b>Overview</b>
Progress Plan Change 2	Council reapproved the Southland District Council and Invercargill Subdivision, Land Use and Development Code of Practice 2023, approved the public notification of their decision that establishes that the Operative Southland District

	Plan is deemed to have been amended and revoked the Subdivision, Land Use and Development Bylaw 2012.
Management report April 2025	<p>Staff updated Council on what has been happening in the following operational areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation</li> <li>• Communications and engagement</li> <li>• Information services</li> <li>• Strategic planning and policy</li> <li>• Governance</li> <li>• Spatial planning</li> </ul>
<b>30 April 2025 – Council Meeting</b>	
<b>Report</b>	<b>Overview</b>
Around the Mountains Cycle Trail Trust Update	Nicola Willis (Chair of the Trust) and Susan Mackenzie presented an update on the past 12 months of data for Around the Mountains Cycle Trail.
Mayor's report	Mayor Scott reported on the meetings and events that he has attending during February through to late April 2025. Anne Horrell, Chair of Tuatapere Te Waewae Community Board gave an update of activities that have been happening in her community board area.
Review of Dog Control Bylaw 2015 and Dog Control Policy 2015	Council approved the Draft Dog Control Policy 2025 and the Draft Dog Control Bylaw 2025 for consultation. Public consultation will take place from 12 May 2025 through to 13 July 2025.
Use of Hokonui Hall reserve	Council approved unbudgeted expenditure of \$8,340 to be funded from the Hokonui Hall reserve towards a sign recording the location of Hokonui and approved the transfer of the remaining balance of the Hokonui Hall reserve to the Browns Community Centre reserve.
Waikaia speed limit reduction proposal update and next steps	Council requested staff to revise the Waikaia speed limit reduction proposal to meet the new requirements of the Setting of Speed Limits Rule for consultation.
Waikaia speed limit reduction signs - Unbudgeted expenditure request	Council approved unbudgeted expenditure of up to \$10,000 plus GST for the supply and installation of new signage in anticipation of the speed limit being reduced at the intersections of Wellington Street, Riversdale-Waikaia Road and Piano Flat Road in Waikaia, to be funded by a 15 year loan to be repaid from the Ardlussa Community Board rate. It was noted that this expenditure will be dependent on the decision being received from the Director of Land Transport and that if



	the speed limit reduction is not approved, then the funding may not be required.
Winton CCTV camera project - unbudgeted expenditure request	Council approved unbudgeted expenditure of up to \$65,000 (excluding GST) from the Winton Property Sales Reserve to cover the costs of works, hardware and installation of up to six CCTV cameras and the necessary supporting systems within the Winton township.
2024 Rule Speed Limits Rule - Required Speed Limit Amendments - Report laid on the table from 2 April 2025 Meeting	Council reconsidered the speed limit changes required to be implemented by Council and set those new speed limits to comply with the Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2024. They agreed to change a number of permanent speed limits and to install updated signage between 1 May 2025 and 1 July 2025. Council also agreed for Mayor Scott to write to the Minister of Transport to express Councils frustration on having to agree to a rule that is not fit for purpose and is an extra expense to Council.
<b>14 May 2025 –Council Meeting</b>	
<b>Report</b>	<b>Overview</b>
Changes to fees and charges 2025/2026 - submissions and hearings	Council received all the written submissions received on the changes to fees and charges and noted that there was one submitter, Federated Farmers who requested to speak to Council on their submission. Due to sickness on the day of the meeting, Federated Farmers were unable to attend and apologised for their non-attendance.
<b>14 May 2025 – Finance and Assurance Committee Meeting</b>	
<b>Report</b>	<b>Overview</b>
Finance and Assurance Committee workplan for the year ended 30 June 2025.	The Committee received the report and noted the addition of three new reports being the Procurement policy review, FMIS project timetable and the Back Together Build project update. The Insurance Policy review report was moved from the May meeting to the 11 June 2025 meeting.
Interim performance report – period two – 1 July 2024 to 28 February 2025.	The Committee received the report and asked staff for more information on two of the results and thanked staff for what they have been able to achieve to date. They also gave credit to the staff who spoke on the day for their knowledge of their areas and where the results were not met they were able to give detailed reasons why and what the next steps are.
FMIS project timeline update.	Staff updated the Committee on the proposed timeline with the major phases as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discovery and Planning, now to June 2025</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design and Foundation, July – Dec 2025</li> <li>• Build and Configure, July 2025 – January 2025</li> <li>• Test and Train, February – June 2026</li> <li>• Operational Onboarding, March – June 2026,</li> <li>• Go-Live on 1 July 2026, and stabilisation and hyper care ongoing after this.</li> </ul>
Annual report 2024/2025 timetable.	<p>The Committee received the report showing the key dates for the annual report 2024/2025.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 27 August 2025 draft annual report presented to Council</li> <li>• 25 August to 19 September 2025 audit of annual report</li> <li>• 29 September final draft of the annual report</li> <li>• 8 October 2025 adoption of annual report.</li> </ul>
Draft procurement and Contract Management Policy	<p>The committee considered and gave feedback on the draft Procurement and Contract Management policy and have asked staff to incorporate their feedback into a revised draft document.</p>
B2B project update	<p>The committee received the back together build update and noted that four working groups are now confirmed, one of which – the Communications and Engagement Group - is already underway and has provided the project name B2B. The PSG has endorsed the communications strategy and engagement principles recommended by the Group.</p> <p>Key risks currently identified include budget pressures, structural challenges, procurement complexity, and stakeholder expectations.</p>

## Recommendation

That the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board:

- a) receives the report titled “Councillor update”.

## Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.



## Chairperson's report

Record no: R/25/5/23739

Author: Fiona Dunlop, Committee advisor

Approved by: Vibhuti Chopra, Group manager strategy and partnerships

☐ Decision

☐ Recommendation

☒ Information

### Purpose of report

- 1 The purpose of the report is to provide an update to the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board on activities that the chairperson has been involved with since April 2025.
- 2 Chair Yorke is reporting as follows:

### Wyndham Camping Ground

- 3 We are still working away on trying to get the best outcomes we can for the Camping ground. There has been a lot of work done to date, painting, tidying, electrical work, tree maintenance etc.

### Wheelie bin pickups

- 4 I was approached by residents of Tui Place (Edendale) to see if the wheelie bin truck would come in and pick up their wheelie bins - currently they have to take them out to the road. This has been arranged and the first pickup was last week.

### Street light installation

- 5 Tui Place and George Street have had their streetlights installed.

### Local Water Done Well

- 6 I did not submit on behalf of the Community Board to the Local Waters Done well consultation, as I did not receive enough replies for me to be comfortable in regards to a majority of responses.

### Speed Signs and Curio Bay Masterplan

- 7 It would be good to get an update on:
  - the speed signs as they have gone out for tender;
  - footpaths what was the plan around these and when;
  - progress on the Curio Bay Masterplan.

### Wyndham Museum

- 8 Demolition of the Wyndham Museum is underway.

### Doctors' Square - Wyndham

- 9 The square beside the Evangelical Church has been completed, with only the signage to be completed, and is very impressive. Thank you to the local Wyndham Lions for instigating this.

**Fonterra Edendale**

- 10 I was invited to the opening of the new Electrode Boiler at Fonterra where they also announced another 2 electrode boilers were going to be commissioned, as well as the development of the UHT plant which is well under way. This is a great asset for our area.

**Community Partnership Fund**

- 11 I am looking forward to hearing from our local pools and community groups tonight regarding their funding applications.

**Tokanui and Wyndham Playgrounds – Make IT stick**

- 12 Make IT stick engagement was successful regarding the Tokanui and Wyndham Playgrounds.

**Recommendation**

**That the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board:**

- a) receives the report titled “Chairperson's report”.

**Attachments**

There are no attachments for this report.

## Next meeting

Record no: R/25/5/23632  
Author: Fiona Dunlop, Committee advisor  
Approved by: Rachael Poole, Committee advisor

☒ Decision

☐ Recommendation

☐ Information

## Purpose

- 1 For the Board to confirm that their next meeting is at 7pm on Tuesday 26 August 2025 to be held in the Memorial Hall Wyndham, 44 Balaclava Street, Wyndham.

## Recommendation

**That the Waihopai Toetoe Community Board:**

- a) receives the report titled "Next meeting".
- b) confirms that the next meeting of the Board is at 7pm on Tuesday 29 August 2025 to be held in the Memorial Hall Wyndham, 44 Balaclava Street, Wyndham.

## Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.